



THE
HONG KONG
UNIVERSITY OF
SCIENCE &
TECHNOLOGY

香港
科技
大學

Clear Water Bay
Kowloon
Hong Kong

Vice-Chancellor and President
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**For immediate release
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SYMPOSIUM ON FOLK DOCUMENTS AND THE SOUTH CHINA STUDIES

"Not only official documents, but also folk documents, including account books, family genealogy, bulletins, letters, contracts, folk songs, folk tales, opera scripts, and note books can be used for research in China Studies," remarked Dr Choi Chi-cheung, lecturer in Humanities at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST).

The Division of Humanities of HKUST will present a symposium on "Folk Documents and the South China Studies" from 6-7 January 93. Prof Hong Hsu, Head of the Division of Humanities, added, "The Symposium seeks to draw public attention and thereby encourage people to preserve and donate folk documents for academic purposes."

Participants include scholars from Hong Kong, Mainland China, Taiwan, Japan, U.S.A., Canada and U.K. Their fields of study include social history and anthropology of South China, HK and the Macau region.

Dr Choi hopes that the Symposium will inaugurate a series of future symposia on South China studies. He said, "The first symposium aims to present a grand view on folk documents and the whole of South China. The theme for the second symposium next year will be 'Family lineage and local societies in South China'. It will present the basic social structure in families and in their lineage."

Both of Dr Hsu and Dr Choi expressed the wish that this series of symposia will eventually lead to the establishment of a Centre for South China Studies. Thus it is closely related to the teaching and research programmes in the Division of Humanities in HKUST.

The South China Research Circle, the Division of Humanities of HKUST, and the Department of Anthropology of the Hong Kong Chinese University are jointly organising a post-symposium programme. There will be a field trip to Tai O on 8 January, and a visit to the Public Records Office of HK Government on 9 January. A round table discussion workshop will be held in Canton from 10-13 January 93.

Please direct enquiries to Ms Mary Lau 358 6306, or 1163388 call 2651
Attached is the programme of the Symposium

Symposium on "Folk documents and the South China studies"
Programme

January 6, 1993 (Wednesday)

8:30-9:00 Registration

1. 9:00-10:15 Opening ceremony

Opening address

Hong HSU (HKUST)

Keynote dialogue

"South China studies: between history and anthropology"
David FAURE (Oxford) & Helen SIU (Yale)

10:15-10:45 Coffee break

2. 10:45-12:45 Session 1 Family, Lineage and society

Chairperson: CHEN Chi-nan (CUHK)

Discussant: TO Wing-kai (UC, Davis)

"Wills and the Chinese in Hong Kong"

Carl SMITH

"Study of a Guangdong Mei xian family"

LAU Yec-cheung (CUHK)

"Hakka genealogies and northern Fujian"

CHEN Zhi-ping (Xiamen)

"Foshan at the end of the Ming dynasty: study of the Li genealogy" LUO Yi-xing (GDA)

12:45-14:00 Lunch break

3. 14:00-16:00 Session 2 Rural society and organization

Chairperson: David FAURE (Oxford)

Discussant: WONG Wing-ho (UC, Davis)

"Women history and rural history: examples from written and non-written sources"

YIP Hon-ming (CUHK)

"Witnesses: women's role in land transaction"

CHOI Chi-cheung (HKUST)

"Village autonomy: Shawan in the beginning of the Republican period" LIU Zhi-wei (Zhongshan)

"Study of the Filial Daughter Society in Xi xian, Anhui"

ZHENG Li-min (AHAS)

16:00-16:15 Tea break

4. 16:15-18:00 Session 3 Merchants and voluntary associations

Chairperson: Hong HSU (HKUST)

Discussant: CHIU Peng-sheng (NTU)

"Account books and merchants' culture"

HAMASHITA Takeshi (Tokyo)

"Overseas ventures of Chinese merchants: a study of documents in the Nagasaki Fujian Association"

YAMAOKA Yuka (Koshien)

"Hong Kong society as seen from bulletins of fellow clansmen associations"

Elizabeth Sinn (HKU)

January 7, 1993 (Thursday)

5. 9:00-10:45 Session 4 Culture and tradition 1: folk songs
Chairperson: SUENARI Michio (Tokyo)
Discussant: LIU Tik-sang (Pittsburg)
"Chaozhou song books and the society of Chaozhou and Shantau"
CHEN Chun-sheng (Zhongshan)
"Traditional women ritual songs in rural Hong Kong"
CHAN Wing-hoi
"Bamboo clapper songs and the New Territories of Hong Kong"
Patric HASE
- 10:45-11:00 Coffee break
6. 11:00-12:45 Session 5 Culture and tradition 2: legends and theater
Chairperson: CHAN Zhi-ping (Xiamen)
Discussant: CHAN Wing-hoi
"Folk tales and local society" UEDA Mokodo (Likyo)
"Cantonese ritual opera: scripts and improvisation"
CHAN Shou-yan (CUHK)
- 12:45-14:00 Lunch break
7. 14:00-15:45 Session 6 Religion and beliefs
Chairperson: HAMASHITA Takeshi (Tokyo)
Discussant: Leung Chor-on (Cambridge)
"Temple inscriptions and folk cults in Fujian"
ZHENG Zhen-man (Xiamen)
"History and memory through temple inscriptions and anecdotal writings: notes on territorial
cults and folk beliefs in the Pearl River delta" TO Wing-kai
(UC, Davis)
"Taoist manuals and local culture" Kenneth DEAN (McGill)
- 15:45-16:00 Tea break
8. 16:00-17:30 Session 7 Comparison: North and south
Chairperson: CHAN Chun-sheng (Zhongshan)
Discussant: WU Mi-cha (NTU)
"Folk art and ideology in northern Shaanxi province"
FUKAO Yoko (Osaka Gaida)
"Characteristics of folk documents in Vietnam"
SUENARI Michio (Tokyo)
9. 17:30-18:00 Concluding session
Closing address CHEN Chi-nan (CUHK)