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The Lugard Tribute

呈盧督頌詞

香港大學美術博物館
University Museum and Art Gallery
The University of Hong Kong
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The Lugard Tribute

呈盧督敬詞

Anthony J. Hedley 賀達理
Department of Community Medicine 社會醫學系

Alfred H. Y. Lin 連浩鎔
Department of History 歷史系

香港大學美術博物館
University Museum and Art Gallery, The University of Hong Kong
The Lugard Tribute

Presents the Tribute

Anthony J. Hedley 費達理
Department of Community Medicine 社會醫學系

Alfred H. Y. Lin 劉浩聲
Department of History 歷史系

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 Brasted 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.

Major Richard Pinker at home with The Lugard Tribute in Brasted Chart, Kent

The Lugard Tribute in Brasted Chart, Kent

Major Richard Pinker at home with The Lugard Tribute, Brasted Chart, Kent
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“呈獻頌詞”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 concertos. 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.
平克和布來爾（Blair）的家庭成員亦不考慮為盧押
的後代，均謹慎同意把“盧押督府詞”永久
借給香港大學。以下的兩家成員將於
2001年12月14日代表平克少校出席典禮
(與盧押的關係):

Charles Pinker 先生 (曾侄孫子)
David Blair（Anne）夫人 (曾孫孫女)
Alexandra Blair\textsuperscript{1} 女士 (玄孫孫女)
Andrew Blair 先生 (玄孫孫子)

Mr Charles Pinker (great great nephew)
Mrs David Blair (Anne) (great great niece)
Miss Alexandra Blair\textsuperscript{1} (great great great niece)
Mr Andrew Blair (great great great nephew)

盧押在香港

盧押獲封男爵，1858年1月22日在印度
(Fort St George, Madras) 出生。父母都是傳
教士。他出任香港總督一職前，擔任英國
軍方、英國東非公司、Royal Niger
Company 及殖民地部門在非
洲的開發工作。成績早已傳
獲一身。自1900到1906年，
他出任尼日利亞高級專員，
並於1902年與 Flora Shaw 結
為夫妻。Flora是一位出色的
旅行家及作家，曾任職倫敦
《泰晤士報》。她最後擔任
《泰晤士報》殖民地版的編
輯，直至十九世紀末為止。
由於 Flora的健康出了問題，
沒法陪伴盧押出任殖民地官
一職，因此盧押辭掉尼日利
亞高級專員的工作，離開當地。
並於1907年接受任命為
香港總督。

盧押在香港的工作及功績並
不屬於本文介紹的範圍。不
過，值得一提的是九廣鐵路
通車和香港大學的成立，都是他任內發生
的事。

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 attending the presentation ceremony on Friday December 14, 2001, and representing Major Richard Pinker, include (with their relationship to Sir Frederick Lugard):

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.

\footnote{Blair 女士是倫敦《泰晤士報》的助理編輯，
承認了家族中盧押夫人 Flora 的新聞事業。}

\footnote{Miss Blair, who is the assistant foreign editor of The Times of London, continues a family association with the newspaper begun by Flora Lugard.}

Lugard in Hong Kong

Frederick John Dealtry 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

插畫家“Spy”描繪小説《浮華世界》中的盧押
刊於1895年12月19日出版的《當代風雲人物
系列》。
盧押接受這份名為“呈呈敬拜詞”禮物的時代，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，到底是是否一種新知和不尋常的安排。不過，從何款對盧押的禮物，這份厚禮的精巧手藝，以及送禮人的陣容和顯赫社會地位來看，送禮人的確對盧押表達真心的欣賞與敬意，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日報告說：

“我們藉著這個機會，並非誇大地說，而是真心稱道香港於過去三年，得到一位時刻以效率及勤勉無遺為大前題的行政官吏治理。只要有賴本地人士的成熟，他都能本著這兩個大前題來辦事。

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年前總督所遇到的更加棘手。

盧押對每一問題都能定下明確的目標，能掌握實際管理的工作細節，能運用自己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，勤奮無遺，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 of 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
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), Messrs Lau Chu-pak, Ng Hon-tszz, Ho Fook, Ho Kom-tong, Wong Leung-him, Yeung Him-pong, Wong Kum-fuk, S.W. Tso, Sin Tak-fun, Fung Wachun, Cheung Si-kai, Li Sui-kam, Lau Yuen-chun, Leung Fui-chi, Yu To-shan, Chan Sik-lam, Li Yau-chun, Chau Siu-ki, Wo Wan-cho, Wo Tsai-ying, 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, Yiu Ki-yun, Li Po-kwai, Chan Shu-bing, 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.

Dr Ho Kai, CMG; Legislative Council member (1880-1914); founder of the Alice Memorial Hospital (1886) and co-founder of the Hong Kong College of Medicine for Chinese (1887).

何啟，立法局成員 (1880-1914)，愛麗絲醫院的創立人 (1886 年)，香港醫學會創立會的創立人 (1887 年)。
當何啟呈獻“呈盧督頌詞”和紀念冊時，
他說：

“總督閣下，本人今天非常榮幸，代表華人社區的領袖向閣下呈獻一份極
於敬意的頌詞。頌詞是我們的總
督、管治人、朋友及顧問。這份頌
c詞是一份微小的心意，代表我們對閣
下的高度尊崇與關愛。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，原来的計劃是於1910年3月16
日完工。可是，廣州工匠製作這份精巧工
藝品的進度淨事與願違：

“總督閣下，我們原計計劃在香港大
學奠基典禮完成後，隨即陪你呈獻這
份頌詞，可是功夫趕不及，為了能送
你一份值得擁有藝術品，我們多花
了一點時間，務求把它做得更好，
所以到今天才把它呈獻給你。”

何啟的致詞毫不掩飾對總督的讚賞，但
又不使人覺得言過其實：

“總督閣下，雖然你在本殖民地任
滿三年，可在短短的日子裡，藉
著你的睿智和才幹，已取得很大的成
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

在敬禮致詞中，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神
益。我們對你的感激是雙重的，因為
我們經歷了一段長期的商業低潮，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 Hongkong 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 perchance 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 Hongkong 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
香港大學。所以遊箋者也。中國現方學士，講學尤為當務之急，惟現在各省，大有大學之設，青年有志者，求正於學，貢於學，或聲譽，或名譽，於學，也豈不願為大學之士哉？

巻首內文亦提及當督對香港教育的貢獻：

“教育者，所以陶鑄人才者也，中國現方務，講學尤為當務之急，惟現在各省，大有大學之設，青年有志者，求正於學，貢於學，或聲譽，或名譽，於學，也豈不願為大學之士哉？”

“公來漢是邦努力，政均已具舉，而尤以學為才，唯一之首務，學會如神，菩薩如大，今奠基禮成，佛與財出，他日得英才而教育之，收效定臻美滿也。”

屍體處理問題

不過，巻首內文首先提及的，是處理屍體這個嚴重的社會問題：

“公……忠臣仁恩，口碑載道，其所以擒賊百難，安集遠人，至為懽愉。而於我華人公益善舉，尤為盡力贊勵，所不令人稱道。如港中棄屍之事，聞者，數見不鮮。公用股憂，力謀革革，乃與公立醫院妥協辦法，棄屍之肇事，幾絳跡滅。清淨之風，原為公眾衛生意見也，華人則向苦其擾。公蓋任後，於清淨則與律難辦理，而收效日皎南光，四方便之。”

you as gratefully and cordially as we do now. We hope, sir, when you get to England, you will be able to represent our needs to the large hearted and philanthropic people of Great Britain and Ireland, and be enabled thereby to get further donations, much needed, for our University and its endowment fund.”

The text of the scroll adds to this theme:

“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 realisation. We feel confident that in the future the result of the education given in the University will fulfil all expectations.”

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 Dispensaries 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.”
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 Chu-pak\(^2\) (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 cases, 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 bye-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.

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1. "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。除非病人已到了藥石無靈的地步，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該關注。根據我們所見，華人為了避免受查，寧可把生病的親人隱藏起來，直至死前一刻，然後才把死者堆放進箱子裡，平添這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，政府當採取更妥善的措施，讓華人可以選擇在家裡照料生病的親人，或者把死者送到某些地方，讓親友可以經常到那裡照看和安慰。這樣才可保護每間受細菌感染的房屋都得到消毒，在適當的監管下，每個疫症患者都得到治療。事實證明，強制性把病者隔離是行不通的，現在必須開啓嘗試新辦法了。"

2. Founder and Chief President of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce in 1913; Unofficial Member of the Legislative Council (1913-22) and Director of the Po Leung Kuk.
盧戴對獲贈紀念禮物的回應

面對這份蘊含心意的禮物，盧戴確實感到高興和鼓舞。他接受禮物後演講中，內容足以反映他對禮物十分激賞。《南華早報》刊載了他的演說：

“何啟博士，各位先生，我感到非常高興，能從你們手中接過這篇最美麗的頌詞；我亦替我的妻子感到高興，因為你們在頌詞中，還有何啟博士在他的講話中，都對她表示讚揚。當總督最終要離開他和殖民地的聯繫時，今天的送贈儀式可說是很平常的。我只不過是離開你們一段很短的時間，希望能再11月初便回來。在過去數年，我致力處理的事情，都忠於遵守這篇頌詞。我希望你們能做好工作，為我將要離去的時間努力解決一些存在的問題。”

各位先生，你們在我工作期間向我道謝，其實，我應該為你們道謝才對。我所做的，無非是獲得你們的合作，並邀請你們支持政府去教育市民，讓他們知道甚麼是對他們最好的。使他們明白政府採取的措施，是要保障窮人的生命安全和改善他們的生活，有效推行措施，並不會為市民帶來不便。或者，我應該這樣說，在這些措施下，市民只有極少的不便。你們回應我的呼籲而設立醫局、興建醫院和捐贈建築物，以及動員學者去教育市民，我非常感激，亦使我深受鼓舞。

盧戴的回應

盧戴於1931年在《The Tribute》一文中，回應對方的感謝，並提到他的回憶和對香港的貢獻。

“Dr. Ho Kai and gentlemen, it gives me the very greatest pleasure that I can positively 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
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 Laprak 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 Fujianese 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.

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Ng Li-hing, donor of $50,000 to the Hong Kong University Endowment Fund.
Silver hanging brackets in the form of bats
蝙蝠形銀掛鈎

Carved designs on the red sandalwood casket
紅砂石香木製匣子的雕刻圖案

The inscription *Tak Yum Heung Gong* (de yin xiang jiang) on the lid of the casket
匣子蓋的外側刻上“德彥香江”字樣

Detail of the painted silk lining of the casket lid
匣子蓋內的塗描畫錦

The casket and scroll
匣子與卷軸

The scroll with embroidered characters
卷軸上的刺繡字體

The peacocks
孔雀

The deer
鹿
所有繡在卷軸及匣子上的圖案和象徵符號都清晰可辨，當中包括傳說的動物、超自然或寓意吉祥的圖案（箱子）。攤開的卷軸可掛在兩隻鶴駕上，帶裝飾的銀銅上。鶴象徵幸福與長壽，寓意“好運”

卷軸末端包裹著一根用象牙做的錦筒，錦筒兩端有附件，上雕裝飾，捲軸繃著漆筒捲起後，放入一個用緋紅色檀香木做成的匣子。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“德隆香江”，意思是“以德行護護香港”。中央用銀色錦銅印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織錦出，只有開首的招呼語及最後的告別詞“恭順”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，框外是一系列讓人目眩的交織圖案，包括各種動物。在草的頭部，一隻孔雀的四周圍著竹筍、牡丹、玫瑰、蝴蝶和雀鳥等圖案，雄孔雀正為雌孔雀開屏。框的其他三邊繡有竹、牡丹、蝴蝶和雀鳥，還有一對鹿。

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 sandalwood 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.
“呈獻頌詞”的中國象徵圖案

竹 : 在冬天仍然生長茂盛的長青植物，因能耐寒而象徵長壽。

蝙蝠 : 象徵幸福與長壽。據中草藥書記載，深山洞穴內住著千年蝙蝠，色白如銀，吃它的肉可得長壽和良好視力。

蝴蝶 : 饋繭品中常見的圖案，象徵歡樂與愛情，是中國的愛神丘比特。

菊花 : 當其他花朵在秋天凋謝時，獨有菊花仍然盛開，耐冷而不懼秋風。

鹿 : 象徵長壽，因為人們相信鹿的壽命極長，是唯一可以找到靈芝的動物。

龍 : 東方的龍是四種有智慧的生物之一，是天才、力量和德行的化身，象徵警惕和守護，也用在殖民地時期的香港徽號。

翠雀 : 學名 *Halcyon smyrnensis*。根據古代傳說，為了使海面恢復平靜，它於孵蛋期間在海面築巢，寓意“太平盛世”。

靈芝 : 吃了可得長壽的植物。

獅子 : 獸科動物之首，象徵勇氣與力量，也用在殖民地時期的香港徽號。

蓮花 : 象徵純潔與完美。

木蘭花 : 迎接春天的花朵。

駝鴨 : 象徵夫妻幸福與愛情。

Chinese symbolism in *The Tribute*

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* (*lu*) 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.

Mandarin duck : Symbol of a happy couple and conjugal fidelity.
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.

The University of Hong Kong
Translation of the Chinese Address presented to His Excellency the Governor, Sir Frederick John Dalrymple 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 Dispensaries 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 facilities 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.