



Advanced Audio Blog S1

A Glowing Tradition: The Lantern Festival in Hong Kong

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Traditional Chinese

元宵

舊年元宵節，我在婆婆屋企渡過。當時我地一齊放煙花，整燈籠，煮湯圓。

根據習俗，上元夜，無論官宦貴人、平民百姓都会不約而同行街觀燈。商家趁機將商品降價促銷，老百姓既看了花燈又可以藉此機會購買自己需要嘅生活用品。市面更有臨時小販售賣“走馬燈”、“吉利燈”、“激死風燈”以及獅、狗、羊、兔各種動物形象的紙燈，供人購買。細路紛紛拎著買來的燈籠四處遊逛玩耍，拎燈逛街。

而我們最喜歡的莫過於欣賞元宵煙花晚會，各式各樣的煙花令你覺得世界都恍惚了。

Jyutping

jyun4 siu1

gau6 nin2 jyun4 siu1 zit3 , ngo5 zoi6 po4 po2 uk1 kei2 dou6 gwo3 。 dong1 si4 ngo5 dei6 jat1 cai4 fong3 jin1 faa1 , zing2 dang1 lung4 , zyu2 tong1 jyun2 。

gan1 geoi3 zaap6 zuk6 , soeng6 jyun4 je6 , mou4 leon6 gun1 waan6 gwai3 jan4 、 ping4 man4 baak3 sing3 dou1 wui5 bat1 joek3 ji4 tung4 haang4 gai1 gun1 dang1 。 soeng1 gaa1 can3 gei1 zoeng1 soeng1 ban2 gong3 gaa3 cuk1 siu1 , lou5 baak3 sing3 gei3 hon3 liu5 faa1 dang1 jau6 ho2 ji5 zik6 ci2 gei1 wui6 kau3 maai5 zi6 gei2 sei1 jiu3 ge3 sang1 wut6 jung6 ban2 。 si5 min6 gang3 jau5 lam4 si4 siu2 faan2 sau6 maai6 “zau2 maa5 dang1 ”、“gat1 lei6 dang1 ”、“gik1 sei2 fung1 dang1 ”ji5 kap6 si1 、 gau2 、 joeng4 、 tou3 gok3 zung5 dung6 mat6 jing4 zoeng6 dik1 zi2 dang1 , gung1 jan4 kau3 maai5 。 sai3 lou6 fan1 fan1 ling1 zoek3 maai5 loi4 dik1 dang1 lung4 sei3 cyu2 jau4 gwaang6 waan2 saa2 , ling1 dang1 gwaang6 gai1 。

ji4 ngo5 mun4 zeoi3 hei2 fun1 dik1 mok6 gwo3 jyu1 jan1 soeng2 jyun4 siu1 jin1 faa1 maan5 wui5 , gok3 sik1 gok3 joeng6 dik1 jin1 faa1 ling6 nei5 gok3 dak1 sai3 gai3 dou1 fong2 fat1 liu5 。

English

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The Lantern Festival

I was at my grandmother's house for the Lantern Festival last year. We lit fireworks, made lanterns, and cooked dumplings together.

According to traditional customs, on the evening of the Lantern Festival, everyone will take to the streets to look at the lanterns. This holds regardless of whether you're rich or poor, an honored person, elite government official, or civilian. Shopkeepers will even take advantage of this opportunity to cut their prices so that people looking at the lanterns may even buy some things for their daily needs. Some hawkers will also sell lanterns with revolving parades of paper horses, lucky lanterns, "shocking" lanterns, and other lanterns adorned with pictures of animals like lions, dogs, sheep, rabbits, and more. Children like to buy lanterns and carry them around and play. Our favorite is the Lantern Festival fireworks show. This has all kinds of fireworks and makes you feel like the world itself is in a trance.

Vocabulary

Traditional	Jyutping	English
舊年	gau6 nin2	last year
煙花	jin1 faa1	fireworks
燈籠	dang1 lung4	lantern
根據	gan1 geoi3	according to
四處	sei3 cyu3	all around
各式各樣	gok3 sik1 gok3 joeng6	different kinds
恍惚	fong2 fat1	in a trance
老百姓	lou5 baak3 sing3	civilians
小販	siu2 faan2	peddler

Vocabulary Sample Sentences

舊年我去咗日本渡過咗我短暫嘅聖誕。	gau6 nin2 ngo5 heoi3 zo2 jat6 bun2 dou6 gwo3 zo2 ngo5 dyun2 zaam6 gei3 sing3 daan3.	I spent my short Christmas holiday in Japan last year.
我女朋友最鍾意睇煙花。	ngo5 nei5 pang4 jau5 zeoi3 zung1 ji3 tai2 jin1 faa1.	My girlfriend really likes watching fireworks.
以前當有人結婚嘅時候就會掛紅燈籠。	ji5 cin4 dong1 jau5 jan4 git3 fan1 gei3 si4 hau6 zau6 wui5	In the past when people got married they would hang up a

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根據可靠嘅消息，兇手就喺入面！	gwaa3 hung4 dang1 lung4. gan1 geoi3 ho2 kaau3 gei3 siu1 sik1, hung1 sau2 zau6 hai2 jap6 min6!	red lantern. According to reliable information, the murderer is inside!
你放學之後唔好四處去，即刻返屋企！	nei5 fong3 hok6 zi1 hau6 m4 hou2 sei3 cyu3 heoi3, zik1 hak1 faan1 uk1 kei5!	Don't go all around after school, come back home immediately!
我每次見到各式各樣嘅月餅就流曬口水。	ngo5 mui5 ci3 gin3 dou3 gok3 sik1 gok3 joeng6 gei3 jyut6 beng2 zau6 lau4 saai3 hau2 sei2。	My mouth waters whenever I see different kinds of mooncakes.
佢尋晚無瞓，精神有啲恍惚。	keoi5 cam4 maan5 mou4 fan3, zing1 san4 jau5 di1 fong2 fat1	He is in a trance because he did not sleep last night.
我要好好讀書，將來為老百姓服務。	ngo5 jiu3 hou2 hou2 duk6 syu1, zoeng1 loi4 wai6 lou5 baak3 sing3 fuk6 mou6。	I have to study hard to be of service to civilians in the future.
夜晚有好多小販喺屋企樓下賣生果。	je6 maan5 jau5 hou2 do1 siu2 faan2 hai6 uk1 kei5 lau4 haa6 maai6 saang1 gwo2。	In the evening there are a lot of peddlers selling fruit downstairs.

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Cultural Insight

其實香港人對元宵節並不是特別熱情，很大的原因是元宵節不是公眾假期，加上香港在英國的殖民統治下快一百年，早就習慣了國外的情人節，儘管這樣，香港人還是會聚到一起吃吃元宵。

[Lanterns and Dumplings](#)

In fact, people in Hong Kong do not have a big passion for the Lantern Festival. The reason is that the Lantern Festival is not a public holiday. Besides, Hong Kong has been under British colonial rule for almost one hundred years and they have gotten used to Valentine's Day already. Despite this, they will still get together and eat dumplings.