



節慶活動 Festive Events

甚麼是「非物質文化遺產」(非遺)?

小朋友，你常常聽到非遺，這到底是甚麼呢？
原來平日吃的食物、穿的衣服、說的語言、看的表演，
都包含了非遺的元素。

2014年政府公布香港首份非物質文化遺產清單，涵蓋480個項目。

就讓我們從節慶活動中，認識我們的非遺吧！

What is Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH)?

Hey kids, we have so often heard of ICH. What exactly does it mean? The things we eat, clothes we wear, languages we speak and performances we see, all encompass elements of ICH.

In 2014, the Government of the Hong Kong SAR published the first Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory of Hong Kong. On the list there are 480 ICH items.

Let's start by learning more about ICH from our traditional rituals and festivals!

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中秋節 — 大坑舞火龍

據說約於1880年左右，港島大坑曾發生瘟疫，為了消除瘟疫，村民紮作一條插滿燃點著香枝的龍（稱為「火龍」），在中秋節前後，即農曆八月十四、十五、十六的晚上，舞動火龍在大坑區內的街道遊走，沿途燃放炮竹。

Mid-Autumn Festival — the Tai Hang Fire Dragon Dance

The story goes that a terrible plague hit the Hakka village of Tai Hang on Hong Kong Island in around 1880.

To ward off the disease, villagers crafted a dragon and decorated it with incense sticks, turning it into a "fire dragon". On the evenings of the 14th, 15th and 16th days of the eighth lunar month, they set off fireworks and paraded the fire dragon around the village.





舞火龍後，瘟疫果然停止。從此以後，村民每年都舉行三天的舞火龍活動，以保大坑合境平安。

After the dance, the plague ended. Since then, the Fire Dragon Dance has become an annual event to pray for peace for Tai Hang.



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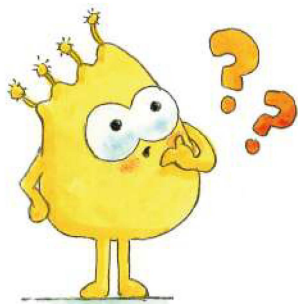
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香港天后誕

相傳天后原名林默，出生於福建，能保佑海上平安，所以漁民普遍信奉天后為海神。

Tin Hau Festival in Hong Kong

In folklore, Tin Hau is the Empress of Heaven and was originally a girl named Lin Mo from Fujian. She protects fishermen from danger at sea and has therefore been widely worshipped by fishermen.



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每年臨近農曆三月二十三日天后誕，香港不少天后廟均會舉辦花炮會賀誕、巡遊、廟會和神功戲等傳統的慶祝活動，祈求風調雨順、國泰民安。

The birthday of Tin Hau is on the 23rd day of the third lunar month. Around this date, Tin Hau temples in Hong Kong host festive events, namely displays of paper floral shrines, parades, temple fairs and thanksgiving opera performances to pray for good weather and peace.



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長洲太平清醮

相傳長洲曾發生瘟疫，很多居民因而失去性命。居民帶著北帝神像巡遊街道，瘟疫果然停止。

Cheung Chau Jiao Festival

Cheung Chau, an outlying island, was once devastated by a plague. After the residents paraded through the streets with the statue of the deity Pak Tai (Emperor of the North), the plague was brought to a stop.

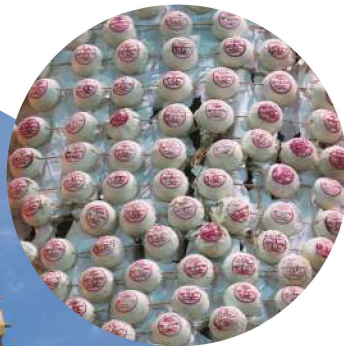


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自此以後，長洲居民每年舉行太平清醮，以答謝北帝驅除瘟疫，並祈求平安。「長洲太平清醮」中的飄色巡遊和搶包山活動吸引不少遊客慕名而至，場面非常熱鬧。

Since then, this tradition has been maintained in the form of the *Jiao* Festival to express gratitude to Pak Tai and to pray for the welfare of the entire island. Some of the well-known events of the Cheung Chau *Jiao* Festival, such as the Parade of Floats and the Bun Scrambling Competition, often draw thousands of visitors to the island.



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香港潮人盂蘭勝會

世界各地都有鬼節，西方有萬聖節，而華人社會則有盂蘭勝會。

Yu Lan Festival of the Hong Kong Chiu Chow Community

There are various festivals remembering the dead around the world. The most common one from Western culture is Halloween. In Chinese communities it is called the Yu Lan Festival.



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相傳農曆七月，鬼門關大開，鬼魂會來人間。人們在這時候祭祀祖先及孤魂野鬼，舉行宗教儀式超度亡靈，分衣施食；家家戶戶會燒街衣。醮會場地則會派平安米及上演神功戲等，以娛神娛人。

Legend has it that in the seventh lunar month, ghosts wander through the mortal world as the door to the netherworld opens. During this month, rituals for worshipping ancestors and commemorating the deceased are carried out, including the burning of paper offerings in the streets, handing out auspicious rice bags and organising thanksgiving opera performances to entertain both deities and people alike.





大澳端午龍舟遊涌

農曆五月初五是端午節。起源眾說紛紜，最廣為人知的是為了紀念愛國詩人屈原，民間會在端午節時舉辦龍舟比賽及吃糉子。

Tai O Dragon Boat Water Parade

The Dragon Boat Festival is held on the fifth day of the fifth lunar month. There are different interpretations of its origin. The most widely known one originates from the commemoration of Qu Yuan, a patriotic poet. During the festival, the customs of organising dragon boat races and eating sticky rice dumplings are respected.

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相傳在大嶼山的大澳過去曾發生瘟疫，當地漁民把從大澳各廟宇接來的神像放在小艇上，用龍舟拖著小艇在各水道巡遊，成功消除瘟疫。及後，大澳居民每逢端午節都會舉行龍舟遊涌，祈求平安，性質跟龍舟比賽不同。

Legend has it that a plague once broke out in Tai O on Lantau Island. In an effort to drive out the epidemic and to purify the area, local fishermen paraded through the waterways in dragon boats, towing behind them sacred sampans carrying statues of deities which they collected from the temples in the area. After the plague ended, the residents of Tai O continued to organise the dragon boat water parade - which is different from dragon boat races in nature - during the Dragon Boat Festival to pray for peace for the community.



總結

香港保存著豐富的傳統節慶活動，上述不少節慶活動已列入《國家級非物質文化遺產代表性項目名錄》，說明這些節慶活動具有鮮明的特色和文化價值，而市民的支持和參與對傳承非遺起著重要意義。

To Conclude

In Hong Kong, many traditional festivals have been well preserved. All of the aforementioned festive events have been inscribed onto the list of the representative items of the national ICH for their distinctive features and cultural significance. Our active participation in and support of these events are essential for the inheritance and passing on of such traditions.

