

## Programme for our History Week Talk

by

Honorary Associate Professor Elizabeth Sinn, Centre of Asian Studies,
University of Hong Kong
香港大學亞洲研究中心冼玉儀名譽副教授
E-mail: hrahsyy@hkucc.hku.hk

Dr. Sinn is a prominent historian in Hong Kong. Her Ph.D thesis was on Hong Kong's social elites in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Her present research focuses on the history of Chinese emigration and its impacts on Hong Kong's development. Her past research projects include Hong Kong Culture and Society; the Oral History Archives Project; and, History of Early Newspapers in Hong Kong etc. Dr. Sinn has served as Deputy Director of the Centre of Asian Studies, University of Hong Kong and Vice-President of the Royal Asiatic Society, Hong Kong Branch.



#### and chaired by

Professor Helen Dunstan, Department of History, University of Sydney 雪梨大學歷史系鄧海倫教授
E-mail: helen.dunstan@usyd.edu.au

Professor Dunstan is a historian of premodern China, with a primary focus on economic thought and economic policy in the first half of the *Qing* dynasty (1644-1911). Other topics on which she has worked include the southwest-Shanxi salt industry, particularly in the Ming dynasty (1368-1644), Chinese environmental history, post-1980 Chinese reportage, and eighteenth-century autobiographical texts. Professor Dunstan enjoys teaching East Asian gender history, and has always been fascinated by the anthropological study of Chinese society.



# Hong Kong to New South Wales – Chinese Labourers in Australia in the 19th century

晚清時期旅澳華工的香港足跡

Welcome to our History Week talk. In this lecture, you will find out why and how the "free port" of Hong Kong facilitated, in the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century, Chinese migration to Australia as well as other "Gold Mountain" countries namely Canada, New Zealand and the United States. From the following perspectives, Dr. Sinn will bring you this fascinating history of Chinese migration, which is shared transnationally by Australia, China and Hong Kong:-

1. Coming and Going - when, where, who, how and why:

When did Chinese migrate to NSW and other Gold Mountain Countries in large numbers?

From which parts of Guangdong province did they originate? Who were these people and what did they do after arriving in NSW? How did they finance their trips and what ships took them abroad? Why did they leave their hometowns for Australia and other destinations?

A brief discussion on the use of terms like the "coolie trade", "sale of "pigs"(賣豬仔), "Gold Mountain Guest" (金山客) and "Gold Mountain Uncle" (金山阿伯) will also be made.

- 2. Organizations that kept sojourners connected to their home villages: taking care of people from the same native place by providing material welfare and emotional comfort.
- 3. *Money*: the flow of different types of remittances including household expenses, relief funds, donations and capital back home
- 4. The importance of returning and the circular pattern of migration: the real fear of being a "hungry ghost" (餓鬼 / 孤魂野鬼) in foreign lands and the desire for a proper burial at home.
- 5. Coffins and Bones: dealing with death away from home and the immense enterprise of repatriation of bodies and bones.
- 6. The Hong Kong Connection: support gained from entities in Hong Kong, such as the Tung Wah Hospital (東華醫院) and the general impacts of Chinese migration on Hong Kong in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century.
- 7. Researching historical materials in Hong Kong: Places in Hong Kong where historical materials may be found.

### 華工流徙與香港 — 粵語茶聚

歡迎閣下蒞臨這個茶聚。這個講座旨在探討香港在近代華工放洋史中所擔當的角色。無可否認,在晚清時期,當時的英屬香港曾經是中國內地與金山諸國包括澳洲,美國,加拿大和新西蘭的最重要中介樞紐。冼教授會從下列各個方面,向大家講解這一段,既屬於澳洲,也屬於中國和香港的華人奮鬥史。

一. 華工放洋的流程及其時代背景 從什麼時候開始,有華工放洋的現象? 他們從廣東什麼地方出發? 他們是誰?到達新州之後,他們何去何從? 他們怎樣籌募旅費?什麼船隻把他們帶到海外? 他們為甚麼要離鄉別井,遠赴外地謀生?

對一些辭彙的釐清,例如 "賣豬仔"、 "金山客" 和 "金山阿伯"。

- 二. 同鄉會在異地所發揮的互助工能及它們為華僑所提供的各樣支援。
- 三. 華橋匯款回鄉的情況。
- 四. 落葉歸根和承歡膝下的盼望 當時華僑對成為 "孤魂野鬼" 的切身恐懼。
- 五. 在外地殮葬及把遺體遣送回鄉的情形。
- 六. 香江聯繫 香港一些慈善團體,特別是東華醫院,對華僑所提供 的支援與及華工外移對香港社會所帶來的影響。
- 七. 怎樣在香港找尋歷史檔案和文獻

#### Programme 程序表

2:45pm	Registration
3:00pm	Welcome by Mr. Robert Ho, President of CAHS
3:05pm	Lecture commences
4:00pm	Break
4:10pm	Lecture resumes
5:00pm	Discussion time
5:30pm	Vote of thanks by Mr. King Fong, Vice President / Tea and Coffee
6:00pm	Activity concludes

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