

Calamity 431

Naruto: The Wind Calamity

Chapter 431: A Couple of Minutes

Fujin focused on the chakra point once again. This time, he didn't try to push it gently. Instead, he bombarded that chakra point with as much chakra as he could. The chakra point immediately felt a lot of pressure but resisted the bombardment. However, Fujin kept up the pressure.

A couple of minutes later, under constant bombardment, the chakra point gave in. The blockade disappeared and a high amount of chakra flowed through that chakra point.

Fujin's eyes snapped open. He felt a surge of chakra flowing through his body. The air around him became erratic.

Guy, who was observing Fujin, was surprised. He smiled wryly and thought, 'Less than 4 minutes? He is just like Kakashi. Even he needed less than 5 minutes to open the Gate of Opening. On the other hand, I needed a month to open it.'

That said, they did attempt opening the First Gate when they were far older than me and had a far stronger physique.

Still, it looks like Fujin's physique is far better than I thought. Opening the Gate of Healing shouldn't take much time for him either. At most, it'll take a week. However, the Gate of Life is where the real determination gets tested. While he will succeed, it will take a long time. And, he will feel demotivated to work on opening more.

I wonder if he will keep opening more Gates or quit like Kakashi after the Gate of Life...'

While Guy was lost in his thoughts, Fujin was lost in the incredible feeling he was experiencing. He thought, 'Damn! I have never felt so free in my life. I can feel it. It's as if all restraints placed on my body have been removed.'

My brain is much more active. It's as if my senses are amplified several times. My eyesight is far better. I can pick up the lightest sounds and my sense of smell has improved as well. More importantly, my body's instincts are heightened to a whole new level. I doubt anyone would be able to sneak attack on me as I am now. And the cherry on the cake is that my thinking speed seems to have increased as well.

Apart from my brain, my muscles have improved considerably as well. Though there is no observable change, I can sense that my muscles can provide me with far more strength than before. And, I have a feeling that they will be far more responsive. No wonder Guy could make his follow-up attacks that quickly. Increased thinking speed plus reduced response time for muscles.

My chakra also has increased by around 15%. However, the most incredible part about the Gate of Opening is the feeling I am getting. I can get addicted to this feeling! It feels as if this is how my body is supposed to be.

Even those medical sensations with Yoshi and Isamu aren't this relaxing. The only thing that came close was when I sensed Nature Energy while riding on Ryu's back. But even that didn't feel as natural as this! Hmm, I wonder what would happen if I mix Sage Mode with the Gate of Opening... Regardless, it's time to test it.'

Fujin got up. He looked towards a rock that was raised from the ground due to the earlier spar. Fujin disappeared from his spot, appeared in front of the rock and punched it in one fluid motion.

As he expected, his punch decimated that rock! Small pieces of the rock were scattered away from Fujin. He looked at his fist and marvelled, 'This is incredible! The power is far beyond the normal Strong Fist Style. It is almost comparable to concentrating chakra on my fist, but it doesn't have the drawback of requiring time and is even faster than my normal punches due to the speed increase!'

He looked at Guy and said with gratitude, "It feels incredible, Guy! Thanks for guiding me."

Guy looked at Fujin's fist and said, "Good work opening the Gate. However, don't do that again."

Fujin was confused. He asked, "Do you mean don't punch? Why not?"

Guy answered, "This is the first time you opened a Gate. I'm sure you are feeling restless to test it. Perhaps you even want to spar against me. Unfortunately, this will also be the first time you face the backlash for pushing past the natural limits of the human body. So, don't strain your body. I'm sure it feels incredible, but it'll soon feel just as bad."

Guy's words made Fujin feel awkward. He thought, 'Ugh, I got carried away. This feeling is indeed great. The desire to experience an epic battle is too intense! I would even want to spar against Hiruzen while I'm experiencing this. Unfortunately, I don't think I can sustain it for long.'

Seeing his expression, Guy said, "No need to test out what your stamina is. You can slowly explore it over the next few days or weeks by increasing the duration each time. That way you won't accidentally overexert yourself. You can close the Gate of Opening now."

Fujin nodded and stopped pushing the chakra through the chakra point. The blockade on his body reappeared. The surge of chakra through Fujin's body disappeared and instead, he felt a wave of exhaustion washing over him. His breathing became rough. And, a terrible pain could be felt in his right fist.

Fujin cursed, "Damn! The backlash is intense. It almost feels like I have broken my fist and used up all my stamina!"

Guy nodded and said, "That's why I asked you to not overexert yourself. This is just the first time, so your body isn't used to it. With practice, the backlash for the Gate of Opening won't be this intense."

Fujin nodded. He said, "Regardless, thanks, Guy. I didn't think I'd learn this so easily."

Guy replied, "Well, this technique isn't complicated despite being a forbidden jutsu. One just needs to have a strong enough body and know what to do. You will be able to open the Gate of Healing quickly as well. But don't try it until you get a hang of the Gate of Opening.

Right now, it takes you around 3 to 4 minutes to locate the chakra point and open the Gate of Opening. In a battle, you won't have this luxury. So, you need to work on opening the Gate at will.

In addition, you also need to improve your stamina. Keep working on it until you can sustain it for at least 5 minutes while you meditate and 2 minutes while you fight. It shouldn't take a lot of time to do this. Only after fulfilling these two conditions, attempt to open the Gate of Healing."

Fujin nodded and said, "Alright. I'll follow your instructions."

Guy said, "Good. I'll help you find the Chakra Point for the Gate of Healing as well. You can try opening it later when you fulfil the two conditions for the Gate of Opening."

Fujin nodded and sat down. Guy provided him with another scroll with a diagram and some notes to help locate the chakra point in the right hemisphere of his brain. After finding it, Fujin opened the First Gate and tried to push some chakra through the second chakra point to confirm whether he found the right one. After confirming, he closed the Gate of Opening.

Of course, that caused him to be even more tired. Guy grinned and said, "Seeing you work this hard ignites the flames of youth in me! Take a rest for today, Fujin! I'll focus on training my students for the remainder of the day.

You don't need to find me for sparring until you become comfortable with opening the Gate of Healing. It'll be better if you just focus on training your body and getting it accustomed to opening the Inner Gates instead of sparring with me or anyone else."

Fujin chuckled and said, "Alright, I'll focus on the Gates of Opening and Healing. Also, have fun with your students. Let them experience the flames of youth as well. I'll see you later, Guy. I'll visit after opening and getting accustomed to the Gate of Healing."

Fujin disappeared from the training ground. Guy disappeared as well and appeared where his three students were. All of them were running on their hands. Guy asked, "How many rounds are you done with by now?"

Tenten nearly cried as she complained in her heart, '3 hours haven't even passed! Why is he back so early?'

Lee excitedly said, "We are doing our 57th round, Guy-sensei!"

Guy said loudly, "Just 57th? That's too slow! We will do 300 rounds today! Follow me!"

Guy's excitement horrified Neji and Tenten. Both muttered internally, 'We are doomed!'

Guy too got on his hands and began running upside down in front of his students. Lee followed excitedly while the other two followed reluctantly.

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Chapter 432: Permanently opening the Gate of Opening!

As he returned home, Fujin chuckled at the thought of Guy training Neji, Lee and Tenten beyond their limits. He muttered, "Well, sucks to be them. Knowing Guy's training, I doubt they'd be able to get off their bed for a few days. That said..."

Fujin entered his house and took a deep breath. He pondered, 'I still feel so exhausted. Opening the Gate of Opening twice in quick succession takes a lot of toll on my body. And my fist still aches.'

Fujin stared at his right fist. Soon, a green chakra covered his fist and began healing the damage. In a minute, the pain subsided. Fujin stretched his palm and analyzed, 'Fortunately, the damage was only superficial. And though I feel tired, it's only my body and mind being a bit exhausted due to suddenly getting used to their full extent.'

My chakra is still fine. After resting for half an hour, I can continue training the Flying Thunder God. Still... That sensation I had on opening the First Gate... How beneficial it'll be if I can experience that all the time?

Is it possible for me to keep the Gate of Opening open all the time?'

Fujin fell into deep thought. After a minute, he thought, 'My current body definitely can't handle that much stress. I'll collapse very quickly. But can I train my body so much that it becomes strong enough to sustain it?'

Fujin very quickly shook his head and thought, 'No, even if I make my body strong enough, it won't be the same as using my body at 100% capability. Instead, what 100% of my body can do would become greater as well. Even if my future body can do my current 100% naturally, that wouldn't be the same as keeping the Gate open. So, how can I do that?'

As he waited for his body to rest up, Fujin thought continuously about ideas to be able to use his body at 100% capacity all the time without experiencing the drawbacks. Unfortunately, even after thinking long, he couldn't come up with anything.

He sighed and thought, 'A shame, I can't think of anything. That said, had it been that easy, I'm sure someone else would have already figured it out and a lot of top-level ninjas would have been able to do this. Now that I think about it, Guy's description of the benefits of Gate of Healing is quite similar to that theory on increasing cellular activity researched by Orochimaru.

I wonder if the Gate of Healing is what inspired him to undertake that research. Still, there are some differences. In some aspects, Orochimaru's method is superior. Increasing cellular activity increases chakra reserves permanently and without any drawback. The effect is much better than the Gate of Healing.

However, when using it in the middle of a battle to recover chakra, the drawbacks to Orochimaru's method are very harmful. In comparison, the Gate of Healing has no permanent backlash.

Regardless, the two are indeed similar. If Orochimaru was inspired by the Gate of Healing, I wonder if something similar can be done with the Gate of Opening. To figure out a way to increase the per cent of our physical strength our body can use... That will be difficult though it shouldn't be a dead end. I'll try working on this if I have a lot of time on my hands in the future.

Another interesting aspect is whether the effects of increased cellular activity and the Gate of Healing can overlap... Or if I can only use one at a time. From Guy's words, I should be able to open the Gate of Healing quickly. However, for increased cellular activity, I will need to wait for Tsunade to return to the village...

That is more than a year and a half away at this point. And that'll only happen if events play out the same. If Hiruzen survives, then it is unlikely that Jiraiya will go looking for her. Even Kakashi and Sasuke won't be in critical shape as Itachi would likely not show up in the village. Only Lee would be injured, but I doubt that would make Hiruzen call back Tsunade...'

Fujin sighed. Calculating the possible variations in the future he knew was too exhausting and extremely difficult. He decided, 'Leave it. There is no point in speculating so much. I'll just focus on increasing my strength. If the future does change and Hiruzen survives, I'll just use an alternate identity to target and injure someone important to Hiruzen bad enough that only Tsunade can heal them.

Preferably Homura or Koharu. If those two don't give any such opportunities, then I can only target Asuma. Though defeating them with just Lightning Release will be difficult, I still have a lot of time to create a good combat system revolving around my Lightning Release. Not to mention, I already have a very good idea. It won't take much time to be able to confront Elite Jounins while using just Lightning jutsus thanks to my strong basics.

Anyway, as long as I injure either of them badly enough, it should be enough to force Hiruzen to recall Tsunade to the village temporarily. I can take the opportunity to get her help to increase my cellular activity.'

With his decision finalized, Fujin continued his training. He rested long enough for the tiredness from opening the First Gate to disappear.

For the next few days, Fujin followed a different pattern. He stopped practicing his Wind Domain. Instead, he trained his body in the morning and followed it up by training the Flying Thunder God for the rest of his day. However, he opened the Gate of Opening twice daily with a long time between them to get used to it.

A week later, Fujin was sitting inside the Meditation room in his house in a meditative position. Suddenly, he opened his eyes and muttered, "Today's the day."

He took an alarm clock and placed it in front of him, setting the timer for 5 minutes. Almost instantly, the Gate of Opening opened and a surge of chakra appeared around Fujin.

Fujin had been able to open the Gate of Opening at will on the 4th day of practice. On the 6th day, he had become capable of keeping it open for 2 minutes straight while he moved around at a rapid speed and wreaked havoc in the training ground. His fists and legs did hurt a lot when he hit trees and rocks, but he could endure the pain and heal them later.

After opening the Gate of Opening, Fujin closed his eyes again and kept meditating. He was aiming to keep the Gate open for 5 minutes straight. He had barely missed on his previous try, reaching 4 minutes and 48 seconds. Hence, he was quite confident about it.

Slowly, the time ticked. 1 minute passed, then two, then four. Fujin felt a slight strain on his body, but it was nothing he couldn't bear. He stayed in his meditative posture.

Finally, the alarm sounded in his room. A smile appeared on Fujin's face. He met the conditions set by Guy. Almost immediately, he began bombarding the chakra point for the Gate of Healing.

Just like the earlier Chakra Point, this one resisted as well. Fujin continued bombardment. However, even after 30 seconds of bombardment, the chakra point didn't show any signs of giving in. Fujin stopped the bombardment and the Gate of Opening closed.

Fujin's breathing became rough. He thought, 'Well, this is tough. The resistance is much higher. However, that isn't an issue. The issue is that I have to keep the First Gate open. Only then can I try this. So I can only try this two or three times a day for 5 to 6 minutes each time. Looks like opening the Gate of Healing will take some time.'

Fujin got up and went to rest. He continued with the same training pattern. The only change was that he kept bombarding the second chakra point whenever he opened the Gate of Opening.

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Chapter 433: Dimensional Void

In his basement, Fujin and several Shadow Clones were sitting in a meditative position. Each one of them faced a pillar or the walls which had one Flying Thunder God seal marking on them. Fujin's body was tired from opening the Gate of Opening and trying to open the Gate of Healing. As such, he and his shadow clones focused on the Flying Thunder God technique. Despite having felt that a breakthrough was close, the breakthrough eluded Fujin for a month!

As they meditated, one Shadow Clone suddenly felt a change. He kept his eyes closed and focused entirely on the seal in front of him.

In a few seconds, some chakra disappeared from his body. Almost instantly, a small portion of the chakra that had disappeared from his body appeared on the Flying Thunder God Seal in front of him. A glee appeared on his face as he thought, 'I see, so this is how space-time travel happens...'

The clone closed his eyes and recalled how the process happened. He thought, 'When the chakra exited my body, it entered a different dimension. It was able to somehow move through it because I could sense the marking in front of me. This is exactly what is mentioned in the scroll.'

The scroll stated that after Tobirama wasn't satisfied with just using Reverse Summoning for Flying Thunder God, he kept researching more about Space-Time Ninjutsu. However, it was mostly a dead-end. Only after finding this dimension, did Tobirama make a breakthrough and create a true teleportation technique that is usable in battle. The scroll says that Tobirama named this as Dimensional Void.

But... What is this dimension? The scroll doesn't mention how Tobirama found or even sensed this dimension. It doesn't even say anything about what this dimension is. It only says that the dimension can only be accessed with the Flying Thunder God Seal and that travelling through it isn't completely safe.'

The clone thought for a few minutes before letting out a sigh. He muttered to himself, 'This world is still so full of mysteries. Even someone like Hiruzen is unaware of the fact that all the chakra we use originated from Kaguya. And she is from a crazy strong clan. Who knows what mysteries are involved with the Otsutsuki clan? And that is just the start. How many such mysteries exist in this universe?'

Even just restricting myself to this planet, there is so much that no one knows. Why are there so many chakra-rich resources in this world? Do resources like those exist on every planet or is this planet special for some reason? What is this dimension that can be used for space-time travel? What is the extent of this dimension? Does it only cover this planet or does it cover the entire universe? Why do some symbols coming together form a unique power that allows us to access this dimension?'

Even though I have become a Grandmaster in Fuinjutsu, I still don't understand why these symbols have such power. I don't think anyone else does as well. Sigh, so many mysteries. I wonder if I will ever get to the bottom of this... Anyway, time to test it.'

The clone raised his left hand slightly and brought it to his chest height. The Flying Thunder God seal appeared on his palm. Soon, a Wind Explosion Sphere formed on top of his left palm.

The chakra fluctuations due to creating a jutsu were sensed by everyone in the basement. Immediately, Fujin and all his clones spanned out of their meditative states and observed the clone who was creating the jutsu. All couldn't help but wonder, 'Did he complete the first part of this third step?'

Despite wondering that, no one disturbed the Shadow Clone. The clone, who had formed the Wind Explosion Sphere, had his entire attention focused on it. In front of everyone's gazes, the Wind Explosion Sphere disappeared!

Everyone's eyes widened. The jutsu hadn't dissipated. Instead, it had disappeared from the room. The Wind Explosion Sphere appeared in the Dimensional Void. However, before the clone could make it appear at the Flying Thunder God Seal in front of him, the jutsu dissipated in the Dimensional Void. Nothing reached the seal in front of him.

A frown formed on the face of the clone as he analyzed, 'The warnings were true. Even though I can now sense the Dimensional Void, moving through it is still very difficult. Wind Explosion Sphere is a very unstable jutsu and uses very little chakra. I need something more solid...'

The clone focused on his left palm again. He released the chakra and it began rotating rapidly. Soon, a Rasengan formed in his left hand. Just like the Wind Explosion Sphere, the Rasengan disappeared from the basement as well. It appeared in the Dimensional Void.

The clone immediately sensed the Flying Thunder God Seal in front of him and had the Rasengan move towards it. Unfortunately, the Rasengan began crumbling as well. Only some chakra made it through and hit the pillar in front of him, causing a small explosion.

The eyes of everyone in the room glittered. The clone had indeed had a breakthrough. However, the clone wasn't satisfied. He analyzed, 'It looks like this will require a lot of practice as well. The second part of this third step, huh? That said, I'm interested in seeing what this Dimensional Void is and how things move through it. Experiencing it will make completing this step a bit easier.'

He closed his eyes again and focused on himself. A second later, he disappeared from the basement. Once again, no one in the basement could sense where he went.

The clone appeared in the Dimensional Void and opened his eyes. His eyes widened in shock as he realized, 'What an intense pressure! My body can't move an inch! How can I even move in this dimension?'

The clone was confused. The pressure was too intense. Even if he became stronger in the future, he didn't see himself being able to move around in the Dimensional Void.

The clone immediately unleashed most of his chakra to resist the pressure. Unfortunately, it wasn't much help. He still couldn't move. However, his eyes moved rapidly trying to absorb any information he could. At the same time, his mind tried to sense the seal markings he had created.

Immediately, the clone noticed two things. The first was the dimension itself. There was nothing in the dimension at all! Even light wasn't present there! The clone couldn't see anything. However, as a ninja, light wasn't something he relied on entirely. His eyes glowed and he focused chakra on his ears and nose as well. However, he still couldn't see, hear or smell anything.

He thought, 'No wonder Tobirama named this as the Dimensional Void. There is nothing here. Or at least, there is nothing here that a rank S ninja is capable of sensing.'

That said, this is indeed a surprise. I thought that we would have to move through this dimension in order to be able to teleport in the Naruto world. I assumed that either I would be able to travel in this dimension at the speed of light, allowing me to move like I am teleporting, or the speed at which time flows in this world would be far faster, creating a similar effect.

However, I can't even move my body in this dimension. Instead, I can clearly sense all the markings that are within 1.05 kilometer range from the place I was sitting at. I just have to decide which marking to select and I can teleport there at will... Or rather, I will be able to do so in the future.

In other words, these markings act as portals. Or rather, the seal on my body and any marking I choose come together and act as a portal using this dimension as the medium, allowing me to teleport. Hmm, can this be called teleportation? Tough to say. Regardless, the effect is indeed similar.'

The clone focused his mind on the marking on the pillar in front of him and tried leaving the Dimensional Void through it. Unfortunately, he couldn't do so. Finally, his body couldn't handle the intense pressure and he was dispelled.

Though the clone had experienced a lot, he didn't actually spend a lot of time in it. He was in the Dimensional Void for less than a second! As soon as he was dispelled, his memories were transferred to Fujin and the remaining Shadow Clones.

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Chapter 434: The Complicated Third Step

Fujin quickly analyzed his Shadow Clone's memories. He let out a sigh at the questions that his clone had wondered about. Unfortunately, he wasn't strong enough yet to resolve those mysteries. Though they weren't as miraculous as his transmigration, they were still concepts beyond his current strength. However, unlike his transmigration, Fujin was hopeful that he would figure out these mysteries in the future.

He quickly removed those thoughts from his head and focused on the Flying Thunder God jutsu. He let out a sigh and muttered, "I had a feeling that I would experience a breakthrough only two weeks after I began practicing the third step.

To think that I would need another month of training to actually achieve that breakthrough! And, that is when I kept training with 15 Shadow Clones. That is equivalent to training for 16 months. No wonder such a technique didn't exist before Shadow Clone jutsu was created. Who'd spend so much time on this while your clan was constantly at war?"

Having analyzed the information, Fujin dispelled his Shadow Clones. All their experience and analysis poured into Fujin's brain. He spent a few minutes getting his thoughts together.

He analyzed, 'The first two steps to learn the Flying Thunder God were straightforward. However, the third step is quite complicated. In fact, it is further divided into four more steps.

The first step is to sense the Dimensional Void and send my chakra into it. Sensing my markings from the Dimensional Void is also a part of this step. It took me a month and a half to complete this step.

The second step is to transport a jutsu through the Dimensional Void. Unfortunately, only the jutsus where chakra is concentrated can be transported through the Dimensional Void. Jutsus like Infinite Breakthrough jutsu will directly collapse in the Dimensional Void.

The reason for this should be the intense pressure my clone felt. I will have to add a layer of chakra coating to my jutsus for them to maintain their forms while transporting through the void. Now that I think about it, Rasengan and its elemental forms will be perfect for travelling through the Dimensional Void. They are made purely of chakra and hence don't need any such layer of protection.

Once I become comfortable with this step, I'll be able to teleport Rasengan with the help of the Flying Thunder God jutsu. I wonder if this was one of the reasons why Minato created the Rasengan.

Still, this second step is just so that I can get used to moving Space-Time teleportation. It isn't practical to sneak jutsus through this for several reasons. For starters, most jutsus can't travel through the Dimensional Void. And more importantly, momentum isn't conserved during this teleportation.

So if I randomly send a jutsu to one of my markings, the jutsu will just collapse or explode on reaching the marking. Sigh, this shatters my dream of firing Vacuum Bullets through these markings. How cool would that have been...

The only way this would be useful is if someone is carrying something with my marking or is directly marked by me. In that case, I can just create Rasengan, teleport it to that marking, have it explode on their body and just keep spamming it until they die.

Hmm, I wonder if the Rinnegan can absorb ninjutsus instinctively... If not, I can even kill Nagato if I am able to mark his real body. Only Obito might be tough to deal with as I am not sure if I can sense the markings in his Kamui Dimension. Perhaps I could cooperate with Kakashi and have a few Shadow Clones active in that dimension to attack him once he is marked. Sigh, that bastard is so difficult to kill.

That said, the biggest advantage of this step is probably defense. I can just send any attacks coming at me into the Dimensional Void. It doesn't matter if those attacks can survive in the Dimensional Void or not, I will stay safe. Though it takes some chakra to transport attacks here, the chakra needed is just a fraction of what is needed to form jutsus. Unless my opponent is a Tailed Beast or a Jinchuriki, I won't have to worry about running out of chakra.

The best part is that if I have already marked my enemy and he attacks me with a jutsu that I can transport through the Dimensional Void, then I can hurt or kill them with their own attacks! Hehe, if I become capable of teleporting a Tailed Beast Bomb, it'd be hilarious if I teleport it back to the Tailed Beast's body. That would be fun to watch, haha.

Anyway, once I am comfortable with this second step, I can move on to the third step, which is having my Shadow Clones teleport through the Dimensional Void. Until my Shadow Clones can teleport with 100% accuracy for a month, I shouldn't try it with my real body. Only after a month of experimentation with no problem, I can try the fourth step, which is doing it with my main body.

At that point, this technique can be considered as successfully learnt. I will only have to improve it further by increasing the range up to where I can sense my markings and the range of teleporting as well. Being able to teleport across countries... Sigh, that will take some time. However, it should be doable considering that even those three could do so. After all, Mei was quite far away from the battlefield that Madara was on and they still managed to sense the marking and send her there.'

Fujin looked around in his basement. He analyzed, 'Though I do have a lot of seals here, I doubt they can endure a barrage of Rasengan. I will need to increase the protection.'

Fujin made the confrontation hand seal. Immediately, several seals on the walls and pillars began glowing. One shadow clone appeared next to Fujin. He moved to the center of the basement and sat there. Immediately, several seals appeared on the floor and the ceiling with the Shadow Clone at the center. Immediately, a barrier appeared and covered the walls, pillars, floor and ceiling in the basement. With the barrier, Fujin no longer had any worries.

Fujin created a new set of Shadow Clones to assist him in training. All of them began trying to teleport a Rasengan to the markings in front of them.

All their attempts were unsuccessful as Fujin wasn't used to Dimensional Void yet. Only a small amount of chakra reached the markings, causing a series of small explosions in the basement. Fortunately, the barrier ensured that his house was undamaged. Unfortunately, Fujin overlooked one important factor.

Fujin dispelled his clones as his breathing became heavy. He cursed, 'Shit! I forgot that my chakra reserves won't be able to sustain a continuous barrage of Rasengan! Not to mention, keeping the barrier up while enduring a barrage of small explosions burned the clone's chakra rapidly as well. I'm already empty.'

There was no helping it. Even Naruto wouldn't be able to sustain a Rasengan Barrage for more than a few minutes unless Kurama provides him with his chakra continuously. For Fujin, sustaining it for even a

few minutes with 15 Shadow Clones was too difficult. Even more so when the Rasengan had to be sent to the Dimensional Void since that required chakra as well.

Fujin sighed and decided, 'I guess I have to stick to the Wind Explosion Sphere. It'll be a lot harder to do than the Rasengan. But it won't be very chakra exhaustive and I won't need to use a barrier as the normal strengthening seals should be sufficient to shrug off the damage due to some winds.'

Fujin took a break and continued his training once his chakra had recovered. Even though Wind Explosion Sphere consumed just a fraction of the chakra as compared to Rasengan, it still burned Fujin's chakra very quickly. As such, his speed of training the Flying Thunder God jutsu slowed.

However, his progress with the Gate of Healing was steady. Three days later, he managed to open the Gate of Healing for the first time!

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Chapter 435: Gate of Healing

Sitting in his basement, Fujin observed his own body with amazement. He analyzed, 'Wow! I only had 75% of my chakra left. In an instant, it recovered completely. In addition, it has also increased further by 50% temporarily. I'm not sure how much, but I can feel that my physical strength has increased as well.'

Fujin closed both the Inner Gates and took a few breaths. Soon, he felt a wave of exhaustion and an intense hunger. He thought, 'No wonder Guy said that we need to eat a lot after opening the Gate of Healing. It feels like every cell in my body is exhausted.'

Getting used to this Gate will take some time as well if I have to wait for my body to recover properly every time I open this Gate. It looks like I should open the Gate of Healing only when my chakra reserves are full and I'm properly rested.

That way, no energy would be required to recover my stamina and chakra and the backlash would be reduced greatly. So, I can recover quickly.

Still, the Eight Inner Gates is far more sophisticated than I thought. The First Inner Gate allows our body to function at 100%. The Second Inner Gate recovers Chakra and Stamina. During a fight, if higher-level Inner Gates are opened, the lower ones stay open as well.

It implies that while fighting, the chakra level and stamina will always be preserved at the highest levels. As long as the body can keep the Inner Gates open, I will have limitless Chakra and Stamina. In a way, the First and the Second Inner Gates provide the perfect base for fighting.

Even my minor injuries will be healed so that I don't face any obstacles in fighting. So as long as my body doesn't crumble or I don't take any major injuries, I will be able to fight at my strongest level. Of course, the backlash of doing so would be crazy as well. Instead of doing that, it would be better to just teleport away.'

Fujin was very tempted by the possible advantages gained by using the Gate of Opening and Gate of Healing. Unfortunately, the backlash was just as bad. As such, Fujin was in no hurry to try it out.

He analyzed, 'Regardless, the buffs from these two Inner Gates are sufficient to raise a normal ninja and put him on an equal or even higher footing than the ones who have Kekkei Genkai. Only something ridiculous like the Mangekyou Sharingan is stronger, but how many ninjas unlock the Mangekyou Sharingan in every generation?

By comparison, anyone who is willing to put in the hard work can learn how to open the first two Inner Gates! If Hiruzen can find children who are willing to work hard and influence them to keep training hard enough, then it might be possible to raise several dozen ninjas who can open the Gates of Opening and Healing.

Still, why didn't someone like Danzo implement this in Root? Could it be just because Root prefers to hide in the darkness? Despite being strong, the Eight Inner Gates isn't very helpful in that regard. Still, that reason isn't good enough to reject this idea. Especially considering that Might Duy was able to kill four of the Seven Ninja Swordsmen of the Mist. I wonder if there are any more issues in training such a force...

Anyway, I needed just a couple of minutes to open the Gate of Opening. The Gate of Healing needed only 6 days. I wonder how much time the Gate of Life will take.

I have a feeling that it will take more than just having a strong body to open more Inner Gates. Otherwise, there would have been a lot of other ninjas who practiced the Eight Inner Gates technique. Well, whatever. I'll get used to the Gate of Healing first and then see. After all, the Gate of Healing is why I wanted to learn the Eight Inner Gates in the first place.

From the Gate of Life, the backlash is very intense. Even if I manage to learn them, I'm better off never using them in battle. Perhaps I should improve my healing skills first. I wonder if Tsunade's Mitotic Regeneration can heal the damage from the backlash...'

Fujin thought for a bit before he shook his head. He thought, 'On second thought, that technique forcibly creates new cells, shortening the lifespan of the user. While it might heal the damage, it isn't without its backlashes either. And there is no guarantee that all the damage will be healed. Leave it. I'll focus on getting accustomed to the Gate of Healing and then try whether that idea is possible. If it is, then my Eight Inner Gates would be a lot scarier than Guy's.'

Fujin stopped analyzing and began resting. For the next 4 days, Fujin didn't try opening any of the Inner Gates. His body needed rest due to having extracted a lot of energy from his cells. Forcibly opening the Inner Gates would have resulted in the backlash that Guy had stated. Fujin focused entirely on training his body and the Flying Thunder God jutsu on these four days.

On the 5th day, Fujin's body finally felt energetic. However, as a precaution, he didn't open the Inner Gates for one whole week. As soon as the week was up, Fujin began opening the Inner Gates and getting his body accustomed to it. He ensured that his chakra reserves were full and his body was properly rested before opening the Gates to avoid triggering the backlash of the Gate of Healing. As a result, he could open the two Inner Gates twice every day!

Five days later, Fujin became capable of keeping the Gate of Healing open for 5 minutes while he meditated and 2 minutes while he fought and reached the conditions set by Guy. However, he wasn't in a hurry to go to Guy and work on opening the Gate of Life. Instead, he took the day off and returned to his training ground the next day.

Instead of training his body, Fujin stood still on the training ground. He thought, 'Though Guy is ridiculously strong when he uses the Eight Inner Gates, he only uses Taijutsu. Opening the Inner Gates not only improves the body, it also increases the chakra levels temporarily. We can supercharge jutsus with far more chakra than normal.'

Though Guy isn't completely without talent and can use Elemental Ninjutsus, his level of Ninjutsu is obviously nowhere near his Taijutsu level. So, it is understandable why he never uses Ninjutsu after opening the Inner Gates. However, my situation is the opposite. I am far better at Ninjutsu than Taijutsu. If I can use Ninjutsu while having my Inner Gates open, my strength will be in an entirely different league!'

Fujin was very excited just by the possibility of doing that. He immediately opened the Gate of Opening. Just like he had experienced dozens of times, Fujin's chakra reserves increased and chakra began surging around him. His body began performing at 100% of its capability. He took a deep breath.

'Wind Release: Infinite Breakthrough jutsu'

Fujin built up his chakra and was about to blow when he suddenly stopped. A frown appeared on his face. He muttered to himself, 'That's weird.'

Fujin closed his eyes and focused on the chakra flowing through his body. He analyzed, 'My chakra is very erratic. No, rather, it is in a state of hyper-activity. Hence, it wasn't manipulated properly as usual. But, why didn't I face any problem in manipulating chakra earlier?'

Fujin took a deep breath again and decided to use the jutsu again to properly inspect himself.

'Wind Release: Infinite Breakthrough jutsu'

Unfortunately, the same thing happened. The chakra in his body didn't knead accurately enough to form the jutsu. The frown on Fujin's face deepened.

Immediately, the chakra in his body became concentrated on his right fist. Fujin punched a rock that was next to him, obliterating it into pieces!

He analyzed, 'Strange, very strange! My chakra flows very smoothly when I'm manipulating it to assist my Taijutsu. The Strong Fist Style is working subconsciously while I can use the Senju Taijutsu Style at will as well.

However, when I try to manipulate the chakra for forming a Ninjutsu, it doesn't work! Hmm, could it be because the way chakra moves while assisting in Taijutsu is very simple and something that is supported instinctively, whereas manipulating it for creating Ninjutsus is unnatural and hence not supported by my body instinctively?

After all, we do need to use Hand Seals to guide the chakra inside our body to be able to create jutsus. Hmm, let me try that.'

This time, Fujin weaved hand seals for the Infinite Breakthrough jutsu to create the jutsu. Unfortunately, he felt the same obstacle once again and failed in his attempt.

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Chapter 436: Drawback of Eight Inner Gates

Despite weaving hand seals, Fujin still couldn't perform the Infinite Breakthrough jutsu. Fujin muttered to himself, 'I still failed? Hmm, this feeling... It feels familiar... I remember it now! It almost feels like the first time I tried a new jutsu. Even if I weave hand signs, I won't be able to perform it unless that jutsu is very similar to another jutsu that I know.

Still... Why am I getting that feeling? Is it because of the hyperactive nature of the chakra flowing in my body? Let me see if I can use simpler jutsus.'

Fujin tried using the Wind Explosion Sphere jutsu. The result didn't change. Not wanting to give up, Fujin tried using Gale jutsu, the simplest Wind jutsu he was aware of. To his surprise, even that didn't work.

Fujin had a peculiar expression on his face. He closed the Gate of Opening and muttered while chuckling, "Never in a million years would I have imagined that I would fail to use the Gale jutsu."

The situation was too awkward for Fujin. While he had expected some difficulty in using high-level jutsus, he hadn't expected to fail at rank E jutsus.

Fujin tried thinking about what went wrong while he rested his body. Though he thought of a few reasons, he wasn't sure which was the real reason. He sighed and decided, 'There is no point in randomly speculating. I'll directly ask Guy. Though he focuses on Taijutsu, it'll be weird if he never tried or considered using Ninjutsu while having the Inner Gates open.'

Fujin disappeared from his training ground and arrived at the training ground where Guy trained after flickering a few times. To his surprise, Guy was training alone. Fujin raised his left eyebrow and asked, "Where are your students?"

Guy was pleasantly surprised to see Fujin. The two hadn't sparred for a few weeks. He said, "I trained them a bit too much yesterday and decided to give them a day off. Though they are young, it will still take some time for their youthfulness to bloom completely. Anyway, It's good to see you again, Fujin. Did you master how to open the Gate of Healing?"

Fujin wondered, 'This guy gives a day off? Those three should be in terrible shape for this monster to take pity on them.'

He nodded and answered, "Yeah. I managed to do it yesterday. But I am facing one issue."

Guy became serious. He asked, "What issue did you face?"

The Eight Inner Gates was a forbidden technique. Facing issues while using it could result in serious injuries. So, Guy didn't dare to take it lightly. However, Fujin's answer caused a peculiar expression to appear on Guy's face.

Fujin said, "I tried using Ninjutsu while having the Gate of Opening opened. However, I failed to perform even the rank E jutsus. Is there any reason why we can't use Ninjutsus along with Eight Inner Gates? Or do we have to use them in a different way?"

Guy merely stared at Fujin. He couldn't believe what he had just heard. This was his first time facing someone who was learning a forbidden jutsu and wasn't satisfied with it even before he had actually learnt it completely. He wondered aloud, "You want to use Ninjutsu while using the Eight Inner Gates?"

Fujin ignored his surprise and nodded. He answered, "Yes. Our chakra surges considerably on opening the Inner Gates. I was planning to use that excess chakra to supercharge my jutsus."

Guy shook his head and said, "That's impossible. No, that won't be correct. Even though it is possible, it will be very difficult to do so. The difficulty is so high that it can be considered impossible."

Fujin asked, "Why?"

Guy answered, "Your body and mind aren't used to controlling the flow of chakra in your body when the Gate of Opening is opened. Trying to mold chakra in that state is the same as trying to learn how to mold your chakra when you tried it for the first time.

You would have required several weeks, if not months to learn your first jutsu. If you want to use Ninjutsu while using the Eight Inner Gates, you'll have to devote a similar amount of time to relearn your jutsus.

Unfortunately, that is impossible. You can only keep the gates open for a few minutes in a day. And from the Gate of Healing, opening a Gate has an intense backlash associated with it. So, there is no way you can have that much time to train your jutsus.

Not to mention, the flow of chakra inside your body changes every time you open an Inner Gate. So, it is different for when you only open the Gate of Opening as compared to if you open the Gate of Opening and the Gate of Healing. The differences only increase as you open more Inner Gates. So, even if you train yourself to be able to use Ninjutsu after opening the Gate of Opening, you won't be able to use Ninjutsus when you open more Inner Gates."

Fujin analyzed Guy's words. Guy's reasoning was one of Fujin's speculations. However, Fujin hadn't analyzed it deeply as he had several speculations and lacked proper information to be so precise. After some time, he sighed and said, "That makes sense. I had a feeling that I was molding my chakra for the first time as well."

He thought, 'That sucks. I guess using Ninjutsu along with Eight Inner Gates won't be possible.'

Fujin looked at Guy and asked, "But why is it that we are able to use Strong Fist Style so easily then?"

Guy answered, "I already told you, the Strong Fist Style is just training hard enough for your chakra to fuse with your body naturally. So, it is something your body does instinctively. This is amplified further when your body becomes able to function at 100% of its capability.

However, you can't use Ninjutsu instinctively. As you know, Ninjutsu requires you to carefully and properly mold the chakra inside your body in a certain way for those jutsus to form. It is so unnatural that we have to use hand seals to guide the chakra inside our body to create the jutsus.

Though opening the Inner Gates increases your chakra temporarily, you can only use that chakra in the rudimentary form. You can use chakra control to create attacks that improve your Taijutsu, like say using stronger punches and kicks or strengthening your body. As for Ninjutsu, unless there is a jutsu that doesn't require you to mold your chakra inside your body, you won't be able to use any Ninjutsu. Unfortunately, I'm not aware of any such jutsu."

Fujin immediately memorized his words. He thought, 'A jutsu that doesn't require molding chakra inside my body... I think I might just know a few... That said, all of them are very complicated. It is difficult to say whether I would be able to use them while having Inner Gates opened...'

He replied, "Alright. Thanks, Guy. Can I start opening the Gate of Life right away? Or do I need to do something before it?"

Guy replied, "Your body should be strong enough to open the Gate of Life. However, I should warn you one thing."

Fujin became serious and asked, "What is it?"

Guy answered, "Opening the Gate of Healing and the Gate of Opening isn't very difficult and only depends on whether your body is strong enough. But, from the Gate of Life, just having a strong body isn't enough. You need the will and determination of wanting to surpass yourself and be willing to subject your body to intense pain and pressure.

That is why ninjas who specialize in Ninjutsu and are geniuses at it don't succeed at Eight Inner Gates. They have already reached the top with merely their Ninjutsu skills. So, they don't have the same determination as someone who depends only on Taijutsu. You may fall in that category too, Fujin."

Guy's words made Fujin think once again. Guy was right. Fujin had reached a very high level with the help of his speed and Wind jutsus. Once the Wind Domain reached an appropriate level, Fujin would be even more fearsome on the battlefield. With the Flying Thunder God, he'd more or less become invincible on the battlefield.

As such, he didn't desire the higher levels of the Eight Inner Gates technique as much as the likes of Guy and Lee. In a few years, Fujin would become capable of fighting against Guy even if Guy opened the

Sixth Inner Gate. With the Flying Thunder God, he didn't even need to fear the Gate of Death. He could just escape and wait for Guy to die by himself.

Of course, even though he didn't desire it as much as Guy, he didn't have any excuse for not learning the technique. As such, Fujin would give his all. He grinned and said, "Don't worry, Guy. I'll be opening it. Just tell me what to do."

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Chapter 437: A Desire to Kill!

Guy grinned and gave Fujin a thumbs up. He said, "Good! I'm impressed by the power of youth in you, Fujin! The process of opening the Gate of Life is the same. You just have to bombard the chakra point until you can open it.

The only difference is that the blockade is much stronger. It'll require a great deal of determination and will also be a painful process. The way to make this process easier is by increasing the intensity of your training by several times. So focus on doing that. You can come and find me to spar as well to push yourself more. Only when you constantly push your body beyond your limits, can you open the Gate of Life."

Fujin sighed internally and thought, 'I had a feeling that just having a strong body wouldn't be sufficient. Surpassing my limits...

That would have been easier to do when my body was still quite weak. It looks like opening the Inner Gates would be easier when the body is just barely strong enough to allow the respective Inner Gates to be opened. It'll be much harder for me. No wonder Lee progressed so rapidly. The body requirements for the initial five Inner Gates shouldn't be too high. From the Sixth Gate onwards, it will become very difficult.

Oh well, even if I don't open a lot of the remaining Inner Gates, just this training should make my body much stronger. So there isn't any loss.'

Fujin nodded and said, "Alright, Guy. I'll keep working towards it. I had just opened the Gate of Opening though. So I'll find you tomorrow to spar."

Guy nodded and said, "Alright. Get good rest and let your youth explode tomorrow!"

He gave Fujin his trademark grin and the thumbs up. Fujin smiled and took his leave.

After returning home, Fujin wondered, 'A jutsu that doesn't require chakra to be manipulated carefully inside our body... Fortunately, I do know a few of them and can learn a few more. Rasengan, Wind Domain and Wind Style Genjutsu all work by first releasing the chakra outside my body and then manipulating it. The Elemental forms of Rasengan are also the same. Does that mean that I can use those jutsus even after opening the Inner Gates?

Hmm, I need to test it out. It will be very beneficial to be able to perform them. Rasengan will give me a very strong frontal attack. While punching and kicking is good, having an attack like Rasengan would be more helpful, at least until I can open the last three Inner Gates.

Though Rasengan has the disadvantage of needing to slam it into the enemy, punches and kicks have the same issue as well. Not to mention, thanks to my speed buffs from opening the Inner Gates, there wouldn't be many ninjas who are faster than me. So that disadvantage won't matter much.

Wind Domain will add variety to my attack and make me more unpredictable. And, Wind Style Genjutsu can help me catch my opponent off guard. After all, who'd have time to consider Genjutsu when your opponent is opening the Inner Gates?'

Fujin began resting his body. Since he hadn't kept the Gate of Opening open till he reached his limit the previous time when he experimented, he didn't need to wait half a day. After a few hours, he had rested enough to open the Gate of Opening once again.

Fujin entered his basement and opened the Gate of Opening. Immediately, he raised his right palm and released chakra from the chakra points on his right palm. He controlled the chakra to rotate at a very high speed.

Soon, a shape similar to the Rasengan formed. However, it wasn't a proper sphere. The chakra ball in Fujin's right hand was still very unstable. Fujin observed, 'Hmm, my control over it isn't perfect. It looks like it'll explode at any point.

Still, this is far better than Wind jutsus. With some practice, I should be able to use the Rasengan while having the Inner Gates opened. The only question is whether it'll change when I open more gates... Oh well, time to test out the Wind Domain.'

The Rasengan dispersed. Fujin began emitting chakra into the basement. As it left his body, Fujin's chakra transformed into wind and mixed into the air in the basement. The process happened too smoothly, surprising Fujin.

Fujin muttered, "This is just too smooth!"

Fujin immediately focused on the winds flowing in front of him. Soon, a claw made of wind appeared in front of him. It grabbed one of the pillars and sharp winds began hitting the wind. Fortunately, the pillar was strengthened and protected by too many seals. As such, no damage was done to the pillar.

Fujin analyzed, 'Not bad. Though my control is a bit unsteady, this is still very good. The important factor is that the time needed to perform the jutsus hasn't been reduced. For Rasengan, I need to improve my control. Whereas, for the Wind Domain, I'm not able to form as many sharp winds as I can normally.

So it is a bit less potent, but it still has the ability to do a lot of damage. After all, I only need one good slash to kill my enemy. Regardless, this is very good. It is as if the Wind Domain is instinctual for me... I wonder if I can create Vacuum Cores as well.'

Considering the instability, Fujin didn't want to risk creating a Vacuum Core inside his mouth. He raised his right palm once again. He started creating a Vacuum Core to create the Vacuum Sphere jutsu. Though he wouldn't be able to use his own chakra to form a wind sphere around it, he could easily do so with the help of the Wind Domain.

Unfortunately, while Fujin was attempting, the core exploded! Fujin immediately moved far away from it. Thanks to having the Gate of Opening open, reacting quickly and moving at a fast speed wasn't an issue for him. As such, he was unharmed.

Fujin analyzed, 'Too difficult. Even though a Vacuum Core forms outside my body, it is far more intricate and complicated than a Rasengan which merely requires chakra spinning at a high speed. It looks like I won't be able to use my Vacuum jutsus with the Eight Inner Gates technique even if I learn how to

create Vacuum Cores with the help of the Wind Domain. A shame... These two techniques together would have been very destructive.'

Suddenly, Fujin's chakra surged even more! He had opened the Gate of Healing. Immediately, another Ghost Palm formed in front of him. Fujin observed it carefully before stopping. He raised his right palm and formed another Rasengan. After observing it, he stopped and closed both the Inner Gates.

His breathing became a bit heavy, but a smile could be seen on his face. He analyzed, 'Good! There isn't much difference in control be it with the First or the Second Gate. It looks like both these jutsus are very compatible with the Eight Inner Gates! Hehe. This will be fun. I wonder who will be the one to force me into using this deadly combo. Regardless, I need to train more.'

Satisfied with his experiments, Fujin continued his training. He restarted practicing the Wind Domain and split his time between training it, the Flying Thunder God, physical training and sparring with Guy. The only thing that changed was that Fujin would suddenly increase the pressure from his training seal beyond what his body could bear while training to push himself further.

In the next month, Fujin made rapid progress in Wind Domain. He also became capable of using the Rasengan and the Wind Domain seamlessly while having the Gate of Opening and the Gate of Healing open. Unfortunately, he was stuck in other aspects. Though he improved in teleporting the Wind Explosion Sphere through the Dimensional Void, it hadn't reached a satisfactory level. More importantly, despite having a strong body, he couldn't open the Gate of Life.

The lack of progress in those two aspects caused Fujin some frustration. One day, while he was eating in Ichiraku with Naruto, he muttered to himself, 'It feels like I am in a rut. The constant training with no action is causing me to feel some boredom. I'm missing the constant bloodshed I had engaged in earlier. It feels like my instincts are telling me to go out and kill!'

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Chapter 438: Situation of the Uchiha Clan

"Oh boy! You should have seen the drama in my classroom when the eraser Kiba threw hit Ino instead of Shikamaru. All hell broke loose, you know. It was h..."

Unable to finish his story yet again, Naruto burst into laughter. Normally, Fujin would take an interest in Naruto's pranks. However, today his mind was preoccupied with his training. He just chuckled in response and let Naruto complete his stories while eating the ramen.

After some time, Naruto said, "During our recent sparring class, I managed to land a punch on Sasuke for the first time! He still beat me, but I will defeat him very soon, believe it!"

Naruto looked at Fujin and asked, "When do you think I can beat him, Fujin?"

Fujin replied casually, "From what I hear, he's still quite stronger than you. So don't get your hopes too high anytime soon. However, if you keep training seriously, you'll be able to catch up with him and even leave him in the dust in a matter of time. So, just keep training seriously. Though you have learnt two jutsus, you are still struggling with Wind Levitation jutsu."

During the last couple of months, Naruto had managed to learn Projectile Control jutsu to a sufficient level. Fujin had already taught him the next jutsu. Thanks to the training seal Fujin provided, his physique also made rapid improvements. So he was much more impressive than he was at the start of the series.

That was even more true in terms of pranks. The students, teachers, and normal citizens in Konoha were all getting more frustrated by the day! Despite their frustration, no one knew that the person behind this change was merely enjoying their misery while he kept training and eating delicious food.

The only person who linked the dots was Hiruzen. However, since Naruto didn't trouble him, he didn't bother looking much into it. He just took precautions to ensure that Fujin didn't suddenly take an interest in Konohamaru. Unlike Naruto, who tormented the village, Konohamaru focused entirely on challenging Hiruzen. As such, Hiruzen didn't want to risk facing the nightmare of a little kid with little control over jutsus targetting him dozens of times daily!

As for Fujin, he mostly just listened to Naruto describing the success of his pranks. At times, Fujin sent a Shadow Clone to watch and have some fun, but that was very rare due to his training. Regardless, he enjoyed the entertainment that Naruto brought in.

Naruto said, "I will keep training hard. Believe it!"

Naruto's words about Sasuke made Fujin recall some memories. In the last couple of months, Fujin had sent his clones to the new Uchiha clan compound. The fact that a few Uchihis survived was a major change to the story he recalled.

While the kids who survived were unlikely to make an impact with their strength in the Fourth Great Ninja War, they could cause some changes to the future due to their influence on a critical person like Sasuke.

In the original story, Sasuke was always alone. He was consumed with hatred for Itachi and didn't have anything to protect. In fact, his hatred was so great that he was willing to sacrifice his second goal, that is, to revive the Uchiha clan.

However, now Sasuke was the de facto leader of a few dozen orphans who represented everything that was left of the Uchiha clan. He had a responsibility to guide them. He had a responsibility to protect them. In Fujin's opinion, that should make Sasuke far more mature than what he remembered.

On the other hand, since he wasn't the only survivor, he didn't need to worry about the Uchiha clan disappearing if he died. As such, he could chase after Itachi even more recklessly. So Fujin was very interested in seeing what path Sasuke would take. Would he focus on being a good leader or would he focus entirely on avenging his clan? It was a decision that would impact the plans that Fujin would make.

To understand Sasuke better, Fujin sent his clones to check on the Uchiha clan several times. He initially intended to sneak in and check, but the security around the compound was just too good.

The compound was protected by a wall which was covered in Fuinjutsu inscribed by a Grandmaster. Four squads of Anbu always kept an eye on the compounds to ensure the safety of the Uchiha orphans. In addition, there were two Hyugas keeping an eye out for any trespassers.

These three factors working together made it very hard for anyone to sneak in. Even when they changed their shifts, they didn't let their guard down. While Fujin could still enter sneakily and observe the Uchiha clan without anyone noticing, it would require a lot of preparation and would involve some risk. So, he didn't bother and just showed up openly.

He claimed that he was interested in seeing the students from the Uchiha clan. Since he was a Council Member and had a good reputation in the village and the Anbu, no one turned him away. They allowed his clones to observe and only reported it to Hiruzen who took no action.

While he was intrigued, he didn't ask Fujin anything as Fujin had trained and guided young kids by himself several times. If a few Uchiha kids caught Fujin's eye and he decided to train them like Naruto, Hiruzen would only be pleased. As such, Fujin was allowed to observe as much as he wanted.

As he observed, Fujin noticed quite a few things. He analyzed, 'Though a lot of Uchiha orphans have survived the massacre. They are still very weak. I guess having this level of protection was something Itachi asked Hiruzen to do to ensure that they could grow up safely.'

Still, Sasuke isn't much different from what I remember. I can see that he is still consumed by the desire to kill Itachi. And though there are many Uchiha orphans, he is still aloof and only interacts with them when they approach him. Pretty much everything in the compounds is taken care of by the caretakers employed by Hiruzen.

I guess his future path won't be much different. In fact, it might make even more sense for him to be willing to sacrifice his body to Orochimaru in return for his promise to kill Itachi. Still, what a shame...

Even though he has so much talent and has a desire burning inside him, he doesn't train hard enough and doesn't use that hatred as fuel to grow stronger. If he did, he could rise to the level of a Special Jounin within a year.

What a waste... That said, the blame doesn't entirely lie with him. He is already at the top of his class. In fact, no student in the academy comes close to matching him. And he has no idea how strong Itachi and the other strong ninjas are. So, I guess he just doesn't see any need to train harder and wouldn't see it unless someone from the Academy challenges him or he sees how strong Elite Jounins can be.'

As Fujin recalled his analysis, he couldn't help but shake his head. He thought, 'Despite having Naruto and Sasuke, two students who were at the peak of the world in terms of talent, Konoha didn't bother assigning anyone to train them properly and push them to become stronger.'

Then again, this is just because no one knows their true talent. I wonder what Hiruzen would have done had he known how strong both of them would grow in the future...'

Fujin and Naruto were done eating. Naruto ran out of funny stories to tell as well. Fujin looked at Naruto and said, "Naruto, I'll be out of the village for some time. So you won't see me at my house for probably a couple of weeks. Feel free to use the training ground if you want though. Keep working on your training. By the time I am back, you should manage to cut the leaf entirely and do leaf concentration for 90 minutes."

Naruto was curious. He said, "I will train hard, believe it! Are you going out for a mission?"

Fujin nodded.

Naruto had a look of curiosity and longing as he said, "I have never been out of the village. I wonder how it is outside."

Fujin chuckled and responded, "Just train hard and become a strong ninja. You can then see as much of the world as you want."

Naruto nodded and claimed, "I will become strong enough. Believe it!"

Fujin chuckled and said, "I do. Now go and continue your training."

Naruto immediately left. Fujin left as well. He sent a clone to inform Guy of his absence and strolled towards the Mission Center in the Hokage's Building.

Naruto: The Wind Calamity

Chapter 439: Return of the Bandit Exterminator!

Upon entering the mission center, a familiar face appeared in front of Fujin. A face he hadn't seen for quite a few years. Shichiro looked at Fujin in surprise. He said, "I haven't seen you here in a long time. It's good to see you again. Do you need any help?"

He thought, 'The last time I saw him, he was only a Chunin. Now, three years later, he has become an Elite Jounin and is also a council member. What rapid progress!'

Fujin smiled and said, "It's good to see you again, Shichiro. I'm just bored from staying in the village and want to kill some time. Do you have any bandit elimination missions inside the Land of Fire?"

Fujin's question caught Shichiro by surprise. He chuckled, "This brings back the memories of the Bandit Exterminators. I recall how unwilling you three used to be to accept these missions. I never thought you'd willingly ask for them."

Fujin chuckled as well and replied, "I'm just bored. Thought I'd help out a bit in this regard. Just give me the missions that are located in one area. Also, give any missions that involve killing rogue ninjas in the same area. The rank of the mission doesn't matter as long as I don't have to interact with anyone."

Shichiro nodded. He was aware that Elite Jounins would frequently go on rank S missions by themselves. He quickly took out every elimination mission that existed in the southern part of the Land of Fire.

Fujin accepted the missions and went through the files one by one. He analyzed, 'Hmm, these bandit camps target the trading route between Konoha and the Lands of Noodles and Tea. Didn't Hiruzen create two camps along their borders?'

As Fujin read more mission files, he realized, 'I see. Due to the establishment of those two camps, the trade between the three countries has blossomed. The Land of Tea and the Land of Noodles even took advantage of the situation and increased their trade relations taking advantage of the safe conditions created by Konoha. The Land of Fire benefits as well due to the transit tax these two countries pay.'

However, since the trade has increased so much, it has attracted more bandits and rogue ninjas, especially from the Land of Water. No wonder the two camps aren't able to clear out all of the bandits and rogue ninjas. Oh well, these missions should be plenty. Though I still haven't mastered the Flying Thunder God jutsu, it is never too early to start preparations.'

A mischievous smile appeared on Fujin's face. Shichiro noticed it but didn't understand. Due to Fujin's high position, he didn't ask. However, had Hiruzen seen Fujin's smile and known the fact that Fujin had experienced some success in the Flying Thunder God jutsu, he would have understood it immediately.

Fujin was someone who had covered his house with tens of thousands of seals. It took no genius to figure out what he would be doing with the Flying Thunder God jutsu.

Fujin accepted all of the missions. There were a couple of rank S missions that involved a few rogue Jounins. However, most of the missions were ranked C and B.

Shichiro had properly arranged the missions in order so that Fujin could target them one by one on his way with the least amount of travel. Fujin stored the missions in a scroll and left the Hokage Building. He leisurely walked towards the gates in Konoha and left the village.

On leaving, he muttered to himself, 'Alright, I have taken my sweet time in going to the mission center and leaving the village. Now let me see how many snakes will crawl out.'

Fujin didn't have a lot of expectations from the missions to provide him with a challenge. Encountering Elite Jounins during a rank S mission was rare. As for rank S ninjas, encountering them was even more unlikely. If not for an organization like Akatsuki, Fujin wouldn't have seen many rank S ninjas either. So Fujin decided to expose his movements and bait anyone scheming against him. Be it Danzo or any enemy country who'd want to target him.

On leaving the village, Fujin began moving south at a normal speed. It wasn't slow for anyone to get suspicious, nor was it fast enough to make others unable to keep up. While he jumped from branch to branch, Fujin would occasionally touch the trees he stepped on with his palm. A marking would appear wherever his palm touched and it would disappear in a moment, leaving no trace behind.

After moving some distance from the village, Fujin activated his chakra field. Fujin's chakra field spread for 2.5 kilometers around him. A look of surprise appeared on Fujin's face as he thought, 'Hmm, no one is following me? Or are they just keeping some distance?'

Fujin kept moving while occasionally leaving the Flying Thunder God markings on the trees. After travelling a few kilometers, he suddenly increased his chakra field to 3.5 kilometers.

To his surprise, he still didn't sense anyone. He analyzed, 'It's nearly 25 kilometers away from the village. Still no one? Is no one following me or are they taking precautions by staying out of my detection range? Or are they very good at hiding their chakra?'

A smile formed on Fujin's face. He muttered to himself, 'Though I couldn't complete the step of sending a jutsu through the Dimensional Void, my training for the Flying Thunder God yielded a different kind of result.'

He stopped activating his chakra field and closed his eyes. In an instant, a picture formed in his mind. Everything in a radius of 4.5 kilometers, be it on the ground, in the air or under the ground, appeared in Fujin's mind. In this picture, Fujin saw two disturbances behind him which implied that there were two chakra signatures trailing him.

Since his progress in teleporting through the Dimensional Void had slowed down, Fujin worked on increasing the range up to which he could sense the coordinates of his markings. In the last month, it had increased to beyond 15 kilometers. While he was training it, Fujin detected a new ability.

While detecting the space coordinates of his markings, Fujin suddenly sensed some disturbances in the Space that he was detecting with the help of the Space-Time Sensing Technique. On investigating, Fujin discovered that the disturbances represented chakra signatures. It was unreliable at the start but with training, Fujin became capable of using it to sense other chakra signatures within his range.

It was different from normal sensing that required Chakra Fields. Since this method didn't require a chakra field, others couldn't detect that someone was sensing them. The only thing Fujin wasn't sure about was if others who have talent in space-time Ninjutsu would sense it, but on experimenting with his Shadow Clones, he understood that they didn't sense anything.

Another advantage that Fujin's new detection method had was range. Fujin could detect his markings within a radius of 15 km. Though he couldn't use this sensing ability for the entire 15 km, he could use it for 4.5 km, which was greater than what he could normally sense. Not to mention, it was still improving rapidly unlike his chakra field which was very difficult to improve further.

In addition to sensing, it also gave Fujin another ability. He could feel that he was very sensitive to disturbances in space-time. So if someone else used Space-Time Ninjutsus, they would have a hard time sneaking up on Fujin. While Fujin wasn't sure how effective it would be, it was still a happy surprise.

As Fujin activated his new sensing ability and the picture formed in his mind showed two disturbances in the space-time field, a smile formed on Fujin's face. He realized that his guess was accurate. He was being trailed!

Around 4 kilometers behind Fujin, two masked Root ninjas were trailing Fujin. Both were very careful as they trailed him and had concentrated chakra in their eyes to observe any changes. One of them said to the other, "Lord Danzo's analysis was perfect. His initial chakra field stopped at 1.5 kilometers from us but it suddenly expanded so much! Had we been closer, he would have discovered us."

The other ninja replied, "Yes. As Lord Danzo said, this guy is full of mysteries and his actions are very unpredictable. We have to trail him properly and collect as much information as we can. If there is some issue with him, Konoha will be in a lot of trouble considering his high post. Pay more attention. He has deactivated his chakra field. Trailing him will become more difficult."

The Root ninja nodded. Though they were trailing Fujin, neither was aware of the fact that they were already discovered by the person they were trailing. And thanks to the large distance between them, neither could sense what Fujin was up to.

Neither of them sensed any danger as they were moving. All their attention was in the front. Since Fujin had deactivated his chakra field, their eyes couldn't see it. Hence, they didn't know how far ahead Fujin was or where he was heading. They had to trail Fujin merely from the signs he left while moving, which wasn't easy by any means. In addition, they had to ensure that they didn't get too close to Fujin and get detected if Fujin suddenly activated his Chakra Field.

As such, neither of them could sense the Vacuum Blades that beheaded them from the back! They died without knowing how they were detected and who their killer was!

Naruto: The Wind Calamity

Chapter 440: Finally Mastering the Technique!

The bodies of the two beheaded Root ninjas fell while their heads rolled on the ground. A few meters behind them, Fujin's figure appeared as he coldly watched the two dead bodies.

A few minutes ago, Fujin had created a Shadow Clone and had it move straight forward. At the same time, he moved away from the path and hid his chakra while waiting for the ones trailing him to catch up. As a result, neither Root ninja sensed him.

Fujin observed the two dead bodies and thought, 'As I guessed, it was Root. Now, did Danzo send them behind me to assassinate me or for some other purpose?'

Fujin couldn't be sure. Danzo wasn't as reckless as he had imagined. So Fujin knew that Danzo wouldn't make a sloppy assassination attempt. Regardless, it didn't bother him much. He stored the two dead bodies and also the blood they spilt on the ground, eliminating all evidence of them dying there. He muttered to himself, 'Though I can't be sure yet, it is only a matter of time. I should master that technique this time. Once I do, I'll see what Danzo is up to.'

Fujin had inspected the area with his Space-Time sensing technique once again and didn't sense anyone else. He analyzed, 'I guess these two are the only ones chasing me. Makes sense. Even if other villages have spies in Konoha, the spies won't act by themselves. Oh well, no point in waiting for them. I should do what I intended to do. If any more enemies show up, I hope that they are more of a challenge.'

Fujin continued moving South. This time, his speed was much faster. And as he had planned, he left Flying Thunder God markings at intervals of 1 kilometer as he moved.

A smile appeared on Fujin's face as the number of markings he left outside Konoha crossed a hundred. He thought, 'I'm not sure if Minato or Tobirama did something like this, but I'll be touring all the Elemental nations and leave my markings everywhere. Once that is completed, I'll tour with Kaito and leave markings in the remaining world as well.'

The ability to teleport anywhere in this world, hehehe. As long as I stay alert and don't fall prey to a sneak attack or a strong Genjutsu, no one will be able to kill me!

While Fujin was moving South, Hiruzen finally received the news about Fujin accepting several missions and leaving the village. A look of surprise appeared on his face as he wondered, 'He left the village because he was bored? That's strange. That's the first time I have heard him complaining about being bored. It looks like he has some other intentions. But what exactly?'

Hiruzen thought for a bit, but he couldn't think of anything. He just let it go as he didn't think Fujin would do anything to harm Konoha.

A few hours later, Danzo became a bit nervous. Despite it being several hours, he didn't receive a single report from the two Root ninjas he sent after Fujin. He couldn't guess what happened to them.

Fujin spent the entire day moving south while leaving thousands of markings before resting for the night. The next morning, he arrived at his first target.

Fujin stood on a tree branch with the leaves covering his figure. In front of him was a bandit camp with just 5 huts. There were only 11 people in it. Fujin muttered to himself, 'Though this place has a lot of bandits, there are no large bandit camps. Makes sense I guess. If any bandit camp becomes too big, Konoha would deploy squads immediately to eliminate them. Oh well, it doesn't matter. I should have enough test subjects.'

Fujin disappeared from his spot. In less than half a minute, the throat of every bandit was slit. It was a quick and painless death. Fujin gathered all the bodies together. He placed his hand on the head of one dead bandit and emitted Yin chakra inside his brain.

Fujin managed to read a few memories but the brain was quickly destroyed. Fujin sighed and did the same for the remaining 10 dead bandits. Fujin managed to read a varying amount of memories from each of the bandits. Unfortunately, all the brains were destroyed.

Fujin analyzed, 'Hmm, it's been a long time since I tried to read memories. I have become a bit rusty. Still, I hope I'm able to master this technique during this trip. I have been holding on to that priest's body for years without being able to get any benefits from it.'

Fujin moved away from the bodies.

'Fire Release: Great Fireball jutsu'

He exhaled a giant Fireball that engulfed all the 11 dead bodies. Fujin observed carefully as the 11 bodies were destroyed beyond recognition in the intense fire.

He thought, 'If anyone comes across the dead bodies and inspects them, they will notice that their brains have been destroyed. It won't take a genius to figure out that someone was practicing the Yamanaka clan's secret technique.'

Since I'm the one who accepted the mission to hunt them down, linking it to me wouldn't be difficult. That would be troublesome. Though I can handle that trouble, it's best to not attract it at all. It's best to read the memories in secret and prepare myself while keeping my enemies in the dark.'

Soon, the 11 dead bodies were burnt to crisp. Only their bones were left. Even if anyone found these bodies, they would think that their brain was destroyed due to the fire. Fujin placed his palm on the ground.

The earth opened up and swallowed the bones before closing back. At the same time, Fujin blew away the huts as well. The ground became normal once again showing no signs that there was a bandit camp there and 11 people were just killed, cremated and buried there.

Fujin quickly moved towards his next target. Konoha hadn't collected the exact location in the majority of the missions that were given to Fujin. They only had approximate locations due to which those missions weren't given to others yet. So Fujin had to look for a bit.

Fortunately, with his Space-Time Sensing Technique, the process was quite easy. He didn't have to worry about enemy ninjas sensing his chakra field and trying to run away. However, despite the ease, Fujin didn't hurry. He took his time and focused on mastering the mind-reading technique.

Over the next 2 weeks, Fujin eliminated every single bandit group and rogue ninja that the missions required. He also eliminated several other groups in the area that were still unknown but had the misfortune of getting within the range of Fujin's sensing technique.

Fujin tried reading the memories of almost every person he killed. The only memories he didn't read were of the ninjas whose bodies had to be brought back to Konoha.

As Fujin had guessed, none of his targets was able to put up a fight against him. Pretty much everyone was assassinated in one strike. Fortunately for Fujin, he completed his original goal!

On the ninth day, Fujin managed to read all the memories of one dead ninja without destroying his brain. From that day onwards, he managed to do it several times. On the thirteenth day, he managed to read all the memories of every person he killed without destroying any brain. He managed to do the same on the fourteenth day as well!

A smile appeared on Fujin's face as he read the memories of the last person he killed. He thought, 'Great, no failures at all. I guess this technique can be considered mastered now! Should I try to read the memories of the Jashin Grand Priest?'

Fujin thought for a bit before shaking his head. He decided, 'No. I'll wait a few days and experiment more. If I don't fail even once, then I will try to read his memories. I only have one chance to read his memories properly. If I mess up, then it will be a huge loss.

Besides, I'm interested in seeing who or what this Jashin is. How can rituals allow someone to control their blood or become undying? Oh well, just a few more days. I'll understand everything that the Grand Priest knew. For now, it's time to check those two memories.'

Fujin opened a scroll and made a hand seal. Immediately, the heads of the two Root ninjas appeared. He placed his hand on one of the heads and inserted Yin chakra into his brain. He muttered, "Now, let me see what scheme you are cooking, Danzo."

Immediately, Fujin's Yin chakra rushed into the dead ninja's brain. Fujin followed the same process as always and tried to read his memories. Suddenly, Fujin's eyes widened in shock!