



Advanced Audio Blog S1

Have a Hong Kong Halloween

20

Traditional	2
Jyutping	2
English	3
Vocabulary	4
Cultural Insight	5

Traditional Chinese

鬼節

我對鬼節的唯一印象就是沿街邊燒紙。旅遊發展局在其網頁上這樣介紹“盂蘭節”——香港俗稱為鬼節，傳說農曆七月鬼魂可以到來人間，很多市民會在路邊焚燒冥紙香燭超渡遊魂，銅鑼灣摩頓台或佐治五世公園更有京劇上演，以超渡這些鬼魂。旅發局對很多香港節慶都有介紹，甚至包括一些較不為人熟悉的節慶，如猴王誕、譚公誕等，但都簡得厲害。彷彿說多了，便會破壞了這個節日，所謂的“一說便俗”對於旅發局嚟講，在路邊焚燒冥紙香燭和京劇上演就是這個節慶的特色。

我好奇，燒冥紙是怎樣來的呢？據說，蔡倫發明造紙，因而財源滾滾來。其兄嫂見財心起，東施效顰的造起紙來，由於急功近利，結果紙質差劣，無人問津。蔡倫嫂子心生一計，自己睡在棺材裡叫家人要哭得死去活來並同時焚燒賣不出去的紙。準備好後，她便趁鄰居都過來慰問的時候，忽然從棺材裡醒過來，說自己本已到了陰間，受盡折磨，後來家人燒了紙給她，原來這些，到了陰間，成了紙錢，有了這些紙錢，她可以免受折磨，更可以贖回性命，返回陽間。於是，燒冥紙給死去的人便成了一種民間習俗，以便他們在陰間有個錢傍身，可以穿得暖、食得飽。

Jyutping

gwai2 zit3

ngo5 deoi3 gwai2 hoeng1 gong2 zuk6 cing1 wai6 gwai2 zit3 , cyun4 syut3 nung4
zit3 dik1 wai4 jat1 lik6 cat1 jyut6 gwai2 wan4 ho2 ji5 dou3 loi4 jan4 gaan1 , han2
jan3 zoeng6 zau6 do1 si5 man4 wui5 zoi6 lou6 bin1 fan4 siu1 ming2 zi2 hoeng1
si6 jyun4 gaai1 zuk1 ciu1 dou6 jau4 wan4 , tung4 lo4 waan1 mo1 deon2 toi4
bin1 siu1 zi2 。 waak6 zo2 ci4 ng5 sai3 gung1 jyun4 gang3 jau5 ging1 kek6
lei5 jau4 faat3 soeng5 jin2 , ji5 ciu1 dou6 ze2 se1 gwai2 wan4 。 lei5 faat3
zin2 guk6 zoi6 guk6 deoi3 han2 do1 hoeng1 gong2 zit3 hing3 dou1 jau5 gaai3
kei4 mong5 jip6 siu6 , sam6 zi3 baau1 kut3 jat1 se1 gaau3 bat1 wai4 jan4 suk6
soeng6 ze2 sik1 dik1 zit3 hing3 , jyu4 hau4 wong4 daan3 、 taam4 gung1
joeng6 gaai3 siu6 daan3 dang2 , daan6 dou1 gaan2 dak1 lei6 hoi6 。 fong2 fat1
“ jyu4 laan4 zit3 ” syut3 do1 liu5 , bin6 wui5 po3 waai6 liu5 ze2 go3 zit3 jat6 ,
so2 wai6 dik1 “ jat1 syut3 bin6 zuk6 ” deoi3 jyu1 lei5 faat3 guk6
lei4 gong2 , zoi6 lou6 bin1 fan4 siu1 ming2 zi2 hoeng1 zuk1
wo4 ging1 kek6 soeng5 jin2 zau6 si6 ze2 go3 zit3 hing3 dik1
dak6 sik1 。

CantoneseClass101.com

Learn Cantonese with **FREE** Podcasts

ngo5 hou3 kei4 , siu1 ming2 zi2 si6 zam2 joeng6 loi4 dik1 ne1 , geoi3 syut3 , coi3 leon4 faat3 ming4 zou6 zi2 , jan1 ji4 coi4 jyun4 gwan2 gwan2 loi4 。 kei4 hing1 sou2 gin3 coi4 sam1 hei2 , dung1 si1 haau6 pan4 dik1 zou6 hei2 zi2 loi4 , jau4 jyu1 gap1 gung1 gan6 lei6 , git3 gwo2 zi2 zat1 caa1 lyut3 , mou4 jan4 man6 zeon1 。 coi3 leon4 sou2 zi2 sam1 sang1 jat1 gai3 , zi6 gei2 sei6 zoi6 gun1 coi4 lei5 giu3 gaa1 jan4 jiu3 huk1 dak1 sei2 heoi3 wut6 loi4 bing3 tung4 si4 fan4 siu1 maai6 bat1 ceot1 heoi3 dik1 zi2 。 zeon2 bei6 hou2 hau6 , taa1 bin6 can3 leon4 geoi1 dou1 gwo3 loi4 wai3 man6 dik1 si4 hau6 , fat1 jin4 cung4 gun1 coi4 lei5 seng2 gwo3 loi4 , syut3 zi6 gei2 bun2 ji5 dou3 liu5 jam1 gaan1 , sau6 zeon6 zit3 mo4 , hau6 loi4 gaa1 jan4 siu1 liu5 zi2 kap1 taa1 , jyun4 loi4 ze2 se1 , dou3 liu5 jam1 gaan1 , sing4 liu5 zi2 cin4 , jau5 liu5 ze2 se1 zi2 cin4 , taa1 ho2 ji5 min5 sau6 zit3 mo4 , gang3 ho2 ji5 suk6 wui4 sing3 ming6 , faan2 wui4 joeng4 gaan1 。 jyu1 si6 , siu1 ming2 zi2 kap1 sei2 heoi3 dik1 jan4 bin6 sing4 liu5 jat1 zung2 man4 gaan1 zaap6 zuk6 , ji5 bin6 taa1 mun4 zoi6 jam1 gaan1 jau5 go3 cin2 pong4 san1 , ho2 ji5 cyun1 dak1 nyun5 、 sik6 dak1 baau2 。

English

Chinese Halloween

3 My only impression of the Chinese Halloween is of people burning paper at the side of the street. The Hong Kong Tourism Board has a description of the Yue Lan Festival on its website. This is the festival commonly known as "Chinese Halloween." According to legend, it says ghosts can only come into the human world during the seventh month of the lunar calendar, so many people burn paper money and incense on the streets to release souls from purgatory. Some people have even held Peking Opera performances at Causeway Bay or King George Park to do the same.

The tourism board actually has descriptions of many other festivals, even non-famous ones like the "Monkey King Birth" (Tam Kung Birth) and others. But it doesn't talk too much about them since it doesn't want to spoil the holiday. So for the Hong Kong Tourism Board, the main characteristic of this festival is burning paper money and incense by the side of the road and holding Peking Opera performances.

I was curious where this tradition of burning paper money came from. It turns out that Tsai Lun invented paper and became rich. His brother's wife was jealous of him and his financial success so she started making paper of her own. But the paper was poor quality and no one bought it from her. So she came up with the idea of

sleeping in a coffin and asked her family to cry and burn the unsold paper at the same time. When the time was right, she woke up suddenly in the coffin when her neighbors came by to express their regrets. She said she had been to the underworld and was being tortured, but that when her family burned paper money for her, she received it and used it to free herself from torture and earn the redemption of life in the human world. And so burning paper money for dead people became a tradition, giving the dead money so that they can have some in the underworld and keep themselves warm and full.

Vocabulary

Traditional	Jyutping	English
街邊	gaai1 bin1	streetside
農曆	nung4 lik6	lunar calendar
京劇	ging1 kek6	Peking Opera
破壞	po3 waai6	to destroy
焚燒	fan4 siu1	to burn
差劣	caa1 lyut3	shoddy
準備	zeon2 bei6	to prepare
陰間	jam1 gaan1	hell
折磨	zit3 mo4	to torture
贖回	suk6 wui4	to buy back

Vocabulary Sample Sentences

唔好同街邊小販亂買嘢食。	m4 hou2 tung4 gaai1 bin1 siu2 faan2 lyun2 maai5 je5 sik6.	Don't buy the food from the streetside hawker.
農曆係古代人用來耕種嘅日曆。	nung4 lik6 hai6 gu2 doi6 jan4 jung6 lai4 gaang1 zung2 ge3 jat6 lik6.	The lunar calendar was used for farming in ancient times.
好多人將京劇同粵劇攞亂。	hou2 do1 jan4 zoeng1 ging1 kek6 tung4 jyut6 kek6 lou1 lyun6.	Many people confuse Peking opera and Cantonese opera.
我個妹破壞咗我嘅讀書大計。	ngo5 go3 mui2 po3 waai6 zo2 ngo5 gei3 duk6 syu1 daai6 gai3.	My sister has destroyed my study plan.
我嘅意志正如烈火一樣嘍度焚燒。	ngo5 ge3 ji3 zi3 zing3 jyu4 lit6 fo2 jat1 joeng6 hai2 dou6 fan4	My ambition is burning like a big fire.

CantoneseClass101.com

Learn Cantonese with **FREE** Podcasts

我唔要呢啲咁差劣嘅貨！	siu1 。 ngo5 m4 jiu3 ni1 di1 gam3 caa1 lyut3 ge3 fo3!	I don't want this kind of shoddy product!
你準備好接受挑戰了嗎？	nei5 zeon2 bei6 hou2 zip3 sau6 tiu1 zin3 le6 maa3 ?	Are you prepared for the challenges?
你呢個壞人！我哋陰間見啦！	nei5 li1 go3 waai6 jan4! ngo5 dei6 jam1 gaan1 gin3 laa1!	You bad guy! I will see you in hell!
不停喺人哋耳邊唱歌係一種非常之好折磨人嘅方法。	bat1 ting4 hai2 jan4 dei6 ji5 bin1 coeng3 go1 hai6 jat1 zung2 hei1 soeng4 zi1 hou2 zit3 mo4 jan4 ge3 fong1 faat3。	Singing non-stop next to someone's ear is a good way of torturing them.
為咗贖回我賣左嘅手錶，我日日打三份工。	wai6 zo2 suk6 wui4 ngo5 maai6 zo2 gei3 sau2 biu1, ngo5 jat6 jat6 daa2 saam1 fan6 gung1 。	I do three jobs a day so I can buy back the watch I sold.

Cultural Insight

每年在香港的鬼節，在很多的公眾足球場上你都可以看到很多用竹子臨時搭起了的戲院，前面有一排又一排的空椅子，在鬼節的期間每個晚上，臺上都會在演大戲不管下面有沒有觀眾，叫"神功戲"，作用是給靈魂得到娛樂。另一方面是給到來的街坊娛樂一番。

[Chinese Halloween Magic](#)

Every year, during the Chinese Halloween in Hong Kong, you can see many temporary theatres built of bamboo in the [public football court](#), and you can also see down at the stage that there is row after row of empty chairs. During the Chinese Halloween, each night the stage will have Cantonese Opera whether there is an audience or not; that's called a "magic show," and is to entertain the dead spirits. What's more, it gives entertainment to the attending citizens.