## Yang Style Tai Chi Lineage of John Chow

(Cheng Man Ching Yang Style Tai Chi Chuan lineage)

## **Bai Shi Transmission (ie. having taken the Master-Disciple** <u>ceremony)</u>



Note: Master Lu Tong Bao was the patron and master of the Tai Chi Chuan school in Sabah (Malaysia) that John Chow studied in. However, he does not stay at one place for long because he has to visit his schools in Malaysia/Singapore, of which there are many, due to his fame and the fame of his teacher Yap Siu Ting. Therefore, instructions in his school in Sabah was left mostly to his senior students, of which Chiang Yung Kui was one. John Chow did not Bai Shi with neither Lu Tong Bao or Chiang Yung Kui. Hence, Chiang Yung Kui is not shown in the Bai Shi transmission chart to reflect this fact. In illustration of the factual information, no disrespect is meant to any master as a consequence of any omissions. The Bai Shi is a specific ceremony, and even if a student has studied with a master, he can not claim discipleship unless he has undergone a Bai Shi ceremony. The above Bai Shi transmission chart is correct since John Chow did not Bai Shi with either Lu Tong Bao or Chiang Yung Kui. John Chow may claim to be a student of these illustrious masters, but not a disciple. The following transmission chart is based on teaching received and thus has the names of additional masters.

## **Teaching Transmission (imparting of teaching)**



Since John Chow has learnt from several teachers of the Cheng Man Ching lineage, the teaching transmission is as above. There is difficulty in including or excluding a few teachers in such a chart, and no disrespect is meant.

The above chart shows the multi-dimensional relationship of some of the teachers. The relationships are different and more complicated than the Bai Shi lineage chart. For illustration, we have used the example of Master Ho Ah San:- John Chow also learnt the Tai Chi staff of Lu Tong Bao from Master Ho Ah San, so Ho Ah San is one of John Chow's teachers. Being a colleague of Lau Kim Hong, he is "uncle" to John Chow since John Chow is the disciple of Lau Kim Hong. Since John Chow also takes Lu Tong Bao as the teacher of the Tai Chi school where he studied, and Ho Ah San is a disciple of Lu Tong Bao, then Ho ah San is 'elder brother' to John Chow. Since John Chow is a Bai Shi disciple of Gao Yun Wu, who is a colleague of Yap Siu Ting, who is the master of Lu Tong Bao, who is the master of Ho Ah San, then John Chow is the "uncle" of Ho Ah San. Thus the relationship is multi-facetted.

However, John Chow says that while relationships are very important in Chinese society and one must know one's place within the hierarchy, this means little when it comes to martial skills. A top place in the hierarchy does not necessarily mean a higher level of skill. John Chow says there are practitioners of lower rank in the hierarchy who are more skilful than those of higher level. eg., Koh Ah Tee of Malaysia is a very skilled practitioner whose skills and understanding is equal to many masters well above him in the hierarchy.

The Wu Style lineage of Sifu John Chow will be shown in a separate document as the chart in this document are already too large.

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