# Introduction

### About the Author

As a Tai Chi Chuan and Qi Gong teacher for several years, I was trained in the tradition of the Yang school, notably through the teachings of Master Gin Soon Chu. Over time, I've witnessed the profound benefits of these practices, both physically and mentally. This guide is an invitation to explore these ancient disciplines and to integrate their principles into your daily life.

# Why This Guide?

Many people are curious about Tai Chi or Qi Gong but don't know where to start. This booklet aims to offer a clear, accessible, and inspiring introduction for those seeking to discover these practices and their benefits.

# Who Is It For?

This guide is for everyone: curious beginners, occasional practitioners, or anyone looking for harmony and well-being. No particular physical condition is required to begin.

### What is Qi Gong?

### **Origins and Core Principles**

Qi Gong is an energy-based practice from ancient China, dating back over 5,000 years. The term literally means "energy work." It involves slow movements, static postures, breathing exercises, and mental focus to harmonize the flow of Qi (vital energy).

### **Qi and Energy Circulation**

According to Chinese medicine, Qi flows through the body via meridians, much like blood through vessels. A strong and unblocked Qi flow is key to good health. Qi Gong helps to strengthen, unblock, and harmonize this energy.

#### Main Families of Qi Gong

- External (Wei Dan) focuses on the physical body.
- Internal (Nei Dan) targets the organs, energy, and mind.
- Static (Zhan Zhuang) involves holding still postures.
- **Dynamic** includes choreographed movement sequences.

#### **Goals of Practice**

- To maintain health and vitality.
- To calm the mind.
- To strengthen the immune system.
- To promote longevity.

#### What is Tai Chi Chuan?

# **History and Origins**

Tai Chi Chuan is an internal martial art of Taoist origin. Though developed from self-defense techniques, its essence lies in seeking balance and harmony.

#### **Main Styles**

The most well-known Tai Chi styles include Chen, Yang, Wu, Hao, and Sun. The Yang style is the most widely practiced in the world today. It features broad, soft, and flowing movements.

### **Martial and Meditative Approach**

Every Tai Chi movement has a martial application, but it is practiced with an attitude of listening, relaxation, and presence. It is a moving meditation that fosters body awareness and breath control.

### Link with Traditional Chinese Medicine

Like Qi Gong, Tai Chi works on acupuncture meridians, strengthens internal organs, and supports major physiological functions.

# Benefits of Qi Gong and Tai Chi

#### **Physical Benefits**

- Improved flexibility, balance, and coordination.
- Gentle muscle strengthening.
- Better posture and breathing.
- Relief from chronic pain.

#### **Mental and Emotional Benefits**

- Reduced stress and anxiety.
- A calmer and clearer mind.
- Improved focus and mental clarity.

#### **Support for Health Conditions**

- Better sleep quality.
- Regulation of blood pressure and blood sugar.
- Support in cases of chronic fatigue or depression.

#### **Complementary Practices**

Practicing both Qi Gong and Tai Chi together enhances grounding, vitality, and inner awareness. Qi Gong prepares the body and mind, while Tai Chi integrates fluid movement and mindful listening.

#### How to Get Started

**Practical Tips** 

- Choose a quiet moment to practice.
- Wear comfortable, loose-fitting clothes.
- Set aside a clear and peaceful space.

### Frequency and Duration

Regular practice is more effective than sporadic intense sessions. Even 10 to 30 minutes a day can be enough.

#### The Importance of Regularity

Consistency brings results. It's better to practice a little each day than a lot once a week.

#### **Creating a Home Practice Space**

A corner of your home can become a place of calm and connection. The key is to return to it regularly.

### **Online Course Presentation**

#### Video Content Available

Qi Gong videos (such as the 8 Pieces of Brocade) and Tai Chi videos (the 108-movement Yang form) are available as downloadable MP4 files.

#### **Teaching Method**

Each movement is explained clearly, taking time to integrate posture, breath, and intention.

#### **Advantages of Online Learning**

- Practice at your own pace.
- Replay as needed.
- No special equipment required.

#### Conclusion

Taking care of yourself doesn't require elaborate tools. Tai Chi and Qi Gong offer simple, profound, and powerful ways to restore balance, inner peace, and energy. This guide is just an introduction. May your practice journey be steady, gentle, and full of insight.

#### **To Go Further**

Find the full courses at: <u>www.tai-chi-en-ligne.com</u> Follow updates, new releases, and more.