The Lugard Tribute

呈盧督頌詞

香港大學美術博物館
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On Thursday April 28, 1910, the day before his departure to England for six months' leave, Sir Frederick Lugard, Governor of Hong Kong, received prominent members of the Chinese community, led by Dr Ho Kai, at Government House. They presented Lugard with a beautiful satin scroll embroidered with dark blue Chinese characters and rich patterns and scenes depicting various kinds of fauna and flora. Known as The Lugard Tribute, this beautiful work of art has returned to Hong Kong, through the courtesy of Lugard's family descendants, on the 90th anniversary of the founding of the University of Hong Kong in 1911.

The story of the return of The Tribute to Hong Kong is one of extreme serendipity and chance encounters. It began in October 1999 when one of us (AJH) was invited to speak to the Aberdeen University Chinese Studies Group on the topic of the role which four of that University's graduates played in the founding of the Hong Kong College of Medicine for Chinese in 1887. Prompted by a discussion on health issues, a member of the Group, Mrs Priscilla Ramsey, described The Tribute, its present whereabouts and its connections with both an early 20th-century public health problem in Hong Kong and the founding of the University of Hong Kong.

The Tribute was in the family home of Major Richard Pinker, of Basted Chart in Kent, a great nephew of Sir Frederick Lugard. In February 2001, Major Pinker warmly welcomed a visitation from Hong Kong and displayed The Tribute in its casket, standing on the upstairs landing of his house, together with the gold blocked paper versions of the text in both English and Chinese. He recounted what is currently known about The Tribute's journey since it left Hong Kong at the end of Lugard's governorship in 1912.
Following his tenure as Governor-General of Nigeria from 1912 to 1919 during which time he achieved the complex and difficult task of unifying the north and south of the country, Lugard retired to his family home at Abinger in Surrey. His wife Flora (née Shaw) predeceased him in 1929 and Lugard had no children.

On Lugard’s death in 1945, it is likely that The Tribute passed directly to the Harrison sisters. Colonel John Harrison, an engineer, whose mother was a Lugard, married Miss Annie Florence Martin, maternal great aunt of Priscilla Ramsey. The Harrisons had a family of four renowned and musically gifted daughters, May, Beatrice, Monica and Margaret who were among the leading figures in the British and world musical scene in the first half of the 20th century.

Beatrice Harrison, celebrated cellist and one time custodian of The Tribute, on the cover of The Strad, which celebrated her centenary in December 1992 (Reproduced with permission)

Beatrice Harrison,著名大提琴家，曾經一度是“呈盧督頌詞”的保管人。The Strad雜誌以她為封面人物，慶祝她的一百歲冥壽。

The Harrisons were close associates of several famous composers including Frederick Delius and Sir Edward Elgar, and had several works dedicated to them. Beatrice Harrison, the most famous of the quartet, was the leading cellist of her time and a household name as a concert artist in the 1920s and 1930s. She was also Elgar’s most favoured interpreter of his cello concerto. Before one performance in Manchester, Elgar took hold of Beatrice and said: “Give it’em Beatrice; Give it’em. Don’t mind about the notes or anything – give’em the spirit.” The Harrison sisters, none of whom married, were the custodians of The Tribute for about ten years. Beatrice, who died in 1965, gave The Tribute to her younger cousin, Major Pinker and his family for safe-keeping around 1955.
The descendants of Sir Frederick Lugard, the Pinker and Blair families, have generously agreed to present The Tribute on permanent loan to the University of Hong Kong. Members of the family attended the presentation ceremony on Friday, December 14, 2001, and representing Major Richard Pinker, include (with their relationship to Sir Frederick Lugard):

Charles Pinker 先生 (曾侄孫子)
Mr Charles Pinker (great great nephew)

David Blair (Anne) 夫人 (曾侄孫女)
Mrs David Blair (Anne) (great great niece)

Alexandra Blair† 女士 (玄孫孫女)
Miss Alexandra Blair† (great great great niece)

Andrew Blair 先生 (玄孫孫子)
Mr Andrew Blair (great great great nephew)

Lugard in Hong Kong

Frederick John Daltry Lugard, Baron Lugard of Abinger, was born of missionary parents on January 22, 1858 at Fort St George, Madras, India. By the time he arrived as Governor of Hong Kong, his work and exploits in Africa on behalf of the British Army, the British East Africa Company, the Royal Niger Company and the Colonial Office were legendary. He was High Commissioner of Nigeria from 1900 to 1906. In 1902, he married Flora Shaw, herself a great traveller and writer and Colonial Editor of The Times of London until the end of the 19th century. Because of Flora’s health and her inability to be with him in his colonial posting, Lugard resigned his post and left Nigeria. However, he accepted the Governorship of Hong Kong in 1907.

Lugard as perceived by the cartoonist “Spy” in Vanity Fair’s “Men of the Day” series, December 19, 1895

The events which followed and Lugard’s role and achievements in the life of the Colony are mostly beyond the scope of this introduction to The Tribute. They would, however, include the opening of the Kowloon-Canton Railway and the foundation of The University of Hong Kong.

† Blair 女士是倫敦《泰晤士報》的助理外國編輯，承襲家族中盧爾德夫人 Flora 的新聞事業。

† Miss Blair, who is the assistant foreign editor of The Times of London, continues a family association with the newspaper begun by Flora Lugard.
盧押接受這份名為“呈盧督頌詞”禮物的時候，只是計劃離港請假，而並非任滿離職。我們不禁懷疑，這麼多人當時聚集在港督府內向盧押獻上這份禮物，到底是個一種難能可貴的安排。不過，從何澳對於盧押的讚詞、這份厚禮的精巧手藝以及送禮人士的陣容和顯赫社會地位來看，送禮人確對盧督表達真誠的欣賞與敬意，而不是純粹履行一項例行的公務儀式。

《中國郵報》的編輯於1910年4月29日報導說：

“我們藉著這個機會，並非誇大其詞，而是真心稱讚香港於過去三年，得到一位時刻以效率及鉅德無遺為大前題的行政官所治理。只要是有關本地福祉的事情，他都能本著這兩年大前題來辦事。

盧押爵士接任香港總督的重任時，正碰上極為困難的時刻，他要面對的問題比他幾個前任總督所遇到的更加棘手。

盧督對每一問題都能定下明確的目標，能掌握實際管治的工作細節，能運用他豐富的經驗去作出可以平衡各方的正確判斷。任何問題他都能迎刃而解，鉅德無遺，他就是本著這種精神來辦事，使本殖民地得以繼續繁榮下去。”

We might question whether or not the gathering at Government House for the presentation of The Tribute was a novel and truly unusual event, given that the Governor was only taking leave and not departing at the end of his tenure of office. However, the strength of the praise heaped on Lugard by Ho Kai, the beauty and craftsmanship of the gift and the number and social status of the donors would all seem to indicate a true sense of appreciation and respect rather than simply another civic duty duly and obsequiously performed.

The editor of The China Mail stated on April 29, 1910:

“It is not indulging in extravagant hyperbole if, in taking advantage of the present occasion, we say that Hong Kong has been governed during the past three years by an administrator who has kept ever before his eyes both Efficiency and Thoroughness in all that concerns the welfare of the Colony.

Taking up the burden of office at a time of great financial depression, Sir Frederick Lugard was confronted with much tougher questions than disturbed the leisureed ease of several of his predecessors.

To a rare tenacity of purpose and great grasp of administrative detail he has brought a peculiarly well balanced judgement and trained experience to bear on every question presented to him. No toil has been too hard, no detail too petty, so that the real interests of the Colony prospered.”

Lugard inspecting the guard of honour on arrival as Governor of Hong Kong on July 28, 1907.
1907年7月28日盧押到任時檢閱儀仗隊
1910年4月18日是一個典型的四月天，晴空，間中有雲，吹微風，氣溫華氏78度，溫度百分之八十。當日曾發生幾樁大事：每隔七十六年便來訪地球的哈雷彗星再次來臨，報導說“香港人可以在清晨時分用肉眼辨別到這次彗星。”今次的彗星“一如耶路撒冷淪陷時，Agrippa 死亡時和 Hastings 之戰發生時明亮和鼓舞人心。”另外，名作家馬克·吐溫 (Mark Twain) 去世。更有的是一位法國人成功以時速達33英哩而保持200英里的高度，從倫敦分段飛抵曼徹斯特，獲得了《每日郵報》指出的一萬英鎊獎金。

在總督府，由何啟和另一位立法局議員黃玉向盧督引見代表團成員。成員包括輔政司Henry May，撫問道A.W. Brewin，副官P.H. M. Taylor，劉添伯，伍漢涕，何福，何甘棠，Wong Leung-him(?)，Yeung Him-pong(?)，黃金福，曹喜允，沈德芬，馮華川，蔣家樂，李瑞琦，劉俊泉，梁培之，余道生，陳錦巖，李右泉，周少岐，胡薰初，Wo Tsai-yang(?)，盧冠廷，蕭達輝，岑伯銘，李榮光，陳雲鏽，黃文鴻，譚錦城，梁建安，陳憲慶，劉伯楨，招雨田，Chan Pak-ye(2)，胡鴻翔，姚鉅源，李偉葵，陳焯卿，Tsang Yik-kai(?)，陳洛川，Ho Mok-lok(?)。

盧督接受“呈盧督頌詞”和一本簽名紀念冊。紀念冊的封皮是一幅紅色摩洛哥皮革，封面以銀色印上他的名字，冊內印有頌詞的中文英文版本。

The Presentation of The Tribute

April 18, 1910 was a typical April day, fine but cloudy with a light breeze, temperature 78°F and humidity 80%. Contemporary events included the arrival of Halley's comet, in its 76-year orbit, which was “plainly discernible to the naked eye at Hong Kong during the early morning”. It promised to be “as brilliant and awe inspiring as it must have been at the times of the fall of Jerusalem, the death of Agrippa and the Battle of Hastings”. Mark Twain died, and a Frenchman won a £10,000 prize from the Daily Mail newspaper for flying in stages between London and Manchester at 200 feet and 33 miles per hour.

The deputation received at Government House was introduced by Dr Ho Kai with his fellow legislator Mr Wei Yuk. Those present included: the Hon. Sir Henry May (Colonial Secretary), the Hon. Mr. A.W. Brewin (Registrar General), Capt. P.H. M. Taylor (aide-de-camp), Messers Lau Chu-pak, Ng Hon-tsaz, Ho Fook, Ho Kom-long, Wong Leung-him, Yeung Him-pong, Wong Kun-fuk, S.W. Tso, Sin Tak-fun, Fung Wachun, Cheung Si-kai, Li Sui-kam, Lau Yuen-chuen, Leung Fui-chi, Yu To-shan, Chan Sik-lam, Li Yau-chun, Chau Siu-ki, Wo Wan-cho, Wo Tsai-yang, Lo Kun-ting, Siu Yim-fai, Sam Pak-ming, Li Wing-kwong, Chan Wan-sau, Mok Man-cheung, Tam Hok-po, Leung Kin-en, Chan Kang-yi, Lau Pun-chiu, Chiu Yee-ting, Chan Pak-yee, Wo Tsai-wan, Yu Ki-yun, Li Po-kwai, Chan Chuk-ting, Tsang Yik-kai, Chan Lok-chun, and Ho Mok-lok.

The Governor received The Tribute together with an album of red morocco leather, which bore his monogram in silver and contained the address in both Chinese and English.
當何致獻“呈盧督頌詞”和紀念冊時，
他說：

“總督閣下，本人今天承蒙幸，代表華人社區的領袖向閣下致送一份纏於織子上的頌詞，願閣下享我們的總督、管治人、朋友及顧問。這份頌詞是表達我們對閣下的高度尊重與關愛，本人懇請閣下能賞光接受這份頌詞。”

明顯地，“呈盧督頌詞”是過了規定時限才完成的，原來的計劃是於1910年3月16日完工。可是，廣州工匠製作這份精美工藝品的態度謹慎與顯然：

“總督閣下，我們原本計劃在香港大學奠基典禮完成後，隨即向您呈獻這份頌詞，可是功夫不夠，為了能把這份頌詞盡善盡美，我們多花了一點時間，力求把它做得更好，所以到今天才把它呈獻給您。”

何致的致詞毫不掩飾他對盧督的讚賞，但又不使人覺得言過其實：

“總督閣下，雖然你在本殖民地上任不足三年，可在短短的日子裡，藉著你的睿智和才幹，已取得了巨大的成就，與我們一起度過了最艱難的時刻，並成功地協助本殖民地重上繁榮興旺之路。”

香港大學的成立

在贈禮致詞中，香港大學的成立佔了很大篇幅：

“總督閣下，無人能及本地華人社區般欣賞你為本殖民地帶來的巨大裨益。我們對你的感激是雙重的。因為我們經歷了一段長時間的商業低潮，而你成功地使我們脫離困境。你有廣闊的胸襟，以無比的魄力和熱誠來創立

In presenting The Tribute and the album, Ho Kai said:

“May it please Your Excellency, on behalf of the leading members of the Chinese community, I have the honour to-day to present you with an address which has been embroidered on satin, and which I would ask you, sir, to do us the honour to graciously accept as a small token of the high esteem and affection we have for you as our Governor and ruler, as well as friend and counsellor.”

It was clear that the timescale for completion of The Tribute was behind schedule, as it had been the intention to have it completed on Wednesday 16 March, 1910. But the pace of the fine work carried out by the craftsmen in Canton dictated otherwise:

“It was our intention, sir, to present you with this address shortly after the laying of the foundation stone of the Hong Kong University, but time did not permit us, for we desired to present you with a work of art more worthy of your acceptance, and so we had perforce to wait for this occasion in order to allow us time to get the work properly executed.”

Ho Kai’s laudation was unstinting, without being in any way fulsome:

“Sir, it is scarcely three years since your arrival in this colony, but during this comparatively short period you have achieved much by your wise and able administration. You have seen us through a most trying time and succeeded in placing the colony once more on the high road to prosperity and success.”

The University

In the presentation address, the founding of The University of Hong Kong is given special prominence:

“No one, sir, appreciates more than the Chinese community the immense benefits which you have conferred upon this colony and they are doubly grateful to you, for though we have had a long commercial depression you have succeeded by your broadmindedness and by your incomparable energy and enthusiasm in founding the Hong Kong University. The vast benefits conferred by such an institution on the colony as a whole, but more especially upon the Chinese, whether resident in this colony or throughout China, are incomparable, and we thank you, sir, most cordially and most gratefully for such a boon. I am sure, sir, future generations will cherish your memory and thank
The Disposal of the Dead

In the text of the scroll, however, this pressing community issue received first mention:

"Your earnest attention has been devoted to everything that would promote the welfare of the people and the comfort of those who have gathered here from afar. More especially has every movement for the benefit of the Chinese received your heartiest support? Not once have your actions failed to call forth the public praise. Your Excellency was moved with great sorrow at the frequency with which bodies have been thrown out into the street in Hongkong, and with the determination of taking measures to stamp the practice out, you consulted the Public Dispensary Committee as to the best means of your purpose; and now there is hardly a trace left of the evil practice. The sanitary laws are made to preserve the public health, but the Chinese have always feared their strictness. Since Your Excellency took up office a compromise has been effected in the administration of the laws while at the same time to the gratification of all classes better results have been achieved."
處理屍體是市政衛生和社區的一個重大議題。很明顯，是嚴重問題的內文亦提出這點，這表示處理這個極具爭議的難題，確切地擔當了重要的角色。

多年以來，屍體被棄置街頭、垃圾站或海港是很普遍的現象，政府曾經盡辦法阻止，但都徒勞無功。最初曾懷疑市民把屍體棄置的原因除了是為了穢比賽，後來已證明不確，主要是因為害怕政府人員到家裡進行消毒。

前往總督府的代表團其中一位成員劉鍾伯，曾於1907年12月24日舉行的衛生局會議上朗讀一些來信的報告，當中內容可以反映當時的華人心聲：

“毫無疑問，疫症病人得到適當的隔離是最好的處理手法，然而實際上卻行不通。除非病人已經到了相當程度的地步，華人根本不想與生病的親人分開，傳統認為這才合乎人性，夫婦和母子之間的情況更應特別注意。據我們所知，華人為了避免受難，寧可把生病的親人隱藏起來，直到死亡一刻，然後才把死者堆放進箱子裡，平添屋裡的其他住客不少麻煩，從不肯守法去合法處理屍體。有見及此，政府應採取更妥當的措施，讓華人可以選擇在家裡照護生病的親人，或者把死者送到某些地方，讓親友可以經常到那裡照顧和安慰。這樣才可保養每間受病人感染的房屋都得到消毒，在適當的監管下，每個疫症患者都獲得治療。事實證明，強制性把病人隔離的是行不通的，現在必須開始嘗試新辦法了。”

早期，政府解決棄置屍體的措施，只是頒布法令，鼓勵市民把死妻交給醫局，但不查究，並可獲一元酬金！政府會委任街坊委員會，至於協調工作及經費事項，則委托東華醫院的總理辦理。

That the problems with disposal of the dead should have been regarded as an important issue of municipal hygiene and community concern is not surprising. But for it to have been incorporated in the rich embroidery of the text of *The Tribute* to Lugard is a signal that he had played an important role in resolving a highly sensitive conflict.

For some years the custom of abandoning corpses in the streets, waste places or the harbour had been rife and all efforts to put a stop to it had been ineffective. Suspicions that the practice was the result of infanticide were disproved and the main reason identified was fear of disinfection of households by the foremen and coolies of the authorities.

An indication of what the Chinese community wanted is provided by the report of letters from Mr Lau Chuk-pak (a member of the deputation at Government House), read at a meeting of the Sanitary Board on Tuesday 24 December, 1907:

“It is, no doubt, advisable to have every plague patient properly isolated, but I fail to see how this can be done in practice, as the Chinese do not like to part with their sick, until there is no hope of saving them, and it is only human nature, especially in the cases of husband and wife, and mother and child, that they should do so. It has been amply known from experience that the Chinese rather conceal their sick until the last moment, and dump their dead in places, where their fellow lodgers would be involved in trouble, in order to avoid detection, than to submit to forcible removal. Would it not, therefore, be better to allow them the option of treating their sick in their own houses, or in some places, where the relatives can tend their sick or soothe the mind of their sick by being present oftener, thus ensuring the disinfection of every infected building and placing every plague patient under proper surveillance. The by-law as to isolation has proved to be a failure; it is time that some new scheme should be tried.”

In an early step towards resolving the problem, it was decreed that infant corpses could be brought to dispensaries, no questions asked and a $1 reward given! Street Committees were appointed and coordination and funding entrusted to the Directors of the Tung Wah Hospital.
Lugard’s Response to *The Tribute*

Lugard must have felt delighted and encouraged by this display of affection. His warm appreciation was strongly reflected in his response, reported in the *South China Morning Post:*

"Dr. Ho Kai and gentlemen, it gives me the very greatest pleasure that I can possibly express to receive this most beautiful address from your hands, and it will give the very greatest pleasure to my wife, to whom you have made such very kind allusions, both in the address and in the words of Dr. Ho Kai. It is usual for such presentations to be made at the time when the Governor severs his connection finally from the colony. In my case I am only leaving you for a short time and I hope to be back early in November. You have alluded in this address to most of the things which have had my earnest consideration during the past few years, more particularly with regard to the sanitary laws, and you have thanked me for the efforts I have made to remove preexisting conditions.

Gentlemen, in this matter, it is I who ought to thank you, who are tendering thanks. My endeavours have simply been directed towards enlisting your co-operation, and towards inviting your efforts to support the Government to teach the people what is best for their welfare, and how such measures as are necessary both to preserve life and to ameliorate the conditions of the poor can be best carried out without causing inconvenience to themselves, or I should say, so as to cause the least possible inconvenience to the people themselves. You have come forward in answer to that appeal in a manner which has filled me with encouragement and admiration by providing dispensaries and buildings and hospitals, and by engaging lecturers to teach the people.

You have co-operated with the Government and have succeeded largely in instilling confidence and in checking disease and in benefitting the poor people. For this co-operation, gentlemen, in which I include the assistance of the Registrar General, who has won the confidence of you all, and whose influence with you has been the main factor in the success, for this co-operation I say I thank you heartily, and I look forward, on my return to the colony, to its continuance. You have also alluded to the subject of education, a matter in which I take the very deepest interest, not only as regards the University but also as regards the education given in all our schools throughout the colony. I hope the steps taken, and which will be brought into operation without delay, will be effective in decreasing the overcrowding in our schools, in..."
向你們致謝，同時亦期望在我回來之後，大家的共同合作可以繼續下去。你們也提及教育問題，亦是我十分關心的問題。我關心的不僅是大學教育，還有整個殖民地範圍內全部學校的教育。我希望最近構想的步驟能如期實行，能有效地減低各學校目前的困難和增加教師的數目，從而提高教育質量，並提供更多獎學金，使家境貧困的孩子能與富裕子弟一樣，從教育中得益。

至於我們的大學，得到華商與位於太古的大商號的慷慨捐助，經濟上已足夠設立三間學院。我希望在大學建築物落成和學生入學以前，我們可以籌得更多款項，能把學院數目增加一倍，並為各學院設立教授職位。鼓掌聲剛才何啟博士說，希望我在英國時能為大學的捐助事宜做點事，我當然會盡力而為。鼓掌聲為大學取得捐贈，也是這裡各位要面對的一項事情，我亦放心把它交托給你們去辦。因我知你們對此都十分熱心，而且已有華人慷慨解囊。我相信我多花荷包，本人對興建大學的熱誠，已是眾所周知的。各位先生，對於你們所表達的心意和送給我的禮物，我誠懇而高興地向你們致謝。現在，我要和你們說再見了。不過，我很快便會回來重覲我們的友誼。我在此祝願，在我離開的一段短日子裡，本地各界欣欣向榮，公眾衛生環境良好，貿易低沉音段落，百業興旺，一切繁榮昌盛。我的妻子極盼能早日返港，希望到時我能如康泰地回來，和你們見面。"

increasing the teaching staff so that the education will be better; and in providing an increased number of scholarships so that the children of the poor may reap the benefit of our education equally with the children of the well-to-do class.

As regards the University we have, by the generosity of the Chinese, and by the generosity of a great firm at Taikoo, succeeded in getting sufficient funds to establish three faculties. I hope before the University buildings are finished and the doors opened to students that we may double the number of faculties for which we are providing chairs in the University, with, of course, a corresponding increase in the amount of the endowment. (Applause). Dr. Ho Kai has said he hopes I shall be able to do something in England to raise subscriptions for the University. Well, I shall do my best. (Applause). At the same time it is a matter which primarily affects us out here, and a matter which I can leave with confidence in your hands, because I know all your people are interested in it and I have had examples of Chinese generosity. I need not say how personally keenly I am interested in the project. That is already well known. Gentlemen, I thank you most cordially and heartily for the kind sentiments which you, sir, have expressed, and for the address you presented to me. I say good-bye now, only for a short time, and hope soon to be back again, and to renew my friendships here, and during my short absence I trust that the colony may in every way prosper, that the health of the colony during this summer will be good, that the trade depression will cease and that with increased trade you may have increased prosperity and that I shall return in good health to you and with my wife, Lady Lugard, who is most anxious to return to Hongkong."
The Tribute

The centre piece of the satin scroll, framed by a gold border, is the text of the message to Lugard and a list of the 87 donors who contributed to the cost of producing The Tribute. Many are well known, others less so. The positions or affiliations of all but two of these 87 donors have been identified.

Fifty two donors to The Tribute were also members of The Hong Kong University Chinese Fund-Raising Sub-Committee, and 53 of them made personal contributions of between $100 and $50,000 to the Hong Kong University Endowment Fund. Among the major benefactors were: Ho Fook ($1,000) and Chiu Yee-ting ($10,000), who were respectively President and Director of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce in 1913; Chan Chik-yue and Chan Kang-yi ($2,000 each), compradors of the Douglas Lapraik Steamship Company and who were respectively Treasurer and Vice-Chairman of the University Chinese Fund-Raising Sub-Committee; and Ng Li-hing ($50,000), leader of the Fukiense business community in Hong Kong.

The Tribute as found in 2001 appears to be complete and nearly in as pristine condition in all aspects, as it was on April 28, 1910.

Ng Li-hing, donor of $50,000 to the Hong Kong University Endowment Fund

吳理璧捐贈 50,000 元予香港大學作常年基金。
Silver hanging brackets in the form of bats
蝙蝠形鉤掛鉤

Carved designs on the red sandalwood casket
紅色欞香木製匣子的雕刻圖案

The inscription Tak Yau Hai Gong (de yin xiang jiang) on the lid of the casket
匣子蓋的外側刻上“德義香江”字樣

Detail of the painted silk lining of the casket lid
匣子 внутри покрыта гобеленом

The casket and scroll
匣子與卷軸

The scroll with embroidered characters
卷軸上的刺繡字

The peacocks
孔雀

The deer
鹿
All of the features of the embroidered scroll and its casket are well recognized symbols and emblems of legendary tales, supernatural and propitious signs (Box). Unfurled, the satin scroll hangs by two ornate silver brackets in the form of bats, an emblem of happiness and longevity and signifying good luck.

The foot of the scroll is wrapped around an ivory roller with ornately carved end pieces. Wound on to its roller, the scroll sits in a red sandal wood casket which is almost entirely covered with intricate carved designs including plants, flowers, snakes, birds and other animals. There are few unoccupied spaces on either the casket or the scroll.

The lid of the casket is embellished with four Chinese characters Tak Yam Heung Gong (de yin xiang jiang), meaning “Virtue shadow over Hong Kong”. In the centre of the lid appears a silver monogram of Lugard’s initials. On the underside of the lid is a painting on silk depicting a classical scene.

All of the embroidered characters appear in dark blue silk except for the salutation and the valediction “Respectfully Yours”, which symbolically is in red signifying truth and sincerity.

Outside of the gold framed text appears a stunning array of linked images of many different types of fauna and flora. At the top, ringed by bamboo shoots, peonies, roses, butterflies and birds are a magnificent pair of peacocks. The cock is displaying for the benefit of the hen. The borders of the rest of the frame carry a profusion of bamboo, peony, butterflies and birds together with a pair of deer.

卷軸末端包著一塊用象牙所雕的底端，底端兩端有附件，上雕裝飾。卷軸繞著捲筒捲起後，放入一個用暗紅色檀香木做的匣子。匣子表面幾乎全部刻上繁複的圖案，當中有植物，花卉，蛇，雀鳥及其他動物。不論是匣子還是卷軸，沒有地方是留空的。

匣子的蓋面刻有四個漢字“德裕香江”，意思是“以德行護護香港”。中央用銀色中出了盧按名字的英語縮寫，蓋的內面是一幅用絲織成的畫，描述中國古代的情景。

卷軸上所有文字都用深藍色的絲綢繡出，只有開首的招呼語及最後的告別詞“恭頌”才用紅色，代表真摯與誠懇。

卷軸內文由一個金色的外框包圍著，框外是一系列使人目睽的交織圖案，包括各種動物。在軸的頂部，一雙孔雀的四圍圈著竹節，牡丹，玫瑰，蝴蝶和雀鳥等圖案，雄孔雀正為雌孔雀開屏。框的其他三邊滿佈竹，牡丹，蝴蝶和雀鳥，還有一對鹿。
Bamboo : Evergreen and flourishes throughout the winter; an emblem of longevity owing to its durability.

Bat : An emblem of happiness and longevity. In the Chinese Herbal, the caverns of the hills hold 1000 year old bats as white as silver which, if eaten, will ensure longevity and good sight. Homonym for fuk (fu) meaning good luck and blessings.

Butterfly : A favourite theme for embroidery; an emblem of joy and conjugal felicity – the Chinese Cupid.

Chrysanthemum : Blooms in the autumn when all the other flowers have withered. Can withstand chilly weather and the autumn wind.

Deer : Believed to be a very great age emblem of long life. The only animal which is able to find the fungus of immortality. Homonym for luk (luk) meaning prosperity.

Dragon : The Eastern dragon is the genius of strength and goodness; one of the four intelligent creatures; emblem of vigilance and safeguard; a feature of the coat of arms of colonial Hong Kong.

Kingfisher : Halcyon smyrnensis: fabled by the ancients to build its nest on the surface of the sea and to calm the troubled waves, during its incubation period; hence the phrase ‘halcyon days’.

Ling Zhi : An immortal plant; brings immortality to those who eat it.

Lion : Master of the feline race; an emblem of valour and energy; a feature of the coat of arms of colonial Hong Kong.

Lotus : A symbol of purity and perfection.

Magnolia : A flower that welcomes the spring.
孔雀 : An emblem of beauty, sometimes used in place of the phoenix. The phoenix's appearance in Chinese history is common and “is sure to glorify a peaceful reign or flatter a successful ruler”. The peacock's feather decoration was granted for meritorious services and contributions to charity. The feathers had 3, 2 or 1 "eye" according to the grade conferred.

Peony : Flower of riches and honour; emblem of love and affection; omen of good fortune.

Plum blossom : Purity, nobility, constancy, modesty.

Silk : The silkworm is an emblem of industry and its product is symbolic of delicate purity and virtue.

Silver : Brightness and purity; a measure of value.

Vine and grapes : Symbolises abundant harvest of all food crops.

Fuk (fu) : Luck; Luk (lu) : Prosperity; Sau (shou) : Longevity

Bibliography


The Tribute and
the Founding of The University of Hong Kong

The Chinese believed that they would be the chief beneficiaries of the new University. That explains why they were ardent supporters of the University scheme, despite their lack of familiarity with or want of concern for British Imperial ideals.

The founding of the University was the expression of an idea that transcended parochial bounds. It also represented the fulfillment of an impossible dream.

The University owed its existence both to Lugard’s tenacity of purpose and importantly to the munificence of those who wished to see his project succeed, irrespective of race, creed, or political belief. The most important of these was the prominent Parsee merchant Hormusjee Navrojee Mody, knighted by Lugard at the foundation stone laying ceremony. Lugard, Mody, Ho Kai, Ng Li-hing and other Chinese supporters of the scheme were strange bedfellows. Yet comradeship was nurtured through their concerted efforts to realize what they deemed to be a worthy cause. In this regard, the founding of the University of Hong Kong demonstrated the triumph of grand ideals and good, practical common sense.

The Tribute is a tangible legacy of that enterprising and exciting period at the beginning of the last century.

"呈盧督頌詞"
與香港大學的成立

當時香港的華人相信自己將是大學的主要受益人。這解釋了縱使他們對大英帝國的理想並不熟知，或者毫不關注，仍熱烈支持籌辦大學的計劃。

大學的成立，標誌著一種可以超越所有侷限和限制的意念，也代表著一個難以成真的夢想終於成為事實。

香港大學能夠成立，盧督與一眾捐助者功不可沒。盧督堅韌不拔，而各捐助者即使種族、信仰或所持政見不一樣，卻一律慷慨捐助，全數盧督建校計劃成功。其中佼佼者是拜火教商人麥地（Hormusjee Navrojee Mody）。他在大學奠基典禮上獲盧督封為爵士。所有支持成立大學的人士，包括盧督、麥地、何賀、吳理卿和其他華人，是一伙前所未有的組合。當他們面對一個共同認為值得實現的目標時，便群策群力，結果是夢想成真。從這個角度來看，香港大學的成立，證明了崇高的理想和實事求是的態度必能克服一切困難。

上世紀初是一個風起雲涌的時代。 “呈盧督頌詞” 是這個時代留下來的一份實質遺產。

The University of Hong Kong
為昭顯公，生於一九三一年四月吉日。
Translation of the Chinese Address presented to His Excellency the Governor, Sir Frederick John DeALrty Lugard, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.P., by the representatives of the Chinese Community.

On a lucky day in April of the year 1910 on the occasion of your Excellency’s returning to your ancestral home on a holiday of six months we Chinese representatives of all classes of the community take the opportunity of your departure to present you with a respectful address in token of our esteem.

More than once have the stars and the hoar-frosts returned in their course since Your Excellency came to Hongkong: the benevolence and clemency of your virtuous administration is in the mouth of every passer-by in the streets. Your earnest attention has been devoted to everything that would promote the welfare of the people and the comfort of those who have gathered here from afar. More especially has every movement for the benefit of the Chinese received your heartiest support. Not once have your actions failed to call forth the public praise. Your Excellency was moved with great sorrow at the frequency with which bodies have been thrown out into the street in Hongkong, and with the determination of taking measures to stamp the practice out, you consulted the Public Dispersaries Committee as to the best means of effecting your purpose; and now there is hardly a trace left of the evil practice. The Sanitary laws are made to preserve the public health, but the Chinese have always feared their strictness. Since Your Excellency took up office a compromise has been effected in the administration of the laws while at the same time to the gratification of all classes better results have been achieved.

It is education which moulds and forms men’s talents. China is now intent on reform and for this purpose education is the most urgent need. But in few of the provinces is there a University and hence the young men who have the aspirations of a scholar and seek a higher education, much against the wishes of their father their brothers and their elders, have to carry their books and luggage across many an ocean in search of a teacher.
Since Your Excellency came to give peace to this state, all the business of administration has been carried on by you with success, but you have regarded the development of education and the encouragement of talent as your most important duty, and all your energies and faculties have been devoted to the establishment of a University. Now the foundation stone has been duly laid and the magnificent project is on the way to realization. We feel confident that in the future the result of the education given in the University will fulfill all expectations.

Your Excellency's kindness will remain a lasting and grateful memory in the hearts of the Chinese. On your departure therefore we beg to present you with this address, and unite in a prayer that your journey will be made under a lucky star, that you may reach your country in safety and prosper in everything you undertake and that you may spend your holiday in happiness in the society of Her Excellency Lady Lugard, our admiration of whose virtues we pray you to convey to her. We trust that you will remember this Colony in your heart and return soon that we may look again upon the dignity of your countenance and hearken to the grace of your commands.

This is our earnest prayer.

Dated Hongkong the 28th day of April, 1910.