

In the Footprints of the Dragon : A Study Tour on the Silk Road

Report on

Dragon 100 Young Chinese Leaders Forum 2006



Dragon 100 Young Chinese Leaders Forum 2006 Opening Ceremony

The Programme

The **Dragon 100 Young Chinese Leaders Forum 2006** was held from 22-30 August. The programme provided a platform for young leaders of Chinese origin from around the world to meet and explore issues of Chinese culture, heritage and tradition and discuss issues of global concern. It aimed to strengthen a sense of Chinese identity among these future leaders, creating synergy by building a network between the 100 participants.

The theme was **In the Footprints of the Dragon: a Study Tour on the Silk Road**. It comprised a three-day programme in Hong Kong and a five-day study trip to Xi'an. Participants from 12 locations, aged between 18 and 35, had already demonstrated leadership skills, academic prowess and a commitment to the community. By meeting on the programme they could exchange ideas and share experiences. Learning about each other's diverse backgrounds, they developed friendships and offered each other support, becoming partners for a future when they can work together to improve their communities and promote Chinese culture and heritage.

HONG KONG

22-25 August

Ceremony and Plenary Session

Commissioning Ceremony (23 August)

Mrs Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor, JP, Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs, the HKSAR Government, Mr Xie Xiaoyan, Deputy Commissioner, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of The People's Republic of China in the HKSAR were Guests of Honour at the ceremony.



Chairman of The Dragon Foundation,
The Hon. Sir T. L. Yang, GBM, JP meeting participants



Opening Ceremony



Guest of Honour, Mrs Carrie Lam meets a participant,
Zhao Yun-peng



Sir T. L. Yang presenting a souvenir to Mrs. Carrie Lam



Director of The Dragon Foundation, Ms Shelley Lee presenting a
souvenir to the Plenary Session Guest Speaker,
Professor Chang Hsin-kang

Ceremony Pleasure Session



Director of The Dragon Foundation, Dr. Rosanna Wong with the Guest of Honour and the Consul-General of New Zealand and youth participants



Ex-officio Director of The Dragon Foundation, Mr. Philip Kan meeting with participants



Mr. Julian Ludbrook, Consul-General of New Zealand, meets a participant from New Zealand



Dr. Rosanna Wong speaking from the podium, about the valuable "Dragon 100" programme experience to come



Mr. Xie Xiaoyan addressing the audience

Plenary Session (23 August)

1. Globalization - A Challenge to Culture and Heritage

Professor Chang Hsin-kang, GBS, JP, Legion d'Honneur, FREng
 President, City University of Hong Kong
 Director, The Dragon Foundation

2. Preservation and Promotion of Hong Kong's Cultural Relics

Dr. Joseph Ting Sun-pao
 Chief Curator of the Hong Kong Museum of History



Plenary Guest Speakers Professor Chang, Dr. Joseph Ting and Moderator, Mr. Philip Kan



Participants speak up during the Question and Answer Session

Talks and Lectures

1. How to Conserve Heritage and Antiquities in the City Redevelopment of Hong Kong

Mr. Edward Ho Sing-tin, SBS, JP
 Chairman, Antiquities Advisory Board



2. An Introduction to Archaeology in Hong Kong

Mrs. Ada Yau
 Curator (Education and Publicity), Antiquities and Monuments Office



Participants learn about the balance between conserving heritage and city redevelopment in Hong Kong

Visits and Heritage Tours

Participants learn about Hong Kong history and the conservation of cultural artifacts and architecture.



 Chi Lin Nunnery

Zhao Yun-peng presenting a souvenir to Guest Speaker Ven. Shi Wei Zhong



 Hong Kong Heritage Museum

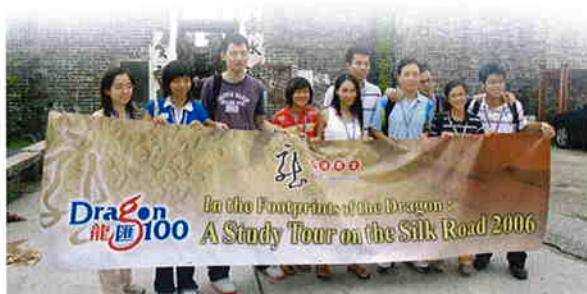


24 Aug

 The Chinese University of Hong Kong Art Museum



Students at The Chinese University of Hong Kong help to introduce the University Art Museum



 Che Kung Temple

 Kat Hing Wai Walled Village

25 Aug

 Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre



 Hong Kong Cultural Centre

 Lei Cheng Uk Han Tomb Museum



 Hong Kong Museum of History



 Central and Western Heritage Trail
- The Central and Sheung Wan Routes



Participants visit Western Market and Dr. SUN Yat-sen Historial Trail, learning more about old Hong Kong and recent changes

Social Gatherings

Orientation Briefing (22 August)



Participants being briefed about the programme and introduced to each other.

Welcoming Lunch (23 August)

Meeting Directors of the Foundation and the Selection Panel during the welcoming feast.



A birthday celebration with Miss Junia Ho Suk-yin, JP, the Co-delegation Leader and Selection Panel Chairperson

Delegation leader, Ms. Shelley Lee, Co-delegation Leader and Selection Panel Chairperson Miss Junia Ho, Selection Panel Members Mr. Ma Ching-nam and Mr. Yeung Chee-tat and The Dragon Foundation Sponsor Mrs. Lisa Cheung meet participants.

Ms. Shelley Lee gave a warm charming welcome to the delegation, and Professor Chen shared with participants the essence and significance of learning.

Miss. Junia Ho



Ms. Shelley Lee



Mrs. Lisa Cheung



Professor Edward Chen



Group Dinner (25 August)



Participants evaluating the Hong Kong programme before departing for Xi'an

Leisure and Sightseeing activities



Exploring Hong Kong's unique culture



Departure for Xi'an

Delegation Leader, Ms. Shelley Lee and programme staff at Hong Kong International Airport.



Ms. Shelley Lee giving souvenirs to participants



X'IAN

26-30 August

Meeting Xi'an government officials

Mr. Deng Li, Vice Chairman of the Standing Committee of Shanxi Provincial People's Congress and other provincial government officials met the delegation and told them about recent developments in Xi'an and the importance of the province in the historical development of China.



Visits

Seeing major historical treasures in the Xi'an province.



Shaanxi Provincial Museum



Banpo Museum Museum of Qin Terra-Cotta Warriors and Horses

29 Aug



Exchange and Social Gatherings

Xi'an Jiaotong University (28 August)



Teacher and student representatives sharing at the
Xi'an Jiaotong University

Sharing Session and Group Project (27 August)

Delegation Leader Ms. Shelley Lee initiates a discussion on the strengths "Descendants of the Dragon" possess for world harmony and prosperity.

What the "DRAGON" might mean for the delegation of young Chinese leaders :

- D** - Devotion to life, determination to serve and diligence
- R** - Respect for each other, responsibility of inheriting the Chinese culture, readiness to serve the world and resilience to different challenges in life
- A** - Ability to convey the essence of the Chinese culture in different regions of the world
- G** - Gratitude for everything given, generosity and grace in accepting differences, and a global mindset for world peace and prosperity
- O** - Openness to diverse ideas and opinions, optimism when facing challenges and adversity
- N** - Nurturing the next generation to cultivate the seeds of the above qualities of a "**D-R-A-G-O-N**".

Participants also showed their talent for quick, creative brainstorming, for example, suggesting "G" for "guang ming" in Mandarin Chinese, which means a bright future created by the network they are building.

Variety Show and Farewell Party (29 August)

Participants say goodbye to each other in song with strong friendships established

"I do feel proud of being a Chinese We never forget about Chinese culture. At the end of the day, we will all try hard to form a better Chinese nation."

Samuel Lun Wing-ho, United Kingdom

"Xi'an stands at the beginning of The Silk Road and as a great city, Xi'an still conjures up images of beauty, splendour, history and tradition. I had a unique and valuable chance to learn more about my roots and make new friends from many countries. It was not just an adventure of a lifetime but a personal journey which will help me as I make my way in this globalised world."

Alex Tee Boon-chong, Singapore

"It has been a great experience to know fellow Chinese from different cultural backgrounds. It also gave me some ideas on what it means to be a Chinese but at the same time how to be adaptable. Chinese can behave in any way they want, but it is better to behave in decent manner, to stay at peace with oneself and others."

Efendi, Indonesia



Ms. Shelley Lee presenting souvenirs for the delegation, a worldwide network of friendship

"As a Dragon 100 delegate for the first Cultural Study Tour of the Silk Road, I was able to network with Chinese leaders from around the world, tour cultural heritage sites, and discuss the significance of being Chinese."

Byron Au Yong, United States



Presents from Xi'an

..... it is comforting to know that Chinese culture still provides shared values through which we find community. During my time with the delegates and staff of the Dragon 100 study tour, I felt this sense of community intensely. Like a light in the soul, it places on me a responsibility to others beyond my individual desires. If the world could be bound by that same sense, our greatest dreams of peace would be fulfilled.

Sam Siew Peng-guan, Canada



"During this trip, I have seen much of both Hong Kong and Xi'an and I also learnt the importance of preserving our heritage. I have made good friends with elite Chinese youth from all around the world. This will surely be a memorable study tour."

Minnie Wat Lai-man, Hong Kong



Talents of all sorts shared with the delegation team



Cultural Activities

Through cultural exposures, participants learned how culture, tradition and life are interlinked.

Huxian, Local Agricultural Families (27 August)



Visiting Huxian

Tang Dynasty Show (29 August)

Sightseeing Activities

Appreciating Chinese heritage allowed participants to reflect on their cultural identity and the significance of preserving Chinese culture.

 Drum Tower and Bell Tower

27 Aug



 City Wall

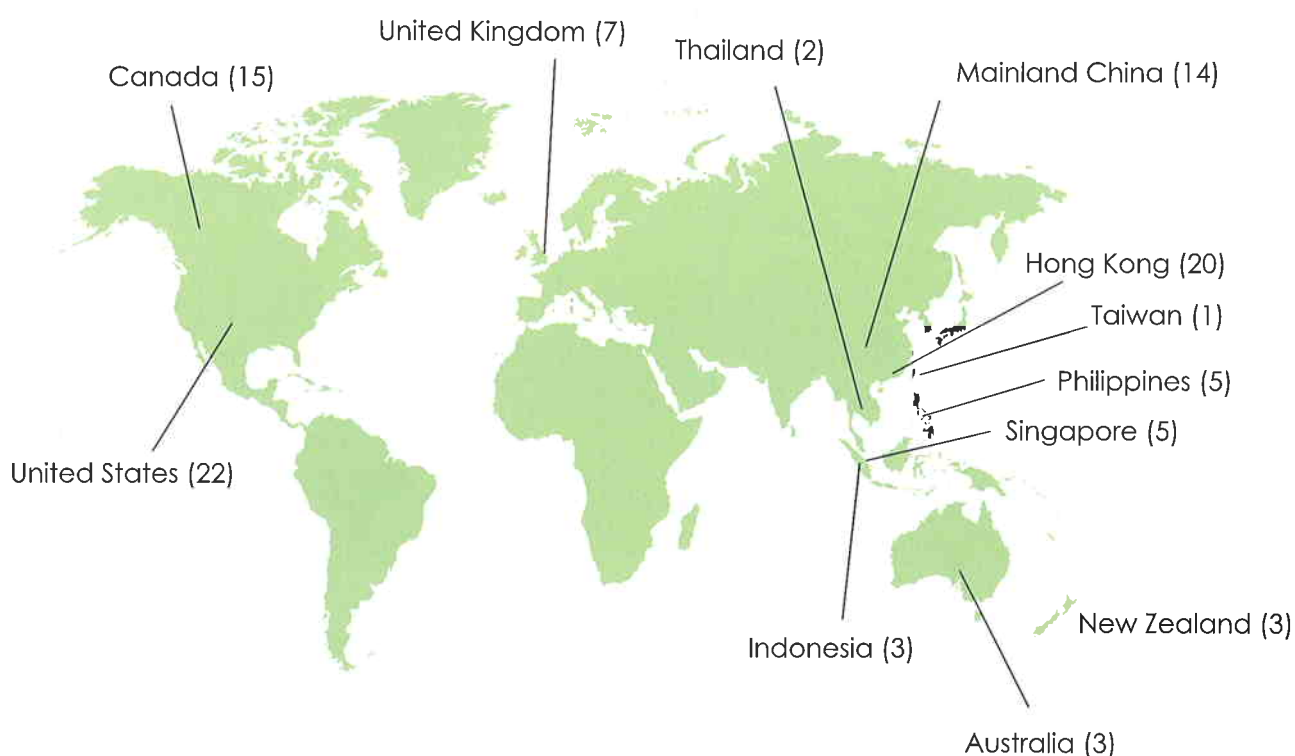
30 Aug



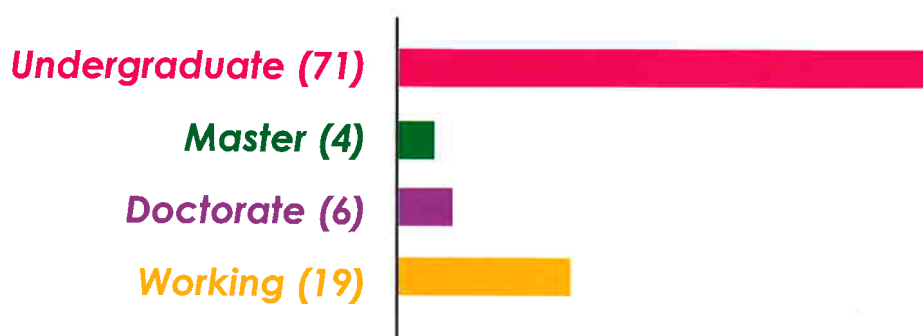
The Delegation

The 100 youth participants selected to attend the Forum are all young people of Chinese origin aged 18 - 35, who have demonstrated leadership skills, outstanding academic and non-academic achievements, and a commitment to the community.

Distribution of participants by geographical location



Distribution by occupational status



Reflections from Delegates



"The Dragon 100 Program was a unique opportunity for overseas Chinese youth from around the world to share a common passion for exploring or revisiting their cultural identity. This unique forum enabled cultural exchange between Chinese youth from different nations which highlighted very interesting similarities and some uncanny differences. The sights and sounds of Hong Kong and Xi'an and the diverse network of fellow delegates reminded me of what it means to be Chinese. The program has instilled a deep sense of cultural appreciation and pride that will inspire each of us to return to our home countries and integrate the meaning of being Chinese into everything we do."

Jeffrey Chen, United States

"Because of this opportunity given by Dragon 100, I have felt the importance of loving my culture and my origins. Knowing and loving the place where we originated means we can love who we are more easily. This will motivate us to make efforts to look after our homeland and this includes both tangible and intangible culture - our heritage. Now I understand how special and unique we are and how much we should value our culture. Loving our culture means loving our origins and loving our origins means loving who we are - loving our ancestors and loving ourselves."

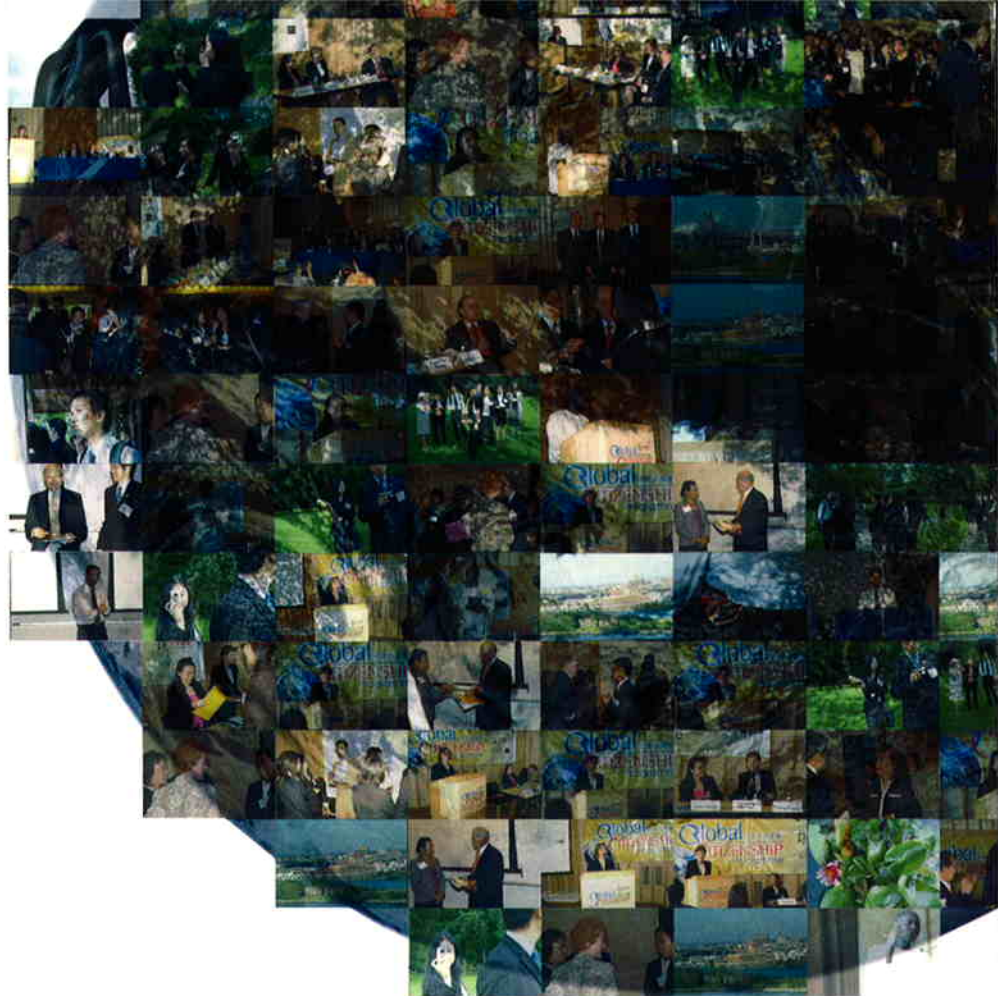
Aizza Felyn Ang, Philippines

"The Dragon 100 programme has been an invaluable experience for overseas Chinese youth to reconnect with the culture of their ancestors. This has been an opportunity to reflect and regain a sense of self by identifying and reaffirming the connection between overseas Chinese youth and the spirit of the Dragon that is alive in them today, whether or not they are aware of it.It is my belief that there is an inherent spirit of the Dragon inside each descendant of the Dragon, regardless of their location in the world."

Jenny To Ming-mei, Australia

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Report on

Global 世界公民計劃 CITIZENSHIP

PROGRAMME 2006

13-19 June **NEW YORK**



The Dragon Foundation

INSTITUTE OF
INTERNATIONAL
EDUCATION