

**Dejan Žuža,**  
Black belt 6th DAN Aikido and Aiki Jujutsu.

### Professional experience

Dejan Žuža started practicing Aikido in 1989 and has been a trainer since 1997. On his ten-year journey to mastery, he has assisted and learned from several great masters such as Saša Obradović, Dragoljub Noveski, Ljubomir Vračarević and Bratislav Stajić. In the same period, he was among the founders of several real aikido clubs in Belgrade, Obrenovac and Užice.

Dejan Žuža, together with his parents (founders of the club and members of the club's board of directors) founded the first club of Real Aikido in Zemun called "Martial arts and recreation club - Zemun" and opened branches in Novi Banovci, Ugrinovci, Stara Pazova, Zemun Polje, Nova Galenika, Gornji Grad in Zemun, Stari Grad in Belgrade in Elementary School "Drinka Pavlović", at Vračar and Dorćol. A few of those branches have grown into clubs that are still working and are run by Dejan's students, however as representatives of other organizations and styles.

He participated in over 60 national and international seminars in Belgrade, throughout Serbia, Greece, Republika Srpska, Hungary, Slovenia and Croatia. He personally organized and led the 23rd National Seminars in Tara, Goč, Rudnik, Divčibare, Buljarice, Arandjelovac, Vršac, Kelebija, Knić, Sirogojno, Katići, etc. with over 500 students in total. Dejan also organized 6 weekend camps in Šuplja Stena below mount Avala with his colleagues from Kyokushinkai Karate, with the aim of exchanging experiences and socializing.

Dejan Žuža has instructed 15 aikido masters, using a mentoring approach and work, and supervised over 1,000 aikido students who achieved various student titles.

He was among the founders of the Serbian Aikido Association and is a member of the board of directors and secretary general of the organization of the same name, as well as a member of the "Dan" collegium of the International Aikido Academy. In September 2009, the Club in Zemun, with its branches in Zemun and the central Belgrade, with over 150 students, became a member of the previously mentioned organizations. Since then, the club has exchanged knowledge and cooperated with clubs of other aikido styles, maintaining its original approach and work with students, and raising the level of its work.

Since 2018, the club has had technical cooperation with the "DDK" (Deutsches Dan Kollegium) - the German association of martial arts, primarily of jujitsu, judo and karate masters, with an emphasis on aiki - jujutsu and Dejan has on several occasions been a guest lecturer - docent at seminars in Eringshausen, Erfurt and Düsseldorf.

Dejan Žuža speaks English and German fluently. He has acquired music education and plays the piano and guitar.



## Career development path

<b>1978</b>	Born in Belgrade on September 27 <sup>th</sup>
<b>1984 - 1989</b>	He lived in Cairo, Egypt, where he simultaneously attended pre-school classes, the first three grades of primary school at the " <i>Licee Francee de Caire</i> ", and the Yugoslav evening school in the Serbian language.
<b>1989</b>	He took his first steps in aikido, started practicing at the "Vračar" Sports Centre in Belgrade at Crevni Krst with Ljuba Vračarević
<b>1989 - 1992</b>	Attended Primary School "Gornja Varoš" (Vladimir Nazor in Zemun.
<b>1989 - 1995</b>	Attended primary music schools "Kosta Manojlović" and "Stanislav Binički" and successfully gained music education.
<b>1990 - 1992</b>	He continued practicing aikido at the Sports Centre "Pinki" in Zemun with master Saša Obradović 2 <sup>nd</sup> DAN
<b>1992 - 1996</b>	Attended "Petar Drapšin" Secondary Technical School and graduated with the title: "general technician".
<b>1994</b>	He continued practicing Real Aikido at the World Centre with master Dragoljub Noveski, black belt 4th DAN
<b>1995</b>	Passed into the so-called "B" team led by master Bratislav Stajić, black belt 6th DAN.
<b>1996 - 1998</b>	Attended Faculty of Physical Education in Belgrade and graduated from the same faculty in Novi Sad and got the title of Senior Aikido Trainer.
<b>1997</b>	As one of the youngest students, he passed to the so-called "A" team, led by master Ljubomir Ljuba Vračarević (at the time black belt 8th DAN), founder of Real Aikido.
<b>1997</b>	In October, with his parents, he founded the "Martial arts and recreation club – Zemun", where he began to work as an assistant and trainer.
<b>1998</b>	In July, at the International Seminar in Greece, he applied for the title of Master of Real Aikido and won the Black Belt 1 <sup>st</sup> DAN.
<b>2000</b>	In April, he founded the first branch of his Club in Novi Banovci
<b>2000</b>	He applied for the master of Real Aikido and won the black belt 2nd DAN.
<b>2000 - 2001</b>	Led training in the World Centre of Real Aikido of 2 adult teams.
<b>2001</b>	In December, he founded a branch and led trainings in Ugrinovci
<b>2003</b>	Applied for a new belt in Real Aikido and won the black belt 3rd DAN.
<b>2005</b>	Established a branch in Stara Pazova in September

<b>2006</b>	Applied for the master of Real Aikido and won the black belt 4th DAN.
<b>2009</b>	In June, he participated in establishing the Serbian Aikido Association (SAS) as well as the International Aikido Academy (IAA), whose founder was Bratislav Stajić, at the time black belt 8 <sup>th</sup> DAN.
<b>2009</b>	In September, he established an aikido branch in Zemun Polje.
<b>2009</b>	In September, wanting to further progress and expand his knowledge, he left Real Aikido and dedicated to further practicing of Aikido with master Bratislav Stajić, black belt 8th DAN
<b>2010</b>	In February, he founded the branch / club "Singidunum" in central Belgrade. It is now operating in Primary School "Drinka Pavlovic".
<b>2010</b>	In October, at the second session of the SAS, Dejan Žuža was unanimously elected the General Secretary of the Association.
<b>2011</b>	In February, he founded an aikido branch in Nova Galenica.
<b>2013</b>	On January 19, he passed and won the black belt 5th DAN, awarded to him by Bratislav Stajić, the black belt 8th DAN, on behalf of the International Aikido Academy as the president of the commission.
<b>2013</b>	On March 19, he founded a branch at Dorćol in the "Sports Centre Dorćol".
<b>2014</b>	In March, he visited Moscow and Belgorod in Russia, where he attended seminars as the first assistant of Master Stajić, who led an international aikido seminar.
<b>2014</b>	In November, he founded another section of his club "Singidnum" in New Belgrade in the Primary School "Nadežda Petrović.
<b>2016</b>	On February 13, as the closest associate of Bratislava Stajić, and the founder of the International Aikido Academy, Dejan Žuža was promoted to the black belt 6th DAN.
<b>2017</b>	In June, he visited "Ehringshausen" in Germany and presented the IAA as a docent-lecturer at the invitation of the greatest masters - members of the "DDK" (Deutsches Dan Kollegium).
<b>2018</b>	In May, he visited Kazakhstan and attended the "X Master Class" seminar as Bratislav Stajić's (9th DAN) first assistant.
<b>2018</b>	On June 2-3, he visited "Ehringshausen bei Wetzlar" in Germany and again presented aikido - aiki-jujutsu on behalf of the IAA as a docent-lecturer next to the greatest masters - members of the "DDK" (Deutsches Dan Kollegium), with more training and more "minutes" on the mat.
<b>2018</b>	He graduated from the Academy of Technical Vocational Studies "Technikum Taurunum" majoring in Process Engineering and Thermo-Engineering and got the title of "Mechanical Engineer"

<b>2018</b>	On September 1-2, he visited "Erfurt" - Germany, at the invitation of Mario Göckler (8 <sup>th</sup> DAN), the president of the DDK for "Sachsen" and "Thüringen" - Germany, on the occasion of the club's 25th anniversary, and he was the only lecturer-docent of martial arts for aikido from Serbia, again on behalf of the IAA.
<b>2020</b>	He defended his final thesis at the Academy of Technical Vocational Studies "Technikum Taurunum" and got the title of Professional Mechanical Engineer, at the Department of Plants and Equipment in Thermo-Engineering and Process Engineering".
<b>2022</b>	In February, he organised a three-day <i>uchi-deshi</i> seminar at the club in Zemun, led by Bratislav Stajić 9 <sup>th</sup> DAN. The seminar was attended for the first time by a representative of the German organization "DDK" - Jürgen Grimm 3rd DAN, secretary of the organization of the same name for the province of Hessen.
<b>2023</b>	In November, he participated as a guest lecturer in Dusseldorf, as an Aiki - Jiujiitsu master on behalf of the IAA, and at the invitation of Kall Bergers (8th DAN), on the occasion of his 50th anniversary of practicing martial arts and Jiujiitsu. The entire event was organized by the "European Jiujiitsu Union".

The pale letters refer to personal biography of Dejan Žuža

Currently, Dejan Žuža works, practices, and conducts training in Belgrade-Zemun, he is happily married to his wife Tatjana, with whom he has two daughters, Kristina and Sara, and two sons, Gordan and Uroš.

He works in German company "Viessmann", which deals with heating technology and air conditioning, in the position of office manager, i.e. chief of staff.

His main motive is to continue his personal development by regularly conducting trainings, to participate in seminars organized by the International Aikido Academy with Master Bratislav Stajić 9th DAN, and to selflessly convey the true values of aikido as a skill to his students and else.

Dejan Žuža is also active internationally, he is interested in gaining international standing and popularizing the IAA, that is his style of work as a martial arts specialist and master of Aikido and Jiujiitsu, to which he has dedicated most of his life, spending almost every day of the last 31 years on the mat.

