

1956 that *Kanazawa* joined the JKA as a full-time student in the Instructor's Course and was graded to *Sandan* later that year.

After a year's hard training, *Kanazawa Sensei* became a full-time JKA Instructor in April 1957 at the *Honbu* (*main dōjō*). Sadly, within a matter of days, *Gichin Funakoshi* died (26th April). His death left everyone gutted, especially *Masatoshi Nakayama* and *Masatomo Takagi*, the JKA general administrator.

With the first JKA All-Japan Championships being held on 28th October 1957, it heralded the dawn of competition *Karate*. *Kanazawa* became All-Japan Champion in magnificent style despite having broken a hand in an earlier bout. A year later, in the 1958 championships, he went on to win not only the *Kumite* final, but also the *Kata*, making him JKA Grand Champion.

In January 1961, *Nakayama* informed *Kanazawa* that he had to go to Hawaii to teach as a Chief Instructor for the JKA. *Kanazawa* was a little apprehensive about going even though his contract was only for one year. Once there however, he settled in and enjoyed his new life so much so, he eventually stayed for nearly two and a half



*Yoko-Tobi-Geri*