



Tradition



Change



Unity



DECEMBER 29 - 31, 2004
VARI HALL, YORK UNIVERSITY

Conference Co-Chairs

Dr. Keith Lowe
Chinese Cultural Centre
of Greater Toronto



Professor Pietro Giordan
East Asian Studies Program
York University

Featured Speakers



Richard Bohr has devoted his professional life to promoting relationships between Americans and Asians. As Professor of History and Director of Asian Studies at the College of Saint Benedict/Saint John's University, he helps prepare young Americans to work with and in Asia. Bohr holds the Ph.D. degree in Modern Chinese History from the University of California, Davis; a Master of Arts degree in East Asian Studies from Harvard University; and a Bachelor's degree in East Asian History from the University of California, Davis.



Joseph Tsang Mang Kin is the author of *The Hakka Epic* and former Minister of Arts and Culture of the Republic of Mauritius. He was Deputy Director of the Commonwealth Foundation in London, and developed projects for improving cooperation between Anglophone and Francophone countries. He has published several works in French, both as an historian, a sociologist and a poet. He founded the French-Mauritius Committee (Paris) and he is the honorary president of the Société des Ecrivains Mauriciens d'Expression Française (Mauritian Francophone Writers Society).



Shiu Loon Kong holds a Ph.D. in Educational Psychology from the University of Ottawa. He was a professor at the Faculty of Education, UofT, for 30 years, served as Dean of the school of education at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, and held teaching posts at Nanyang, Queen's and Brandon Universities. He is the author of 12 books, including *Chinese Culture and Lore*, and has published many articles, chapters, monographs and scholarly addresses. He was awarded the Order of Canada for his voluntary work in the Chinese community and for settling Vietnamese refugees in Canada.



Dr. Siu-Leung Lee, born in Hong Kong, obtained his BSc degree in Biology from the Chinese University of Hong Kong and his PhD degree from Purdue University in Medicinal Chemistry. He migrated from academia to industry, having spent four years at his alma mater to help establish the Hong Kong Institute of Biotechnology. Dr. Lee's Hakka homepage was started in 1995 and has been cited as the best by Britannica Online (Asiawind.com). When he founded Asiawind in 1996, a Hakka forum was added. Since then it has become the gathering place for Hakkas all over the world.



Dr. Nam Low was born in Ipoh, Malaysia. He obtained his post-secondary education in Taiwan and Honolulu, studied radio communication and ionospheric physics. After his graduate studies he emigrated to Toronto and worked as a mini/micro computer systems hardware engineer for PROMAC and GEAC. He then moved on to become a system and application software engineer at Honeywell in Markham and Phoenix. In the last 16 years, Nam has had the opportunity to experience Hakka culture firsthand. He now travels between Malaysia, the Pearl River Delta, Beijing and Toronto for business as well as Hakka culture preservation activities.

Honoured
Guest
Speakers



Vivienne Poy
*The Senate
of Canada*



Chen Xiaoling
*Consul General
of the People's
Republic of China
in Toronto*



Olive Senior
Author



Wayson Choy
Author

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Wednesday, December 29th - 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto, 5183 Sheppard Ave. E., Scarborough

Opening Reception and Photo Exhibition: THE CHINESE IN JAMAICA 1854-2004

Thursday, December 30th - 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Vari Hall, York University, Keele St.

8:00-9:00 a.m., Enrolment, Rotunda

9:00-9:15 a.m., Opening Ceremony, Auditorium (Theatre A, Room 1009)

Welcome by Dr. Robert Drummond, Dean of the Faculty of Arts, York University

Welcome by Dr. Keith Lowe, Hakka Chinese Community

Welcome (taped) by Senator Vivienne Poy

Official opening by award-winning author Wayson Choy, *The Jade Peony, All That Matters*

9:15-10:15 a.m., Keynote Address: HAKKA DESTINY, Auditorium (Theatre A, Room 1009)

*Joseph Tsang Mang Kin, author of *The Hakka Epic**

10:15-10:30, TRANSITION/BREAK

10:30 - 11:15 a.m. - Concurrent Sessions A (various rooms)

Dialogue on "Hakka Destiny", Auditorium

Professor Richard Bohr, Professor Pietro Giordan, Dr. Shiu-Loon Kong

Analysis and extension of the keynote address

Identity Formation Among Caribbean and Indian Hakka in Toronto, Room 1154, (repeated 2:15-3:00 p.m.)

Shirley Chiu

Interviews of Caribbean-born and Indian-born individuals of Hakka origin reveal how identity is formed through social ties, food, community involvement and knowledge attainment. Characteristics important to developing increased consciousness of Hakka identity are identified. The presenter draws on the findings of her master's thesis for York University.

The Portrayal of Hakka Women in Current Fiction, 1152A, (repeated 2:15-3:00 p.m.)

Helen Atteck, Bernadette Dyer, Henrietta Akit

Three women writers from the Caribbean demonstrate how they portrayed Hakka female characters in their works published within the last two years. They read from their fiction and poetry, and share with the audience the personal and historical background on which their stories were based. Although the settings are for the most part in the Caribbean, one author starts her historical novel in a small village in China before her heroine boards the British ship in Hong Kong harbour.

150 Years of The Hakka in Jamaica, Theatre D Room 2021, (repeated 2:15-3:00 p.m.)

Patrick Lee, Loraine Lee

Drawing on their extensive collection of archival material, this husband and wife team takes the audience through the stages of Hakka settlement in Jamaica. Arriving as indentured workers on sugar estates, they later become shopkeepers dispersed in every town and large village. In one generation, they move into various businesses and professions.

Proposed Study of Boys Sent Back To China, 2005, (repeated 2:15-3:00 p.m.)

Dr. Anne-Marie Lee-Loy

Hakka settlers in overseas territories believed that the best means of preserving the family and the culture was to send their young sons back to China to live in the ancestral village until adolescence. No systematic study has been done to date of the effect of this practice on the individuals and the community they returned to. The approach to this study will be outlined. Subjects for this study are now being sought.

Chinese Calligraphy: The Art of Mind and Body, Theatre B Room 1023, (repeated Dec 31, in English and Mandarin)

Dr. Siu-Leung Lee

An outstanding and innovative calligrapher, Dr. Lee combines his art with music and movement. He draws on his recent exhibitions in the USA and his commission for the inscription on the gateway to a new national park in China. One's frame of mind is the basis of good calligraphy. With brush, ink and paper, Dr. Lee demonstrates various aspects of the art of Chinese writing.

11:15-11:30 a.m., TRANSITION/BREAK

11:30 - 12:15 p.m. - Concurrent Sessions B (various rooms)

Chinese Spirituality and the Influence of Confucius and Mencius in Chinese Culture, 1154, (repeated 3:15-4:00 p.m.)

Louis Ng, Rev. Ting Tao Chiu, Rev. Sidney Chang

The Chinese language, written over 4500 years ago, is the oldest continuously written language in the world. It is sometimes referred to as the language of God. If one analyses the Chinese characters, one can see there is a close connection between Chinese spirituality and God. During the first three dynasties of China - Hsia, Shang and Chou the Chinese people worshipped Shang Di, the same God described in the Bible. He was the creator, and annual sacrifices were offered to Him. Worship of Buddha came to China from India only in about 50 B.C.