

LESSON NOTES

Advanced Audio Blog S1 #23 Celebrating Buddha's Birthday in Hong Kong

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TRADITIONAL CHINESE

1. 佛誕
2. 香港人非常信佛。無論做生意的，揸的士的，抑或是蒲黑社會的，無一例外，全部都求神拜佛。平民百姓家裡一般都設一個神台，如果不是供奉自己的祖先長輩，就一定是供奉著各路神明，具體就得看你從事的職業了。比如說警察一定拜的是“關二哥”，自己開店的肯定拜的是“財神爺”。我家裡也有個神台，供奉的是我家祖先的靈位，每天吃飯之前都要給他上柱香，以示尊敬。當然，要體現佛在我們心中的重要性，不得不說就是經典電影《無間道》裡開篇第一場戲——曾志偉在一個廟裡拜了個佛，然後轉身講——算命佬話我呢條命係“一將功成萬骨枯”……幾豪氣啊！
3. 就是因為廣東人如此信佛，佛誕就顯得格外重要了，以致於香港將她定為公眾假期。每年的農曆四月八日，大家就會一早起身，去黃大仙啊、觀音廟啊、各處寺廟裡拜拜，裝香還神。

JYUTPING

1. fat6 daan3

CONT'D OVER

2. hoeng1 gong2 jan4 fei1 soeng4 seon3 fat6 。 mou4 leon6 zou6 saang1 ji3 di1 , zaa1 dik1 si2 dik1 , jik1 waak6 si6 pou4 haak1 se5 wui5 dik1 , mou4 jat1 lai6 ngoi6 , cyun4 bou6 dou1 kau4 san4 baai3 fat6 。 ping4 man4 baak3 sing3 gaa1 leoi5 jat1 bun1 dou1 cit3 jat1 go3 san4 toi2 , jyu4 gwo2 bat1 si6 gung1 fung6 zi6 gei2 di1 zou2 sin1 zoeng2 bui3 , zau6 jat1 ding6 si6 gung1 fung6 zoek3 gok3 lou6 san4 ming4 , geoi6 tai2 zau6 dak1 hon3 nei5 cung4 si6 dik1 zik1 jip6 liu5 。 bei2 jyu4 syut3 ging2 caat3 jat1 ding6 baai3 dik1 si6 “ gwaan1 ji6 go1 ” , zi6 gei2 hoi1 dim3 dik1 hang2 ding6 baai3 dik1 si6 “ coi4 san4 je4 ” 。 ngo5 gaa1 leoi5 jaa5 jau5 go3 san4 toi2 , gung1 fung6 dik1 si6 ngo5 gaa1 zou2 sin1 dik1 ling6 wai2 , mui5 tin1 hek6 faan6 zi1 cin4 dou1 jiu3 kap1 taa1 soeng5 zyu3 hoeng1 , ji5 si6 zeon1 ging3 。 dong1 jin4 , jiu3 tai2 jin6 fat6 zoi6 ngo5 mun4 sam1 zung1 dik1 zung6 jiu3 sing3 , bat1 dak1 bat1 syut3 zau6 si6 ging1 din2 din6 jing2 《 mou4 gaan3 dou6 》 leoi5 hoi1 pin1 dai6 jat1 coeng4 hei3 -- cang4 zi3 wai5 zoi6 jat1 go3 miu2 leoi5 baai3 liu5 go3 fat6 , jin4 hau6 zyun3 san1 gong2 -- syun3 meng6 lou2 waa6 ngo5 ni1 tiu4 meng6 hai6 “ jat1 zoeng3 gung1 sing4 maan6 gwat1 fu1 ” … … gei2 hou4 hei3 aa6 !
3. zau6 si6 jan1 wai6 gwong2 dung1 jan4 jyu4 ci2 seon3 fat6 , fat6 daan3 zau6 hin2 dak1 gaak3 ngoi6 zung6 jiu3 liu5 , ji5 zi3 jyu1 hoeng1 gong2 zoeng1 taa1 ding6 wai6 gung1 zung3 gaa3 kei4 。 mui5 nin4 dik1 nung4 lik6 sei3 jyut6 baat3 jat6 , daai6 gaa1 zau6 wui5 jat1 zou2 hei2 san1 , heoi3 wong4 daai6 sin1 aa6 、 gun1 jam1 miu2 aa6 、 gok3 cyu3 zi6 miu2 leoi5 baai3 baai3 , zong1 hoeng1 waan4 san4 。

ENGLISH

1. Buddha's Birthday

- Hong Kong people really believe in Buddha. No matter whether people do business, drive taxis, or even work for the mob, they all pray to Buddha. People generally set up an altar at home that they'll use to worship their ancestors, elders, and various gods (which ones depend on specifically on your occupation). For example, police have to pay their respects to Kwan Ti, and if you run your own business, you have to pray to the "God of Wealth." I have an altar at home too so I can pay respects to my ancestors. We need to burn one incense stick each day for them before we eat to show our respects.
- Of course, we can also see how important Buddhism is to us from the classic Hong Kong movie "Infernal Affairs." In the first scene of the film, Eric Tsang is paying respects to the Buddha and then turns around and says, "The fortune-teller said that my fortune is 'a million perish that one man succeeds.'" How epic is that!
- And it's exactly because Cantonese people believe in Buddha that his birthday is so important to us. The Hong Kong government has even made this day a public holiday. Every year on the eighth of April (according to the lunar calendar) everyone will wake up early and go to worship in different temples, burning incense for the Gods.

VOCABULARY

Traditional	Romanization	English	Class
職業	zik1 jip6	occupation	noun
顯得	hin2 dak1	to seem	verb
轉身	zyun3 san1	to turn around	verb
體現	tai2 jin6	to show	verb
無一例外	mou4 jat1 lai6 ngoi6	no exception	phrase
黑社會	hak1 se5 wui6	mob	noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>職業唔分貴賤。 zik1 jip6 m4 fan1 gwai3 zin6。</p> <p>All occupations are equal.</p>	<p>你如果打人會顯得你好冇品。 nei5 jyu4 gwo2 daa2 jan4 wui5 hin2 dak1 nei5 hou2 mou5 ban2。</p> <p>You seem so rude if you beat someone.</p>
<p>當佢每次轉身，我都會心跳加速。 dong1 keoi5 mui5 ci3 zyun3 san1 , ngo5 dou1 wui5 sam1 tiu3 gaa1 cuk1。</p> <p>Every time she turns around, my heart rate raises.</p>	<p>今次嘅慈善活動體現咗中國人嘅團結。 gam1 ci3 ge3 ci4 sin6 wut6 dung6 tai2 jin6 zo2 zung1 gwok3 jan4 ge3 tyun4 git3。</p> <p>This charity event shows how united Chinese are.</p>
<p>個個同我企喺度，無一例外! go3 go3 tung4 ngo5 kei5 hai2 dou6 , mou4 jat1 lai6 ngoi6 !</p> <p>Everyone stand up, no exception!</p>	<p>細細個就知道黑社會唔係好嘢。 sai3 sai3 go3 zau6 zi1 dou6 hak1 se5 wui5 m4 hai6 hou2 je5。</p> <p>We all know the mob is bad from childhood.</p>

CULTURAL INSIGHT

香港信佛教的人很多,這天他們都會去香港著名的寺廟---寶蓮寺,去拜神,希望自己得到佛祖的保佑,但學生們可能會很高興,原因是那天是公眾假期。

Worshipping Buddha

Many people in Hong Kong believe in Buddhism. On this day, they will go to Hong Kong's Po Lin Monastery, the most famous temple in HK, to worship and hope to get the Buddha's blessing from there. The students might be very glad because that day is a public holiday.