

History of the Jedi Community



1998-2008

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Table of Contents:

Introduction	3
General Overview	4
JEDI	8
Temple of the Jedi Arts	10
Jedi Code	12
Jedi of the New Millennium	14
Jedi Academy	16
Force Academy	19
Jedi Temple	21
Jedi Academy Online	24
Jediism Way	26
Shadow, Grey, Rogue	29
Jedi Order	32
Real Jedi Knights	35
Future History	36
Acknowledgments	37

Introduction:

Welcome to the Jedi Academy Online History of the Online Jedi Communities. This book will cover the various web sites that were created during the years of 1997 to 2007. The latter sites which exist at the time of this writing (2008-09) have not yet proven they will last beyond the time of creation and thus will not be included. Some sites which people may find to be important may also not make an appearance. This book seeks to cover the major Jedi sites that helped shape the Jedi Community in one form or another during their activity online.

If you wish to have a web site's history considered to be added to this book you may e-mail the history of the site, including creator, date of creation, timeline and summary of major events, and its' current condition. As well as any other information you consider important to thecouncil@jediacademyonline.com.

Now I would like to add a little about my own history and way most of this is hand written and record by myself. I started in the online Jedi Community in 1998. And I have stayed an active member of the Community since that time. My biggest break has been three months. I have taken various breaks in those 11 years, yet only to realize that I could not stay away forever. I have been on the administration of several sites including the Force Academy, Temple of the Jedi, Jedi United, Jedi Organization, and later as JEDI. I was one of, if not the first person to visit and be a member of more than a couple of sites. At the hieght of the Jedi Community in 2000 I was a member of 20 active Jedi sites. I created the first Community wide newsletter which I personally wrote and distributed among the Community (unfortunately that did not last as long as I would have liked).

In the end due to my history with the Community, my continual involvement over those years, and lately my desire to really keep the Jedi History alive and preserved I feel I am the best candidate to present this information. Not to mention that I am best able to deliver as bias free and objective as possible. While there will still be personal comments, they are noted as such. And any criticism given is done on an objective level. With this knowledge of my own history, I present to you the Jedi Community History – 1998 to 2008.

Community as a Whole:

Two Summaries such cover the overall timeline of the Jedi Community.

1997 saw the Re-release of Star Wars in the theaters. At the same time the internet was beginning to become accessible to everyone. So the Online Jedi started in 1997. But to realize the birth of Jedi we have to go back to 1995 and various role-playing sites. Role-play was as close as you were going to get with Jedi and Jedi teachings. But a select few, armed with the original trilogy, Star Wars role-playing guide, and their role-play experiences began to feel they could apply the Jedi lessons in real life.

The Mos Eisley Cantina was a popular chatroom for Star Wars fans. While I personally never signed up or participate I did observe it a couple of times. Streen and Mitth were both from this site. By 1997 Mitth had already created his own site about "Jedi Realism" (though the term did not exist at the time). Another well known site at the time was made by K. Nightflyer, Jedi Praxeum on Yavin 4.

By 1998 full sites began to form. Streen and Mitth both merged their respective sites into the Jedi Council. Jedi Academy was being formed into it's most known and recognized state. And the Force Academy was growing out of a e-mail group and into a full site with message boards. At the same time Jedi of the New Millennium was up and running.

These sites would eventually form the solid basis of the Jedi Community when the Phantom Menace was released. At it's release there was Jedi Creed, Force Academy, Jedi Academy, and Jedi of the New Millennium. All these were held as the Jedi Community since they had functioning Message Boards, Chat rooms, and Main Websites.

1999 to 2001 saw the rise and fall of many Jedi sites. At it's height the Jedi Community hosted over 50 Active Jedi Sites/Message Boards. Jediism grew from a singular joke phrase into the next religion. With the Census many flocked to the Jedi Religion and the original Jediism site flourished. At the same time the Jedi Creed crumbled.

Jediism was the newcomer, but they made up a big portion of the Jedi Community. The Jedi Academy, Force Academy, Jedi Temple, Temple of the Jedi Arts, Jedi of the New Millennium, Jedi Organization, Jedi Praxeum, and Jediism all were marked as the big guns of the Jedi Community.

The year of 2002 would see the change of the Jedi Community. Big places closed down. The Jedi Academy one of the most popular and biggest Jedi sites was changed into the Forsaken Jedi, a role-playing community. Older members formed the Jedi Mythos from that. The Jedi Organization was deleted due to politics and out of it grew JEDI and the Jedi United (version 2). The Jedi United and Jedi Temple merged briefly and formed the Temple of the Jedi Order which crumbled that same year. And saw the loss of many good Jedi. Also the Temple of the Jedi Arts received a overhaul and change in management which would eventually lead to it's own destruction.

By 2004 the Jedi Community landscape had changed greatly. JEDI was the new heavyweight in the Community and many people visited there. Many smaller message boards began to crop up like in the earlier days. The Jedi Order, United Jedi, and many variations/combinations of the same name were created. Also during this time the original Jediism Way was create. Not many lasted over a year. A clear distinction was made though, Jediism and Jedi Realists. Jediism was the idea that the Jedi Way was/is a Religion. The other was a stance that the Jedi Path was/is a philosophical way of life and thus held no sway or position on religion.

Due to my personal life my experience in this time is limited to my own projects and I did not get

around as much as I use to. Because of that I cannot fill in all the holes of 2004-2008 outside of my own personal history which only included JEDI, Jedi Path (original site which no longer exists), Jedi Academy Online, Temple of the Jedi, and Jedi Way (Brandel's site).

Present day we look around and see that the Jediism Way is back. Temple of the Jedi Arts, Jedi Academy, Jedi of the New Millennium, JEDI, Jedi United, have all been lost to time. Ruins at best remain, or remakes which are still dead. There is no clear leader of the Jedi Community with activity spread pretty evenly amongst the remaining active sites. Temple of the Jedi Order, Jediism Way, Force Academy (undergoing it's own changes, the first real changes in 10 years), Jedi Gatherings Group, and Real Jedi Knights (and their various off-shoots).

Another summary of the Jedi Community is as follows:

Online Jedi Community was born from the Role-playing sites that existed in 1996 to 1998. Role-players, some geeks who taught, "hey why can't I just apply this lesson in real life?" Begin to get together and actually apply Jedi lessons of philosophy to their lives.

1998 saw a few sites begin to build. The Force Academy came along in a small yahoo format. The Jedi Academy also was born at this time. Also the most famous at the time was Nightflyers's Jedi Praxeum. It had no discussion forums, but offered fiction in a more usable offline way. Actually taking the ideas and applying them to life. Jedi of the New Millennium was also built in this time.

Discussion Boards came along in 1999. They vary, Jedi Academy (www.jediacademy.com at the time) was considered the first and was certainly the first Ez-Board Jedi Discussion Forum. Force Academy by mid-1999 not only had a full domain (www.forceacademy.com still usable) but also it's own Forums. These were considered the two major places to train as a Real Jedi. But a new site was created at this time as well; The Jedi Creed. The Jedi Creed was created through a combination of active members at the Jedi Council site. Mitth, Streen (Jacen), and Relan Volkum created the Jedi Creed. These were the Jedi Sites.

Jedi of the New Millennium switched over to using Ez-Board as it's forum of communication and this raised it's popularity a bit. The Jedi Creed administrators got a crazy idea in their head. "Why not unite all the Jedi Sites out there (ooo all four) and come together as Jedi under one Website."

Of course no one liked that idea except those who created the Jedi United (clever name for the project I know). The Force Academy at the time was busy building the Inner Council. Which would have the Force Master and the Head Masters of each aspect (Light, Shadow, Dark, Shadow has Shinobi, Dark had Darth Moor, and the Light eventually got Jedi Knight G - though there was an individual before him who held the position and help create the inner council) run the Force Academy and set-up lectures. The Force Academy liked their set-up and found that the way they operated worked well for them.

The Jedi Academy respected this a bit. Though the two sites never got on and in the early days the Members usually stayed at one site or the other. That later changed with people going everywhere. The Jedi Academy at this time kept on doing what they do best, having large debates and discussions, it was a very lively place.

The Jedi United was created anyway. And under the direction of Relan Volkum it changed over to the Jedi Organization. After September 13th 2001 the Jedi Organization went through some changes. Eventually becoming the JEDI.org ... These changes took place because an individual deleted the entire

Jedi Organization site, wiping a couple years of Jedi lectures, posts, discussions, good memories, and overall knowledge.

The Jedi Organization at that point split into two different groups, the reborn Jedi United with a new outlook and the JEDI.org. Back to that in a bit as we go back in time a bit.

2000 saw a lot of changes. Jedi sites begin to start finding their way to the easy to create Ez-Boards. The Jedi of the New Millennium was not doing so well though. Or really it was doing great with all the drama that was taking place. Do to a difference of philosophical ideals and personal feelings, the first major site split took place. The Temple of the Jedi Arts was born from the Jedi of the New Millennium. The Temple of the Jedi Arts saw some good growth until about 2002. And by 2004 it's forums had also been deleted (or it exist they have just erased years of posting). This happened due to poor management and poor choices by the members (since many things were handled by majority votes back then, popularity contests people called them).

The Jedi of New Millennium saw life breathed into it briefly when Gemini Sith took over as Administrator. Unfortunately, no one really visited the site any more. And the changes she put into effect basically led nowhere. A effort was made to re-open the Jedi of the New Millennium. That effort eventually died out as well and by 2006 it has only served as a ghost site.

Jedi Academy eventually died a rather horrible death as well. Resulting in a site split. The Jedi Academy became the Forsaken Jedi. And the site of loyal members became the Jedi Mythos. Forsaken Jedi is an RPG board at best. And the Jedi mythos suffered its own split but still exists to this day.

Others here are better suited to talk directly about sites like The Jediism Way. And Tails there was a member of the Jediism Way when it was first created in the Jedi Community. Philosophical differences kept be from getting too involved. And the dates and information I have on their existent is just observatory. And since I never was an official member there, it is better to allow those individuals to discuss it.

Other sites did exist through this very brief (and bare) history given. Sites such as the Temple of the Jedi (also called the Jedi Temple) which is now currently being run by Chris-Tien Jinn. They have a long and very fun history as well. It combines with t hat of the previous mentioned reborn Jedi United. This merger to create a more complete Jedi Order became the Temple of the Jedi Order. The idea was to merge the Lessons, Students, Teachers, and thus experience of the Jedi Temple with the Training standards and testing format of the Jedi United. This not only ended in failure, but many great Jedi were lost as well. The Temple of the Jedi still exists and is open for use (<http://jeditemple39003.yuku.com/>)

And wait theres more: But enough for now. Know there was an individual named DragonKnight who created the Jedi Praxeum (created early 2000) on Ez-Board as well as the Jedi Nexus soon after. And that there was a homestead site and ez-board called the Jedi Resource Center which was born out of the failed Followers of the Force Ez-Board (created in early 2000). Vague dates I know, but I save all that in-depth stuff for individual histories on each site.

This next part of the book actually follows the Jedi History as presented within the Jedi Academy Online. And thus can be used in conjunction with the classes taught there.

General Overview:

The Online Jedi Community did not really come into creation until 1997. Yet in May 1997 the Internet exploded with those interested in Star Wars and the Jedi. It had been 20 years since the release of the original trilogy and with the re-release of the trilogy message boards started to appear and sites started to be created.

The majority of sites/forums at this time were role-playing sites. They used the Star Wars role-playing book as a guide to having online RP. This worked well and many people enjoyed the scene of online role-playing. Yet a few others who were training to become Jedi began to see the lessons their "masters" were giving them could be applied in real life. The mixture of role-play and actual life lessons began to take shape. Some suggest that it was older people, people who had been awed by Star Wars: A New Hope in the theaters 20 years ago that helped the first of us make the jump from Role-playing to actual application. But the process was not an easy one and it took a while for it to fully develop.

The first major known Jedi Site was the Jedi Praxeum on Yavin 4. It was created by Kharis Nightflyer in 1996, but was updated and continued until 1999. The site still exists and uses the fiction to impart actual lessons from those interested in becoming Jedi. It is heavily based within fiction as the name shows. Yet it helped pave the way for sites like the Jedi of the New Millennium, which was created in the summer of 1997. The exact date is lost, but it is believed to have been created in June after the release of *The Empire Strikes Back*. At the same time two sites were in the progress of creation and had humble beginnings. These sites were the Jedi Academy and the Force Academy. Slowly these sites gained members and interest.

By the time *The Phantom Menace* was released in 1999 the Force Academy had its own message forum, and .com, this was no different for the Jedi Academy. These two sites quickly became the leaders in the Jedi Community. As these sites were in the process of growing there was another site coming into creation; the Jedi Creed. The Jedi Creed was created by the administrators of the Jedi Council website, Streen, Mitth'raw, and Relan Volkum. The Jedi Council has its own history, but by June 1999 these sites were the Jedi Community: Force Academy, Jedi Academy, Jedi of the New Millennium, Jedi Creed, and the little known Temple of the Jedi.

As summer came to a close in 1999 many more sites came into existence. Yet still everyone in the Jedi Community started at one of these sites and worked for the titles they held proudly. It was a different time in 1999 than it is now. The Light Side and Dark Side of the Force were considered fact, Light Siders and Dark Siders often clashed with one another, the Shadow Jedi were a valid Jedi choice, the sites may not have liked each other, but they knew exactly what each one offered. It was the beginning, working through the fiction, and finding that you could not take the fiction as though it were stone commandments.

This is our beginnings, this is why we are here; because some role-players thought, "why not?" And it was their hard work and effort that allowed curious kids like myself a place to study, learn, and grow as a Jedi with real life lessons to apply. We did not fall from the sky, we were not created by robots, and we are not from a galaxy far far away. Just geeks who aspired to be more than they were and here we are. To be more than we are.

JEDI Site History:

Beginnings - We are going to continue the idea of humble beginnings. Jedi Creed was considered a giant of the Jedi Community at it's height. When it evolved into the Jedi United it gained fame in the entire community. When that evolved into the Jedi Organization it was probably the most popular Jedi site in 2001. It held the majority of all Jedi in the community. Yet how did this giant come into existence? And How did it die?

The beginning: In June of 1997 there were a small creation of web sites which were born of the re-release of the Star Wars Trilogy. One of these sites was called the Jedi Alliance. It was created by an individual called Mitth'raw'nurida. This was mostly a role-playing site, but held the seeds of something more, of really living the philosophy. In 1998 a friend of Mitth's named Streen had created the Jedi Alliance II. By the end of 1998 the two decided to combine there two sites and create something more. In 1999 the Jedi Council was created and it focused on the realistic practice of being a Jedi. (not the only one in existence, but one of the first)

In May 1999 Relan Volkum became an active member soon teaming up with Mitth and Streen. Together the three of them formed a new website called the Jedi Creed. And it was the Jedi Creed that really caught the attention of the rest of the Jedi Community. August 6th 1999 the Jedi Creed officially opened and grew huge.

Relan Volkum and others decided to bring the Jedi Community under one banner, and they created the Jedi United. Relan than formed a group of 12 members. This group was called DEGA. The goal of DEGA was to bridge the gaps in the Jedi Community and show each site that as Jedi we had similar ideals and goals. And that we could come together under one site. DEGA was successful and unsuccessful at the same time. While people didn't leave their sites and join the Jedi United, DEGA did get their attention and curiosity.

The Jedi United was successful in that it brought people from all over the Community to one Website and Message Board. While they still visited their original forums/websites, the Jedi United had the biggest mix of individuals. Considered a success DEGA closed itself down. And the Jedi United closed it's doors, becoming the Jedi Organization. A Group of Jedi from all over the community who worked to advance and develop the Jedi as a organized group.

The Jedi Organization ran successfully until September 13th 2001. Yes, two days after America's 9/11 event. The Jedi Organization was terrorized by a different sort, but for the same reason: Politics. And the Jedi suffered it's first major setback due to political games. The entire Jedi Organization and Jedi United (three years of history, lessons, and lectures) were deleted forever. It had a big impact on the Jedi Community at the time.

Relan Volkum took the opportunity to inact some changes we had planned and the JEDI was born. Also created at the same time was the Jedi United (version2). Created because members felt that the Jedi Organization had lost it's original ideals. And that the focus needed to be back to how it was in the beginning. The two sites JEDI and the Jedi United were completely separate and didn't like to interact with each other.

This was because people thought Relan Volkum deleted the Jedi Organization. Relan Volkum falsely accused Jedi Joshua as one of the people who deleted the forums. Joshua, than the Head Administrator at the new Jedi United took a lot of heat. The person who actually deleted the Jedi Organization was

myself, Opie Macleod. And Joshua, my friend, defended me during my leave of absence from the Jedi Community.

The Jedi United never recovered from the politics fully and eventually went into a merger with the Jedi Temple. And that was the end of the Jedi United, it never returned.

As for the JEDI, their leader cleared of all involvement in the deletion of the Board, grew to it's original size. Eventually once again becoming the beacon of the Jedi Community. But again Politics continually brought it down. Until finally a Council was created and the Leader Relan Volkum was not voted on and the website began to crumble. This was 2005 - In 2006 the JEDI changed hands a few times, eventually falling into my hands, Opie Macleod. The website was revamped, changed completely to support a new way of doing things. A Council was formed, Arias Morns (Skidder), Jundal Desh, and Opie Macleod were the main members. People were upset and very much disliked the changes, too much too fast some might say.

By 2007 everyone had left to other boards because of the changes taking place at JEDI. And it became just another board dying of inactivity. The administrators left, Arais left because he did not agree with the direction of the Jedi as a whole any more and he felt he was being ignored on the Council, his ideas tossed out the window. Jundal, continues to be an administrator at the JEDI site, but it is a shell of what it once was.

In present time the JEDI website sites as a museum to the Jedi Community, still finding the occasional traveler. In the end Politics and ego is what killed one of the biggest and most active sites of the entire Jedi Community. Relan Volkum left the Jedi to follow his Christian beliefs fully and has not returned since. Opie Macleod left to create his own site, rather than try to run someone else's. Streen left the Jedi Community all together. And the JEDI site, left leaderless collects dust.



Temple of the Jedi Arts:

The Temple of the Jedi Arts, or TotJA, was a core part of the Jedi Community and key in it's development. It was not post count or member size that puts the TotJA as of one of the Core sites of the Jedi Community, but rather it's focus and ideals. The Temple of the Jedi Arts was dedicated to passing on the Jedi Path in a pure form, yet more than this they were the leaders in the Grey Jedi path. The only site to offer Grey Jedi training (at least actual training - beware those claiming Grey Jedi these days. Their stories are about as fictional as Star Wars).

The Temple of the Jedi Arts was a great place to be, yet it was born out of politics. It was born from being split from another well known Jedi Site at the time - Jedi of the New Millennium. Here are the actual words from the Temple of the Jedi Arts (from their website in 2001)

TotJA History Section:

Quote

“TotJA is a relatively new site, yet it has an interesting past. The story starts long ago with a Jedi named Walker, who created a site named Jedi of the New Millennium or JotNM. Jedi came to learn, train and discuss the Jedi way and the site thrived for a long time. That was until its creator went on a spiritual journey. A new headmaster was appointed, but trouble was afoot. The Jedi became restless, many argued about the lack of updates made to the site. Therefor I took it upon myself to construct new pages for the site, but with a new headmaster appointed, who was unreliable, the updates never took place, so I created a second site at a new location. This site was not to replace the original, but to take a step forward for the good of the site. With this JotNM's creator Walker, returned to revive the original site, now named JotNM-1. The problems between the sites and their owners and headmasters escalated. To solve the problem I changed this site to TotJA, and became independent of the original site. Along with the name, there was a new set of headmasters appointed as well as a new teaching manner. Since then this site has excelled and i am happy to be part of it, along with the Jedi here. You can find more of our recent history in the forums.
May the force be with you.”

TotJA About Us section:

Quote

“Welcome to The Temple of the Jedi Arts. This site is dedicated to teaching REAL force abilities to people who can feel and use the Force so as these people can go out into the world and use their abilities to be Jedi in the real world. We expect 100% dedication to the Jedi way from the members here. We are not an RPG site. The Force is real and can be used for many different things. Here at TotJA we also cater for each path of the Force and hold regular teachings and classes for training. We acknowledge three different sides of the Force, Light, Dark and Grey. We also feel that the Shadow and Grey are one and the same.

Training

Training is done in three different ways. Master/Padawan training is where are learner finds a Master/Knight through the forums, or more often the teacher finds the student. This is one one one training usually done via Email. Group training is also done here through the forums. I run the Grey training and Xiao the Light. When the teachers run a new course, they will post a notice in the forums. If you wish to join, please reply to these posts. It may take several months before a new course starts. The third method is self teaching. This is where a student goes through the Holocron and teaches themselves the lessons. Forums are used in this method for additional help.”

The Temple of the Jedi Arts was a split site. Meaning this site was created due to a split between members at a previous Jedi website. The website it split from was Jedi of the New Millennium (created and ran by Jedi Walker aka Doragon Reklaw, or Doragon the Grey). Koren Jey and obi Starr Kenobi were the founders of the Temple of the Jedi Arts. Starr held an administration account in 2000 which over saw the creation of the ez-board.

Starr was a Grey Jedi (apprenticed under Koren Jey) and taught the Grey Jedi Path at the Temple of the Jedi Arts. The site did well for a couple years. The main page was redesigned by Streen (Jacen). Given a beautiful new look and image mapping navigation, the Temple of the Jedi Arts was one of the first Jedi sites to offer open lessons, lectures, and techniques for all to learn in their own time. From 2000 to 2002 the Temple of the Jedi Arts was a solid site full of information. 2003-2004 saw the death of the Temple of the Jedi Arts as Starr left and control of the board was fought over and finally won by Xiao, this eventually left the board in it's current state - Deleted and Dead.

Notes on the TotJA (Temple of the Jedi Arts):

11/2000 saw the creation of the Temple of the Jedi Arts under Starr's administration.

2001 - I trained as a Grey Jedi under Starr.

In 2002 Mijan was appointed Light Jedi Instructor. 09/30/02 Mijan left her position due to tensions within the Administration and overall Community. Many did not agree with her being an Instructor, let alone the head instructor. This conflict resulted in your leaving. This bought about the last straw leaving the TotJA in a position to be destroyed.

04/2002 saw the re-creation of the TotJA forums adding things like a Profile forum for visitors and students to leave something about themselves.

June 2005 saw the last activity under the new "administration" (Xiao). Over 4500 posts were lost and the rest was moved into a singular forum which was locked. Eventually the board will be purged by Ez-board and the last of the Temple of the Jedi Arts will be lost.

As the Website sits now: <http://p221.ezboard.com/btotja>

The lesson I feel that can be learned here is a simple one: Jedi knowledge is rare, our history even rarer, save it, cherish it, but most of all live it. Be a living library and example of the Jedi. There is few who remember the TotJA even less that one in-depth information about it's existence. One day, this small information we have may be all we have. In it's short history it was filled with politics and thus problems, yet was a great source of information, knowledge, and Jedi ideals. Lost outside of what we have saved.



History of the Jedi Code:

The Jedi Code has been a core teaching since the beginning of the online Jedi Community. But what do we know about the Code? When was it created? Who created it? What is this about Four Lines, Five lines? So this week we are going to look at the Jedi Code and learn it's history.

In 1987 West End Games came out with a Star Wars Role-Playing book. Within the book there was a section which contained the Jedi Code. The Code was simply four lines and said to hold the core beliefs of the Jedi. It is as follows:

There is no emotion; there is peace.

There is no ignorance; there is knowledge.

There is no passion; there is serenity.

There is no death; there is the Force.

Lucasfilms LTD. considered West End Games work authoritative and even sent their books on Star Wars to an author to base his material off of. In 1996 West End Games came out with a supplement book to the Role-playing guide called Tales of the Jedi. Within this book the Jedi Code was given a Fifth Line and is seen as follows:

There is no emotion; there is peace.

There is no ignorance; there is knowledge.

There is no passion; there is serenity.

There is no chaos; there is harmony.

There is no death; there is the Force.

In the Jedi Community however it was the Four line Code that gained wide-spread use up until 2003. Even now the Four Line Code is best known in the Jedi Community. Though many have stopped using it as a core teaching of the Jedi Path. Even the Star Wars official website still currently features the four-line version as well.

It was 2003 that brought attention to the Five Line Code because of the Video game Knights of the Old Republic developed by BioWare. Within the game you are taught at the Jedi Temple in which they use the Five Line Code.

The Jedi Code was created by West End Games, both versions. Who the exact authors were are unknown. The Tales of the Jedi Companion book is credited to George R. Strayton. Though the first edition role-playing book only lists West End Games as the publisher. Lucasfilms LTD. does accept the Jedi Code as cannon.

Mistakenly author Micheal A. Stackpole is often given credit for creating the Jedi Code. One of his better known Star Wars book I, Jedi is what many cite as the first time the Jedi Code is mentioned. Which is incorrect at best.

The Jedi Code today is rumored to have many versions. In the fiction Luke Skywalker's Jedi Order eventually creates a new Jedi Code not approving of the old one. Many people in the Jedi Community and within the fiction have taken it upon themselves to add their own lines as well as create their own versions of the Jedi Code. These should not be looked too as core teachings, but rather personal interpretations.

Also in the Power of the Jedi sourcebook, released in 2002, they list the Jedi Rules of Behavior after mentioning and talking about the Jedi Code. Thus many have come to associate the Jedi Rules of

Behavior as part of the Jedi Code itself. This is incorrect, at least within actual teachings. While the fiction is still up for defining and re-structuring by those licensed to do so, the lessons that have proved useful are up to those that live it daily.

And that is all on the Jedi Code.

Jedi of the New Millennium:

We have looked at the Temple of the Jedi Arts which grew from the Jedi of the New Millennium website. So now we will look at the JotNM and their history. From humble beginnings to fatal collapse.

The history of the Jedi of the New Millennium goes back with other sites such as the Force Academy and the Jedi Academy, which all saw fruition in and around 1997 to 1999. Each site varies in its creation time and its humble beginnings. Few left that can name exact dates and progressions of such sites.

The Jedi of the New Millennium was first started by Jedi Walker, Trad Davin, Josh Steffan, Jordan Daeloth, and Jonathan Tapp. Jedi Walker ran the site and had a interesting set-up. Much like the Jedi Creed it incorporated role-playing into the site. This of course took nothing away from the quality and validity of the lessons and material there, but did add flavor to its surroundings.

Jedi Walker kept very personal relations with all members and students. And had each student submit their training journals to him personally. This small act separated the Jedi of the New Millennium from many other sites. Since the founding members were so accessible the general members felt much more connected with the site.

Jedi Walker eventually left the Jedi of the New Millennium to continue his own personal journey of self-discovery and growth. His path lead him to the Radical Ki movement taking place. There he changed his name to Sayajin Reklaw and left the Jedi behind. In his absence he left other members in charge of the JotNM website. They were Juim Teel and Kerian. It was at this time that the split between the JotNM and the TotJA was happening, under the names of JotNM and JotNM-1.

From here Jedi Walker returned. I shall allow their own news to show the progress form that time. And remember to look at the dates.

12 April 2000

In the absence of both Juim Teel and "Lord" Kerian, and Kerian's mistake at taking the forum away, I have supplied you with one once again. I am sorry for allowing such a grave mistake to take place for so long. Please, accept this as my apology to you all, both for leaving and for handing you over to those that could not take care of you.

While I do not claim to return to the Jedi, I will keep up the Praxeum, if you would all like. If you do, please tell me somehow. JotNM was my dream, and I still hurt when I see it dead the way it is. Things WILL be changed, and I may not be teaching, but I will be here.

- Sayajin Reklaw

14 April 2000

With the creation of the second JotNM in my leave, THIS JotNM will now go by the call sign of JotNM-1. Whether the others go by JotNM-2, JotNM.net, etc. is up to them, and they will be allowed to call it what they wish.

The Beginner's Index has been totally redesigned, and sectioned into three different categories: Required, Recommended, and Advanced Techniques. As the Council meets on this format, the placement of the skills and lessons themselves may change.

- Sayajin Reklaw

20 May 2000

Beginner's Index has been updated, adding 2 sections of Grey Philosophy, contributed long ago by Koren Jey. Koren, I am sorry for taking so long to post them.

The banning of the forum goes has sadly begun, due to the alarming amount of argument and off-topic posts. This was a step that was not wanted to be taken, but was obviously needed.

- Sayajin Reklaw

9 June 2000

Jedi Steffen, a member of the JotNM-1 Faculty, has returned from an unexpected leave of absence.

There is new technique by Jedi Steffen on pain suppression in the Beginner's Index.

- Sayajin Reklaw

As things go though, its glory days were numbered. In 2002 the JotNM was all but dead. Within a year the site became a ghost town until its revival in July 2004. Yet there are many events that took place during that time from creation to being reborn.

In fact the Temple of the Jedi Arts was created from the JotNM. It was a result of differing ideals and a split membership. The two sites never really were at war with one another, but certainly kept apart. Except for those few members that visited both. This changed when both sites had gone through some changes and had new management. With this change the sites linked together and shared more members between them. Both sites have gone to the wayside and come back and share similar histories and paths in the Jedi Community.

The JotNM also saw various changes in administrators. The latest(at the time this was written) was when Gemini Sith was voted in to take charge of the site. When this first happened two DEGA members arrived on the scene, Relan Volkum and Opie-wan Macleod. Within that week Opie-Wan was nominated along side Gemini for administrator control of the site. Though the vote came down to the last day as a tie, Gemini Sith won with two votes to her credit. From there Relan and Opie-wan went on to other projects while Gemini went to work rebuilding the JotNM.

Her hard work did not get the attention it should have, but she gave it her all as administrator of the JotNM. Unfortunately the membership had all, but vanished by this time. No one was interested in the JotNM anymore and there was not enough new members in the Jedi Community as a whole to help keep it going. Due to lack of activity it died.

In mid 2004 Opie Macleod tried to bring the JotNM back to life with a new site and new forum. And while the start looked promising it eventually lost interest due to disagreements and lack of members. Both sites have gone the way of the Jedi, purged. And the revival did not last long.

There is little left of the Jedi of the New Millennium. Reklaw still lingers in the Jedi Community (mostly at JUST Jedi and Jedi Resource Center) under a new name. Gemini Sith has left the Jedi behind. The sites can sometimes be found under web archives but most of their information has been lost. No the Jedi of the New Millennium is gone.

The Jedi Academy:

THE Jedi Academy was started back in 1998 by Baal Legato. In its creation it had a few different faces. Eventually in 1999 the Jedi Academy settled into its own .com and found a home on Ez-Board (now yuku). The Jedi Academy was the biggest Jedi Site in the Jedi Community from 1999 to 2002.

Unlike the Jedi Creed, Jedi of the New Millennium, and even the Force Academy, the Jedi Academy did not place any importance on Role-play. Most were against it and talk down to those that used it. They focused more on real world lessons which could be applied to the Jedi Ideals (the philosophy). Such as they had lessons from "Jedi Master Morihei Ueshiba (founder of Aikido)."

Personal note: I do not support calling people Jedi Master just because they have similar ideals. If they do not specifically follow the Jedi Path, then they are not Jedi. Example; Bruce Lee is not a Jedi.

The Jedi Academy was the most popular Jedi site and because of that many would-be Jedi found it too big, too busy, and they went to the other sites. Which really helped the Community as a whole. People would go to either the Force Academy, Jedi Creed, Jedi of the New Millennium, or Jedi Temple. Depending on what they found and liked, it is where they would stay. But it also caused a rift between the sites.

From the beginning there were people who just did not agree with how certain sites ran. When the idea of the Jedi United first was brought up it was presented to the four major Jedi sites each one except the Jedi Creed turned it down not approving of how the other sites represented the Jedi Path.

More on the Jedi Academy, first a short summary by Relan Volkum when he was archiving the site. And the second is from the About Us section written by Baal Legato himself.

History of the Jedi Academy:

Quote

"December 2nd, 1998 The first archived layout of The Jedi Academy website. On its main page, it scrolled, "Welcome to the Academy. Always. A Jedi must have the deepest commitment, the most serious mind. This is the starting place on your journey. Carry forth what you learn, use it wisely. Knowledge and defense are the noble arts of a Jedi. Hold your tongue and fist, beware the Dark Side...and the Force will be with you."

Late 1998 through Mid-1999 It a shame we don't have a record of The Jedi Academy's BBC Message Board, the board that literally helped make discussion areas like this one a common sight online. Although they had another board earlier in 1998, it was this board which set the standard.

November 28th, 1999 through March 10th, 2000 This has been the most common layout for what has been known as The Jedi Academy Discussion Forum, powered by a new website, Ezboard. The Jedi Creed was also another known forum of Ezboard's in 1999.

October 13th, 2000 through April 20th, 2001 For the first time since the Discussion Forum's existence on Ezboard, The Jedi Academy decides to bring vital changes, putting up categories and additional forum selections. By this time, many Jedi websites, such as the Jedi Organization (now JEDI), the Jedi Praxeum, Jedi of the New Millennium, and other groups were exploiting the use of Ezboard's tools.

December 1st, 2001 As Ezboard goes through an organizational transition and moves various discussion forums to other servers, the Jedi Academy takes advantage of the situation and begins to

take on a more matured format.

August 2nd, 2002 This was the highest point in the JA forum saga. The current faculty at this time - Deean Kett, Sahar, Danny Tam, Hellflower, and Alcander Caedmon - made a notable effort in updating the academy into a newer, fresher creation.

December 12th, 2002 through March 1st, 2003 For the first time in over five years, the Jedi Academy's forums began to head towards a downward slope. An exaggeration of debate and frustration lead to key factions starting their own groups, such as Jedi Mythos and Jedi Academy West. The final nail in the coffin was the group's lack of ability to re-register the jediacademy.com domain.

October 27th, 2003 Hellflower and Sahar gives ownership responsibility to Jil-Qun Tahm, who later decides to eliminate the Faculty altogether. The Jedi Academy later decided to delve further into role playing, calling themselves the "Forsaken Jedi." It never was the same again."

About Us (from the Jedi Academy original site)

Quote:

"Who are you guys?

What the hell is this?

Do you really think you are Jedi??

Welcome to the Jedi Academy. We are a site dedicated to the philosophy and code presented as the Jedi way in the Star Wars movies. We do not have light sabers, we do not levitate our droids, what we seek to share and learn in this online community is an adaption of older wisdom for a newer age. We seek to identify what it means to live in the Jedi way and how to do so.

We are the people you work with, the people next door who seek to be better people through following the examples of fictional heroes and real world heroes of past and present.

We hope that you will join us in our search for knowledge and our duty to defend the weak.

-Baal Legato and the Academy staff

What we are not :

A role playing game organization

A sci-fi site (although we enjoy a good Tim Zhan novel)

Intent on building working light sabers or shooting lightning from our fingers.

How Star Wars changed my life... Excerpt from a forum posting

Inspiration and spiritual guidance are rare things in our world in these times, I should hope that no source is left out because of its media. Whether it be the bible, Koran or the Star Wars trilogy, the result can be the same. Wisdom is wisdom regardless of the packaging.

I and other countless millions grew up with the dream of becoming a Jedi Knight. As children it meant we would act out the battles and do what children do, but as we grew it manifested itself as a desire to live as a Jedi would, to be strong and just, to protect and defend. Now well into adulthood the dream of being a Jedi has evolved for my generation, no longer playing pretend, but shaping the people we are and the judgments that rule thousands of businesses and may one day guide the country.

If something truly changed your life and inspired you, helped shape you into something you can be proud of, then I say tell the world of it. Let those who will laugh do so and those with sense enough to recognize true inspiration benefit.”

Unfortunately due to the size, as well as differing ideals I personally did not have a lot of interaction with the Jedi Academy. In fact I did my best to have as little to do with them as possible. Yet they were the hub, the place that most everyone visited at least once a month to see what was going on. And of course everyone in the Jedi Community knew about them. So this is what I leave with, all that is left.



The Force Academy:

The Force Academy was one of the giants of it's time. In the early days many people only knew of two sites, the Jedi Academy and the Force Academy. They were the biggest in content, post count, and members. Due to having the .com they received most of the new traffic looking for information on the Jedi Path.

The Force Academy Declaration:

"The Force Academy sees its duty in furthering the beliefs and knowledge of the force, to aid all individuals in their personal quest for spiritual fulfillment, regardless of the 'aspect' (light/dark/shadow) of their choice.

We believe the striving of spiritual fulfillment to be an honorable goal that requires the maturity to understand our place among all aspects of the universe. This maturity must contain mutual respect for all scholars of the force and uphold the balance between the two (three) aspects of the force.

The Force Academy emphasizes this communal balance as the Light and Dark side both posses the mutual goals of bringing the philosophies of the force back to mankind. Those who wish to destroy one side of the balance fail to understand the principle of this balance and are suggested to leave this academy, as this community is a temple of coexistence on the grounds of mutual respect and integrity.

May the force be with you.

Darth Moor
Sith Lord"

In the early days the Force Academy was maintained and run by Andrew who went by the name ForceMaster, a play off the word webmaster. He did not think himself an actual Master of the Force. When the ForceMaster wanted to make changes to the site and solidify it with a training program he sought the help of the most active and popular members. The member who had the most post count, was online the most, had top ranking on all stats was asked his opinion first on how the Force Academy should proceed with the influx of all the new students. This individual recommended that the ForceMaster create an Inner Council, a group to run the entire Force Academy. The Inner Council would be made up of one member of each Aspect Light, Shadow, and Dark. And would be overseen by the ForceMaster to make sure things stayed equal and fair.

The ForceMaster than contacted Shinobi and Darth Moor. Shinobi had turned the Shadow Path into a respectable aspect to be a part of. And enlightened many who had never heard of a Shadow Jedi. Darth Moor proved himself a charismatic leader, intelligent, and able to hold civilized conversations and debates. And the Light was given to the same person who suggested the creation of the Inner Council in the first place, Opie-wan Macloud. Individual Councils were than made, a Light Council, Shadow Council, and Dark Council. Each Leader was requested to make lectures/lessons for their respective Aspects.

It was at this time that the Light Council Leader stepped down and gave his position to Jedi Knight G. Who took his place on the Inner Council as well. Under Jedi Knight G the Light Jedi flourished and were provided many great lessons/lectures.

The Force Academy saw only growth for years. Bring forth many well known and respected Jedi such as Spark Vallen. (personal note: I do not personally endorse Spark Vallen as a Jedi, that is merely the

majority view) The Force Academy's commitment to the ideals laid down in the beginning by the Inner Council really served them well. They were very elitist, yet that has helped them keep what works for them. And even to this day they have a very similar set-up to the Original. They have a Inner Council, individual Light, Dark, Shadow Councils.

One of the things you may notice is the very cool F.A. Emblems they have. These were innovations when created, actual emblems you could put in your signature which showed Aspect, Rank, and any Office you held. Even I have used the idea and sought to create something similar, but no one has surpassed the Force Academy in that area, at least in my opinion.

Lastly I want to share with you the Force Academy's About Us section from the original site made by Force Master.

"The Force Academy was established several years ago, our aim was to shed light on some of the mythology and martial arts seen in the Star Wars films, there are parts of the Star wars saga which are based more on fact than on fiction, the force is one of those parts. The 'Force' can be thought of as an energy field the idea based on ancient Eastern arts of Tao Chig, T'ai Chi and Zen. These arts/beliefs suggest that you have a life force created by you surrounding your body. These beliefs are supported by other sources such as auras and by people who can perform un-natural feats known as extra sensory perception or ESP. ESP comes in many forms; remote viewing, firewalkers, telepathy, telekinesis, human power sources (humans powering light bulbs with their bare hands) and of course Uri Geller's infamous spoon bending.

These beliefs and acts strengthen the possibility that a force which 'defies' or 'bends' the laws of physics to our present understanding exists. The Force Academy attempts to gather together some of these thoughts and philosophies and present them in an 'easy to follow' manner. In addition to the Force philosophies here there are also many games, interactive tools, images, desktop wallpaper, starwars related material and chatrooms to keep you entertained

The Force Academy was the very first site to offer the Shadow Path. Under Shinobi the Shadow Path became a highly respected and recognizable part of the Jedi Community as a whole."

In 2008-09 the Force Academy underwent its' first major change in a long time. A new website was developed, with new writings by the "new" head members of each aspect, light, dark, and shadow. The Old site can be found here: <http://www.forceacademy.com/main.html> The New Site is here: <http://www.forceacademy.co.uk/>



The Jedi Temple:

The Jedi Temple went by a couple different names; Jedi Temple, Temple of the Jedi, and Red Group. We will be looking at their beginning and their eventual end. And yet I would like to state they are not completely gone. Chris-Tein Jinn has kept the Jedi Temple Message Boards alive as well as the site. You can visit the message boards (hosted on yuku) at <http://jeditemple39003.yuku.com/> It is also due to Chris-Tien Jinn that we have the history we do. My personal involvement with them was more of a middle ground and when they finally closed their doors I was opposed to their current actions. You will see what I mean:

“Red Group was originally a traditional correspondence course offered via email. Lessons were emailed to students and assignments emailed back to them. No discussion board originally. No web site. This started in 1998 or 1999. It was pretty old, short and primitive. 12 or 16 lessons only to become a knight. But, it was a start.

Eventually, the correspondence course kinda fizzled out - people were more interested in group interaction. So the Red Group of the Temple of the Jedi was formed on a discussion board (ezboard, like this one but now gone) by John Olorin and Ogion (his late RL twin brother. John was one of the RPer, and I'm not sure how much of his "history" was real.). Arie Luxhert (sp!) brought her training program from the Force Academy. The web site eventually followed, thanks to Streen. That was about the year 2000. Steffan Karrade, and others were involved in creating the discussion board training group and brought ideas from other sites. Text-based Role-Playing was part of the training and practice portion of the effort. Unfortunately, for many people the text-based RP was the sole reason they were involved in the Jedi Temple, which was not clear at the time. The mix of people playing around for fun and those who were trying to create a real training and service organization would eventually cause the Jedi Temple to close, with plenty of hard feelings to go around.

At the height of the Jedi Temple, a Council governed the effort. Sometimes appointed and sometimes elected, it usually included about 7 people. Structurally, the organization was much like the movies, although the lack of enough teachers forced us to offer classes for groups of people who all took the same lessons at the same time (the Red, Blue, etc groups) - sorta like the Jedi Knight games. Some lucky people were able to be mentored one-on-one, like the master-apprentice relationships of the movies. I've always preferred to teach that way, myself.

We eventually had multiple training groups, using the cohort training model. Red, Blue, Green, and White. Arie kept hers separate as the Phoenix Group. There was also a Dragon Group. Multiple other sites intersected and hived off as the larger Jedi Community struggled to define itself.

The Jedi Temple tried to hold a middle ground that included people with different needs and strengths. We formed the Jedi Temple Academy for a while in an effort to evolve a joint, standard curriculum core. And, of course, we participated in an aborted attempt to merge with the Jedi United into the Temple of the Jedi Order.

The merger failed for many reasons.

- 1) Chief among them was that the merger was not planned ahead of time. It happened - by creating a new joint site - and then the work of organizing a new leadership structure began. This was a disaster.
- 2) Neither the JT nor the JU understood the other's culture or strengths - and so they could not devise a

new organization that made use of complementary strengths.

- 3) Both groups suffered from fatal weaknesses that became more pronounced under the strain of the merger. Especially significant was the burnout in the JT leadership, who didn't have time to run the JT let alone jump into creating a new organization as well. And the JU already had a bottleneck in testing their people for knighthood - to put more strain on the process to assess the JT leadership and currently ranking knights made it impossible to move forward with a qualified, joint leadership team.
- 4) Lack of willingness to compromise in order to move forward. Once we realized that it was impossible to get the JT leadership certified, that requirement should have been put aside for a specific amount of time (6 months or a year) so that the whole group could move forward. Or, the merger should have been put off for a year.
- 5) Trying to water down the difficult but valued items each party brought. The JEE was agreed upon as the best exam of the time, but JT people didn't want to adopt it, even if we pushed the timeline off. The JT training program was agreed to be the best currently existing, but JU people balked at the two-year minimal intense training program.

The merger was ill-conceived and under-supported. I know that JT people had reservations, and I suspect the same was true on the JU side. It was the final nail in the coffin for the JT.”

- Chris-Tien Jinn

For me, I joined John Olorin's Blue Group when it first formed back in 2000. John was unable to commit to the Site and Chris-Tien Jinn took over Blue Group as the Instructor. By 2002 the Temple of the Jedi Order was coming and going. The effort killed two sites and was never a good idea despite what others may think. Yet here is another side of that story:

“The Temple of the Jedi Order was a wonderful idea that had a lot of potential. Unfortunately, the project itself was rushed due to pressing circumstances at the time of its creation. Because of this, the foundations of the Order were not laid properly, allowing it to crumble at the slightest discord.”

Destiny Froste

Temple of the Jedi Order:

Now lets be clear from the beginning. The templeofthejediorder.org is not the Website we are discussing. Their history is rather simple. December 25th 2005 they created their website and dedicated it to the pursuit of the Jedi religion. They had a dispute with the Temple of the Jedi Force (also a site name that existed before and long since closed down) over rights to names and copyright ideals. All very silly since neither had grounds for such cases. As a note Jedi is not officially recognized as a religion anywhere in the world. Tax Exempt Religious Status is merely for Tax Filing purposes and merely for the IRS. It has no bearing on actual religious standards.

Okay, now that they are out of the way. Temple of the Jedi Order was a website created out of an ideal that better Jedi Standards and Testing could obtained be combining the two sites which led each field. The overall goal to create a new standard of Jedi, to add validation to online training. But only of validate it, but live by a higher ideal, that we as humans could be much like the Jedi we see int he movies. With a working order, because each title is earned and proven. No Jedi Masters who had only been training for six months.

The Jedi Temple was the leader in online studies and classes. They had the most training programs and the most Knights who were very well respected. The Jedi United had the JEE (Jedi Equivalence Exam), the most definitive online testing system in the Community. And the idea was to merge these two sites into one. From the great online training and the great online testing would come great Jedi Knights.

There was one major problem with this; which was actually three smaller problems. That major problem was assumption. Which was in direct regards to the other three problems; that the testing was as good as it's reputation, that the training was as good as its reputation, and that people would be Jedi about the whole endeavor. heh Unfortunately things did not pan out as expected.

The site itself did see plenty of activity in its short lifespan. Yet we are going to focus more on the ideals behind it and the problems that led to its downfall. Simply listed

Ideals:

- Better more reliable Training
- Better more reliable Testing
- Better Standards.
- Better Jedi.
- Better Community to advance the Jedi Order.

Problems:

- Naysayers openly speaking against the site/project.
- Jedi Temple Training was not as great as everyone thought.
- JEE was never created for the purpose it was used. And thus it was not as great as everyone thought.
- Ego, Emotions, people unable to act like the title they carried.
- Role-Players pretending to be Jedi for a "bit of fun." Never interested in actual Jedi Training, Standards, or Order.

In the end it was not the best idea and should have not been attempted. But it was and due to several factors it fell apart. I feel the major lesson here is that mergers are not the answer for unity or growth of the Jedi Community, but rather supporting each other and sharing what works and what doesn't. In this both sites would have grown and adapted as necessary.

Jedi Academy Online:

First we will cover pure facts. Important dates and figureheads. And then I will talk about why this place was created. And what visions I see for its future.

Facts:

March 27th 2007 the Jedi Academy is officially created and put online.

Creators: Opie Macleod with the support of Jasta Gar'su

April 4th 2008 Arkai Halon joins the JAO as third Council member.

By August Arkai had resigned his Council Seat, decided to walk away from the Jedi Path. While last spoken with he has resumed the Jedi Path he chooses to live it offline.

The JAO has undergone four layout/design changes in the time this post was written (almost two years).

The JAO original Message Board was hosted on Yuku (previously Ez-Board).

July 2008 the JAO moved because of support and reliability issues with Yuku. We decided to host a php board on the same server as our Website. Unfortunately our hosting plan has let us down on more than one occasion. Here is to one day being rich and having our own dedicated Hosting.

Okay those are the major facts of the Jedi Academy Online at this time. Yet what does that truly answer? What was the intent? Why was it done? What of other paths to take? Et cetera.

The Jedi Academy Online was created by Opie Macleod. It was the product of several other failed attempts to create a respectable, honest Jedi website. First was the re-creation of the Jedi of the New Millennium. Then the Jedi Sanctuary, then taking over the JEDI website, and then creating the Jedi Path website. None of these really worked out. While the JEDI organization should have been the best success, it changed to many things. The problem there is it was someone else's creation, and people had gotten use to how it was run. And by changing everything around people freaked and it died. Problem with the Jedi Path and Sanctuary were that I did not want to create any online learning. No Academy or anything because I felt they were the problem behind the decline of the Jedi quality.

Finally after a couple years of personal strife and changes I was able to dedicate myself to the vision I had from the beginning. And as has been pointed out to me a few times, I get this teaching bug. Where I want to pass on the Jedi Path in a open, honest way. High Standards and not compromising them in order to gain friends online. So the Jedi Academy Online was born. To present a way to train, learn, and live as a Jedi no matter where one lives. To have a place that allows you to reach your full potential, not just give you Jedi Knight status after 3 or 6 months.

The Jedi Academy Online unfortunately is associated with one problem, Opie Macleod. Because of various shifts in demeanor, and my constant refusal to lower my standards of the Jedi. Which has lead to me out right saying people are not Jedi, not even close. Well, that has lead many not to like me. And in the Jedi Community, if people do not like you, then you are not ever going to be a recognized Jedi Knight. So because of myself, the site has been seen and called a place where Opie gets to play Jedi Master.

Yet actions and history speak louder than I could ever shout and certainly louder than outside opinions. Still the new kid on the block the Jedi Academy Online has upheld its' standards and continues to accept and train students who prove that the Jedi do not need to lower their standards in order to succeed. Since 2007 and now 2009, only one student has been Knighted. And that was Jasta who helped develop the site, run the Council, and trained directly under Opie for three years. It is something I am proud of, because it shows standards and commitment to those standards. While I have no doubt

the Jedi Academy Online will have more Jedi Knights, they will be of the highest standard of online teaching.

And thus far, that is the history of the JAO.



The Jediism Way:

While I personally do not like or endorse this site, in its' current form or its' original form, it has been a site that has made its mark on the Jedi Community. Here is their history as written by the original creator.

I was asked a couple of days ago by the new site administrator to write a history up of The Jediism Way. It was asked that I do this for two reasons. First, to give just a record of the sites history. Second, to help point out what lead to things deteriorating and hopefully helping others learn from those mistakes. Since May of 2008 when the site shut down I put a lot of time in reflection. I love spirituality and philosophy based discussion forums so a big part of me was missing when I shut down the site. I will give warning that this is long but I was asked to be as complete as possible!!

I came online in early 2005 and began talking to others in the yahoo groups. After some time and some research I decided that Jediism really was right for me so I began looking for a site that was based on Jediism. I quickly found there used to be a site called www.jediism.org but it was closed shortly before I came into the Jedi Community. I soon realized that there was not much out there for people of Jediism and made the choice to open my own site. At first I had very little web knowledge so I had a couple of outside sources giving me a hand which ended up leading to some technical issues. The Jediism Way was up for about two months before it came crashing down and the individual helping on the tech side did not have a backup and didn't care. I decided that if I wanted to be serious about this I would learn it all on my own. Due to the typical trial and error with web design over the next 6 months the site crashed two more times. On the fourth time I finally began getting the hang of it along with backing it up. Over this time there was solid base of members that had a lot of patience since they had to put up with my learning of all the technical stuff.

At month 6 though the site became solid and we finally started moving forward. My entire intent with the site was to have no rank, no councils, for it to be a community learning center, and to be just a site to discuss all things Jedi and to have some fun. The next 2 ½ years really were a lot of fun. There was always occasional road bumps, some caused by my own technical savvy and others just typical issues in a discussion forum. The first two years I was the only site administrator and moderator. However, the site began to grow so I believed it was time to assemble a moderator team just to help out with the site. This was really my first mistake that began leading me into a direction I never intended to take the site which I will mention later. Every person that was a moderator I have always enjoyed and really do thank them for their time and help and still chat with most of them in some form so I do not want any of those individuals to take what I say the wrong way! I had a clear vision for the site and a clear way of dealing with issues and I let that fall by the wayside in how I setup the forum and how I administrated it when dealing with issues that arose.

One of my three original visions of the site was to never have ranks. Ranks come in many different forms and sizes, though we never had ranks like Master and Knight I allowed other systems of rankings. I wanted to the site to remain as just a discussion site and nothing more and as soon as I introduced ranks, which simply is just a means of splitting people into groups I moved away from that original intent.

The second one was the creation of the moderator team. Might as well call it a council because that is what it became. It was through no fault of their own but no Jedi site has ever been large enough to ever need a moderator team. If people have a little patience all things can be fairly quickly dealt with by the site administrator and that is how I should have left it. The report to moderator feature is really a way to

make everyone a moderator and that is how I should have left it. Instead I formed a moderator team that quickly I allowed to become a council. Right there is where I allowed myself to fall into trap number two. If I had been the only person taking care of administrator duties most of the issues that arose on the site would probably have never reached the level of heat that they obtained.

The final piece was the community learning center. That was one of my biggest drives for the forum. Everyone has something to offer and everyone has something to learn. As soon as I began talk of an academy the community learning center concept went right out the door.

I made plenty of mistakes with this site! Many of them were because this is the first time I have ever run a forum so a lot of them were just newbie mistakes. I have actually been reading around on some great sites that are made for forum administrators and really have picked up some great things that probably would have avoided this entire fiasco. Sure, little things would pop up here and there but that is the nature of things and just the nature of people. Letting myself move away from my original visions of this site I allowed things to escalate to an extreme point that should have never have happened.

In March of 2008 my Mother-in-Law passed away after a long, hard, and painful battle with cancer. It really let me step back and look at things and at my life. First of all I have a great career as a teacher in a wonderful community. As I began taking on more duties my time outside of work was becoming less and less. I also began a website business on the side which takes up some time. During this time I came to the realization of many things I discussed above just not to the same degree as I am discussing now. In May I decided I had two choice, to overhaul the site in how it runs and get it back on track and in line with my original vision or shut it down. At this time I also realized I did not care about the name Jedi anymore and it being a label for who I am. So with that in mind I decided to close down the site. If I cared about myself still being a Jedi then I would have put the site back on track no matter what it took. So overall it came down to the name Jedi for myself and my family/career which to me is the real enjoyment in life. All the online stuff is just gravy but for me it turned from gravy into sludge. The moment that happens you need to really look at things in your life and make some choices, many times those choices will not be easy. Some may not believe but closing the doors to the site was a very tough choice and something I did not want to do but I also realized the reality of the situation.

Some will say, wow, he is really being tough on himself and others will say you are really making this look like it was nothing or over-dramatizing the situation. Everyone has an opinion, that's just the way it is. For those that say I am being too tough on myself for all this all I have to say is this was my site so it is my responsibility. I allowed the issues to happen without dealing with them in the way I should of so that fault lies with me alone. For those that say I am over-dramatizing this or being too easy on myself all I can say is obviously nothing I can say will change those thoughts. I lost site of my vision and that is what led to the site going in the direction it went. When I stuck to my vision the site was a wonderful place to hang out and I will never regret my time in the Jedi Community and running The Jediism Way. I am sorry to those that took part on the site for all the issues that occurred and would do anything to go back and correct what happened but you know what they say, hindsight is 20/20.

Many things over the past 6-8 months have been said, claimed, and assumed. All I can say to anyone reading any of that is take it all with a grain of salt. Some of it will be completely true, some of it will be completely false, but most of it will contain some truth and some of it will contain things not so true. No one was in my shoes so no one but me was able to see everything that did happen so many people are stating things based on partial truths which always leads to nowhere.

When I closed down the site my original intent was to close it down permanently and move on! At the same time some other sites also shut down and between that and all the email I received I decided to put the site back up because I saw how important everyone valued what it contained. At that time I decided to put the forum back up and just keep it as an archive. However, when I was cleaning up my computer and moving things to my external hard drive which is where I keep all backups my hard drive crashed and I lost all the backups. My computer has a ton of stuff on it so I will always keep my eyes open for a backup and if I come across one I will offer up to the new administrator to use as an archive. A month or two ago I then realized not many people really had places to go talk so I decided I did not want to open the site but I would offer it to a willing individual and within a day or two someone stepped forward and now the site is back as you see it.

I would like to take a few moments just to stress a couple of things. People really need to remember that you are dealing with another person on the other side of the screen. Someone that thinks, feels, experiences joy, sadness, anger, frustration, and all the other things we as people feel. We are also all different and come from different backgrounds and experiences so how one person reacts another will react differently based on all of this. When reading text on a screen you can't pick up word stress, facial expressions, and all the other visual and aural cues that go along with listening to someone speak and really determining what they mean and how they mean it. This can make communicating online extremely difficult at times especially when dealing with many of the topics discussed on a Jedi board. I am not going to go into a lecture on you need to act such and such a way as that is not what I'm here to do. I just want to remind you that we are all people and when you type on a screen you are dealing with other people. You also need to remember what you type, as soon as you hit post it is there forever. Even if you delete it, it is probably archived somewhere on the web. So what you type now could come back in 10 years to haunt you if it is inappropriate. Issues will always arise but if you handle them in a mature manner they will pass by just as easily as they arose and all will have learned and moved on. Jedi just like most others come online to learn and share with others similar in thinking. Most people are not there to just be trouble makers, most want to share, learn, and just have a good time as spending time online for most is a wind-down at the end of a long day. So remember that you are dealing with other thinking and feeling individuals on the other side of the screen and just have some fun, learn, share, laugh, and enjoy life!

To the new site webmaster I wish you all the best and hope this site really gets its running legs back and keeps moving forward in a positive way. To all members I will be around in some way or the other so I shouldn't be too hard to contact or find. If anyone ever wants to talk about anything or just wants an ear to listen to them you know I am around!!

This site had a wonderful start and some rocky time but it's just like life. Learn from those rocky time and keep on truckin' as I know I have!!

Written by Xhaiden

Shadow, Grey, and Rogue:

First I want to state that I have personally trained under each aspect listed below. And while I did not always train directly under the creator it was usually the next step in the lineage. I did not train with Koren Jey, but instead his Student Starr. I did not train under Shinobi (though he did teach me a lot) I trained under his student. And I did train in apprenticeship under Rendar Queloon. Now with that, "what do you know about it?" out of the way, we will look at the definition of each path first and then talk about each one.

Shadow: One in search of balance. Originally formed under Shinobi at the Force Academy in '98. There was a need at the time to create a middle class. They view the Force as having no sides, no Light Side, no Dark Side. That need is no longer evident in today's Community. A Shadow seeks balance with the Force, neither light nor dark. They follow the will of the Force and do what they feel necessary, with little to no restrictions on conduct. They have evolved since that time. (Creator: Shinobi) The Shadow draw from Taoist and Ninpo principles, and believe in following the "Will of the Force", always seeking a balance. They believe many Light Jedi still view the Force as Light Side and Dark Side, as they had in 1998. Yet the Light Jedi have grown as well, and understand this principle.

Grey: One who uses both the Light Side and Dark Side techniques and methods. Their methods consist of whatever will get the job done. They do not seek to restrict themselves. Balance is only a factor in personal relations, making sure they do not fall one way or another. They still help others, but have few restrictions in just how to help. (Creator: Koren Jey) The Grey believe in doing whatever necessary to get the best results. They study both in "Light Side" and "Dark Side" techniques and methods. Using whatever method they feel best fits the situation.

Difference of Grey and Shadow: Grey Jedi believe in Sides. Grey Jedi practice both Light Side and Dark Side techniques and use whatever works best for the best outcome within the moment. Grey Jedi seek similar ends as the "Light" Jedi, but feel a Jedi should use whatever means are at their disposal to accomplish it. A Shadow Jedi does not believe in Sides. There is no Light Side, there is no Dark Side, there is merely the Force and it's infinite capacity for knowledge. Balance is maintained within the individual (often the source of confusion between the two paths).

The Grey Path was developed with an idea that a Jedi should not be limited in any way, no technique off limits with the proper training. The Shadow Path was created at a time when the Jedi(Light) were still working through their own beliefs and knowledge. The Shadow removed Sides and instead focused on training the individual to be a capable Jedi understanding the Force as a whole, not separated by any aspects.

Allow me to explain how some of these groups came into existence in the first place. There was actual logical reasons at one point, but as time went on these reasons disappeared. And the groups degraded into what is described above. In 1998 when the Jedi Community was beginning to bloom the idea of the struggle between Good and Evil, Light and Dark was still highly enjoyed. As such there were Light Jedi, Dark Jedi, and Sith. And they either followed the Light Side of the Force or the Dark Side of the Force. It was a very black and white way of thinking. So, because of that two groups emerged. The Shadow Jedi who said that the Force did not have sides, but that dark and light come from within ourselves. Because of this they encouraged inner balance and following the Will of the Force, not being restricted by the Jedi Code nor giving themselves completely to their emotions.

The Shadow Jedi developed a Code of their own over time, it is as follows:

I am at Peace; for I know Emotion.

I have Power; for I also have Knowledge.
I have Passion; for I am Serene.
I can embrace Mortality; for I know Death.
I am balanced through the Force.

The author is unknown at this time, though Shinobi, Justin Tallent, or Ait Viocu would be my personal guess. Still it reflects the general idea that they rebuke nothing and accept everything. Striving to be balanced individuals. In fact some Shadow Jedi these days go as far as to say there is no Shadow Jedi Code, that it is up to each individual to make for themselves. The Shadow came about in 1998 as a part of the Jedi and established by Shinobi at the Force Academy. The Shadow path still grows and is going strong, especially at the Force Academy.

The Grey Jedi on the other hand have a slightly different outlook. They were created at the same time as the Shadow and dealt with the Struggle between light and dark differently. Instead of saying there was no light and dark, they merely said use both light and dark. Kind of like turkey, both light and dark meat. ((again humor, I hope it is evident and not needing smilies to convey)) The Grey Jedi said, yes help people, yes the Light Jedi have it right. Except use all techniques and abilities open to you. Use your emotions, use peace, use Jedi methods, use Sith methods, what matters is maintaining your neutrality. Do not go one way or the other, stay in the middle, and limit yourself to nothing.

The Grey Code is listed as follows:

Through pain comes wisdom; but only without ignorance comes knowledge
There is no power; only the force
There are no sides only the whole
Peace and justice come to those who are willing
To seek it and grasp it through whatever comes upon them.
No darkness, no light, only understanding.

The Grey Jedi continue to this day, but not from the teachings of Starr or Koren Jey. They can be found at such sites as the Real Jedi Knights. These individuals have created something else, which has even less basis than Koren and Starr. Yet when we talk of the Grey Jedi, this is what we mean. The original Jedi that created something new and furthered our knowledge and self-understanding. The Grey Jedi, in my opinion, lasted from 1999 to 2004 (when stopped checking in for good and I stopped accepting the Grey and Shadow as part of the Jedi.).

Lastly we have the Rogue Jedi. Which in itself comes a rather contradictory thing. The Rogue Jedi, are usually simply someone who was a Jedi, takes what learned as a Jedi, but denounces any order, structure, and/or group. They wander about thinking themselves freed and often better than others because they removed their restrictions. Using their skills as they see fit. Yet not dark Jedi as they often help to the ideals of helping others and generally being Jedi, just more on their own time and in their own way. Again, answering to no one but themselves.

Rendar Queloon was the first real Rogue Jedi. And as such he began to take others on under him. Creating, ironically, the Rogue Jedi "order." In this the Rogue Jedi had a code and somewhat of structure, for teaching purposes. There was no council or anything like that, merely an ez-board forum where one could go and learn the ways of the Rogue Jedi. I was taught briefly by Rendar Queloon. Unfortunately offline life got busy for him and he ended up leaving the Jedi Community.

The Rogue Jedi Code is as follows:
There are no rules; there is instinct

There is no commitment; there is freedom
There is no path; there is discovery
There is no order; there is the rogue.
Created by Rendar Queloon

With Rendar leaving the Community I went back to various Jedi studies and the actual Rogue Jedi vanished. This was in 2001. Still you will see once and awhile someone claiming to be a Rogue Jedi. More often than not they are just a kid trying to be unique in some way. Be cooler than the rest. Yet for the serious Rogue Jedi, there is their base, their origin. Rendar Queloon had teachings and a structured path, however all that was lost with him years ago.

As one can see these are influenced heavily by the Jedi Code's own structure. But move away from some of the core ideals of the Jedi. They do not advocate self-restraint, they do not advocate emotional control, they are free to do whatever they see fit. Again I simply state, that if you do not follow the Jedi path then you are not a Jedi. If one wants to be the Shadow Warrior or Grey Knight, then fine, but they are not Jedi. In the end we can see the connection to the Jedi. But connections and similarities do not make one a Jedi. They are different philosophies, thus different paths and should not carry the Jedi name. Yet no one can stop them. And all we can do is educate people on the reality of these paths and their relation to the Jedi.

The Jedi Order:

This is the history of Jet Black and the origins of the Jedi Order guild that he created. This history may be amended in time, if more information and timelines comes up. Until that time however, here is the history of the Jedi Order as presented by Jet Black, creator.

"I started down the Jedi Path back in 2004. It was a completely original idea between my best friend Caleb and I. I had always been of the "help others and master thyself" opinion – I just never had a name for it. And yes, I was rather misguided in retrospect. The road to hell is paved with good intentions, so to speak. However, I was never very religious, so I couldn't base my good behavior on Jesus or Buddha. So I created this secular "Jedi" belief, and shared it with Caleb. We both loved it, and were quite excited about it.

We were just kids. I was... oh I think 16 or 17 at the time. I came upon the path due to personal issues I was facing, though I'll save you the autobiography (I'm about 500 pages into that train-wreck). Caleb's a few years younger than I, and I had been searching for something for two years or so. It's how I know so much about the world's religions and philosophy – I spent the better part of those two years studying it. Joining churches and doing research on the internet. Even read a (translated) copy of Sun Tzu's The Art of War. Don't know what I expected to find in there *chuckles*.

Er, anywho. I was a big fan of Star Wars EU. All my favorite characters save Luke are from EU. Hero's like Corran Horn, Mara Jade, and Jaina Solo. Eventually, I discovered the big draw for me were the Jedi (naturally). I always wondered why I disliked the Old Republic (aka the sequel movies) so much. Besides the acting (though Liam Neeson and Ewan McGregor were quite awesome). It was because I didn't agree with the old Jedi Order's policy - They were too strict and rigid, good and evil were too clearly defined. Now, Luke's new Jedi Order? That was a different story, and to be honest, I found him an amazing teacher.

I've read the Jedi Academy trilogy... Hah. Countless times. I've read (and read) I, Jedi so often I can recount it chapter by chapter from memory. These were my muse, those books are what inspired me to come up with the idea of being Jedi. Many... many Jedi didn't believe that I came up with the idea without notice of other Jedi groups. *shakes head* Though I did, with Caleb's help. It wasn't clearly defined... it's not like I woke up one day and realized what it was. It was a slow process, and what my morals and core beliefs were turned into the Jedi Way.

And this by no means makes me a Master, by the way. It's like... if one could glimpse into the mind of Gandhi. You know who he was, you know his beliefs, his way. But that doesn't MAKE you Gandhi. You just understand. That's what it was like. I knew what I wanted to be, and I tried my damndest to become like that. I tried to hard, at first, I think.

The Jedi Order was created online, June 1st, 2005, though the actually planning of said order dates a bit farther back. Though originally conceptualized as a website, it was actually created as a guild on a popular online forum. There were about a dozen starting members, lead by a young budding Jedi as their friend, peer, and teacher. Forgive anything that follows this, as I may get the timeline of certain happenings mixed up.

I was barely a year down the Jedi Path. *chuckles* Naïve eh? My core beliefs were barely more than two years old and here I was teaching the path to others. I didn't even know any other Jedi existed upon it's creation. *shakes his head* Talk about taking the weight of the world on my shoulders. *sighs*.

There were some good times on the guild, however. Especially at first. I wrote lessons and lectures regularly. I met many people, and made many friends. Many are still my closest friends, one of which is a member of this site. She was a good enough friend to bring me to the Jedi Academy, and I believe it's exactly what I needed. Thanks Amp.

I believe it was several weeks after I created the JO guild that I stumbled upon a massive online Jedi website. How did I find it? I was looking for a picture of a Jedi Temple, which was the main forum for my guild *laughs*. The experience can only be described as this – it was akin to finding a holocron. I spent two days reading. I did nothing else. I absorbed everything like a sponge. I read every single article, every lesson saved to the website. Then I started on the forums. I made the mistake of introducing myself as a Jedi Master (ie, Master as in teacher. I had trained a padawan to Knighthood, and Caleb insisted on giving me the title of Master. Later, with wisdom, I abandoned the title. As did Caleb with his Jedi Knight title.) I was immediately flamed for the mistake by a few Jedi on the forums, but someone stepped in and explained it to me. Nobody did believe I thought up the Jedi Order, however.

Anywho, I tried to participate in the site, and I told everyone at the JO about it. However.. one of the perks to having a completely original online group was that we weren't bogged down (at the time) in the problems this other group was having. We were not only surviving, we were growing. Despite my novice teaching skills, despite my lack of experience, we were moving forward. The problems the other group were experiencing caused me to leave, though I lurked quite often, using it as a resource for my own teachings, and for inspiration when I couldn't think of what to teach about.

Opie joined up around that time, as well as several other newcomers. There were complications with that... mostly because many of the original members didn't like many of the changes we were going through. Before – we had a clearly defined focus, a clearly defined leader, and a clearly defined way of doing things. I kept changing things – Giving up the title of Jedi Master being the one many didn't agree with. I KNEW I wasn't a Master though – Hell I wasn't even a Knight. The members obsessed over this topic, quite literally. Ranks were the biggest discussion on the forum – Something to which held little importance to me. The secondary major topics were the Praxeum (Academy) and the Council. Those two were my priority.

I left the Order. For several months – Not by choice. Lost internet access during a move. The Order was mostly inactive, the few die-hard members that continued had trouble keeping it going. When I came back, activity picked back up, but our numbers had dwindled to well under a dozen regulars. We focused too much on ranks, too much on establishing a council when really, none of us were experienced enough to lead. I was having personal... troubles at home, as well as a job that occupied a lot of my time. I in that transition between teenager and adult, learning responsibility, paying bills, dealing with life, etc. Gradually, my life took more and more priority over the Jedi Order, and I was less and less active. We had Council meetings, but to be honest, our "elections" for council members were rather flawed. We didn't have enough people to have a council. When there are more people in the council then there are "regular" members of the Order... it's sorta pointless.

The Praxeum was created but not used. Lesson plans were drafted but never put into action. Teachers and subjects were picked out, but never came to fruition. The Jedi Order had failed. Many tried to breathe life back into it, but I left once again, another move. Was out of contact for several months.

When I came back, I knew what had to be done. What I had to do. I wasn't a Jedi Master. I wasn't a

Knight, though I'd like to think I'm closer now. During my time away I overcame many obstacles in my life. I had many failures, and I realized that I was stronger because of them. I failed a LOT. And I learned a lot. Something I'm sure most of you know, we all learn from our mistakes, and the more we make the better. We learn from our failures, and to be honest, I look forward to them now. Learning experiences are great, and they open my eyes just a little more each time.

When I finally did come back, I quit the Jedi Order. Not in any official capacity... I just realized I wasn't up to teaching others when I had to be taught. I couldn't lead others when I needed to be lead. I am a natural leader, mind you, and I say this with all do humility. It's simply a fact about my character. I am "good" at leading, I can be charismatic, I know how to present my ideas in a way that appeal to others. I've always helped others, simply with my actions, my words, and my character.

This is my gift, and my curse. This is my dark side and light side. The problem is.. I am not comfortable with it any more. My first problem was do I have the right? That's answered easily enough – People can request my help. My guidance. The second problem is am I doing what's best for them? This, I'm still struggling with. When most of what I do is done by instinct, I don't really know where I'm guiding someone. I don't know that what I'm doing is helping them until I've helped them.

I quit the Order because of this. I must master myself. Until I achieve what I know in my heart to be "Knighthood" I'll not teach, I'll not train others, I'll not lecture, I'll not lead. Until I am a Jedi Knight, I will learn – Nothing more.

And so ends my brief recollection of the Jedi Order, as well as what I went through at the time. Thank you for reading."

My own personal addition is that the Jedi Order is all but dead now. Unfortunately the Order couldn't survive without it's leader. And the person who than stood up to be leader, Caleb, could not fill the position. And instead of focusing on Jedi and self-betterment the Order fell into Caleb's journals and ranting area which resulted in open arguments with his girlfriend and another Jedi (namely me). While the mistake of such incidents has come into light, the damage to the Order was done. And now it's members find that they can have their cake and eat it too. A place to meet online, continue the friendships built within the Order, and train as Jedi. Only time will tell if the Jedi Order will survive. but it is my belief that it will die, fade away, and in about two years be brought back, by its creator. Stronger, and ready for the challenges that await. And armed with knowledge, experience, and thus wisdom will prove a worthy place for Jedi indeed.



Real Jedi Knights:

We first start by recognizing Mi-Zhe Fu, the creator of the Real Jedi Knights website and forum. Mi-Zhe Fu (born in 1981) came to the Jedi Community in 2000 and trained at the Temple of the Jedi Arts. Experiencing problems in leadership the Temple effectively closed down for a short while. As such in 2001 Mi-Zhe Fu created a website whose name was to be Jedi Knights. The url unfortunately did not reflect this every well as it was in Mi-Zhe Fu's name, but indeed the Jedi Knights were born and Mi-Zhe Fu took what he had learned and applied it to his new site.

He sought to combine fiction with the idea of using it in reality. And as such he used much of the fiction, including lightsaber form movements as a basis for his teachings. Feeling that they could easily be applied in reality without changing them. In any event Mi-Zhe Fu was now a Jedi Master and seeking to provide a place for other Jedi to come a learn.

In 2005 Jedi Knights was renamed to the Real Jedi Knights. Funny enough before that I was briefly associated with them as I was approach to update and imporave their symbol. And while I did my best, I could not perform the effects and changes they were hoping for. Unfortunately my lack of caring than and changing of three computers since has made me lose that infor which could share in a whole history of their symbol, which was originally created for another site. Again I am unable to bring all that information and dates forward because of lost files and my lack of giving two pennies back than.

In any event, Mi-Zhe Fu eventually left the online Jedi Community as many do. And in late 2008, into 2009 the Real Jedi Knights under went several changes. Reforming the Council and bring fresh people into Knighthood the Real Jedi Knights is re-establishing itself as a worthy place to train. Currently under the direction of the Council and chiefly Silmerion Skywalker the Real Jedi Knights is improving how they run things and making sure that authority and power is shared evenly amongst the Council.

As we go into 2009 Real Jedi Knights shows no signs of slowing down any time soon. I hope to have more personal accounts from there in time to add to this brief history. Until than, this is what we have.



The Future and its History:

The Jedi Community continues on. Many sites, many ideals, and it is the history in the making. Dates, creators, members, all these things come and go and they can hold valuable lessons. If nothing else they show our growth along the way. It is impossible to say where the Jedi Community will end up. It is up to each site, each group, and each Jedi to make their place within the time given. Perhaps that no name Jedi site, not even mentioned here it one day be THE Jedi site everyone knows and recognizes. And you were there, at the beginning. It is important to write these things down and remember. I was the first Light Jedi Master and Inner Council Member at the Force Academy, but that has been long forgotten. No one bothering to write it down or correct the history books. And now, no one left who remembers, except for me.

And that is how our history can go. We can start something that grows beyond us, but if we do not seek to lock in the history, who is going to remember it but us? Those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it. This is every much proven in the Jedi Community. People ignore or simply do not know the history of the other Jedi sites, they do not learn from them. And as we can see they do repeat the same mistakes. So take note, write down dates, icons, and names. And in ten years you will be the Jedi historian, the one that can recount the events that lead to where the Jedi end up.

There are many sites, many places whose history is not included here. Hopefully in time that will change. And we can have a complete view and understanding of how the Jedi grew into the Community they are today. And why and how certain sites came to practice the standards and regulations that they do. May your history be pleasant and full of great advances.

Opie Macleod.

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