

# The Integration and Example of Chinese and Western Culture in Hong Kong

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*Abstract:* This article describes the cultural characteristics of Hong Kong's combination of Chinese and Western, ancient and modern, and reveals the reasons for the formation of Hong Kong's . Expounds the profound accumulation of Chinese traditional culture in Hong Kong from the aspects of Confucianism, Buddhist and Taoist culture and folk beliefs, from the perspectives of Western religions, education systems, etc. It elucidates the spread of Western culture in Hong Kong and people's daily life, showing ancient culture and modern ideas, as well as the embodiment and concrete examples of the coexistence of Chinese and Western cultures in Hong Kong.

Keywords: Integration; Chinese and Western Culture; Hong Kong Culture

# Introduction

Hongkong is located in southern China in east Asia and facing the south China sea which became a dependent territory of the united kingdom for 99 years and remained to the people's republic of China on 1 July 1997. Before 1840, Hong Kong was a fishing village for more than 100 years from 1842 to 1997, when Hong Kong became a British colony and after the Second World War, Hong Kong developed economically and socially rapidly, becoming not only one of the Four Asian Tigers, but also the third largest financial center after London and New York. Hongkong as a wellknown international city, Its social ideology, is to the liberal capitalist ideology as the main body, with the profound imprint of Chinese traditional culture and colonial culture, is a diversified and mixed ideology. As Liberal capitalist ideology is its subject so it permeates all classes of Hong Kong and dominates all social activities of Hong Kong people; Chinese traditional and colonial culture occupy a secondary position, but which can be seen everywhere and forms a feature of Hong Kong's social ideology. Hong Kong culture is a mixture of eastern and Western cultures, traditional and modern cultures.

## 1. The profound accumulation of Chinese traditional culture in Hong Kong

Hong Kong is an inseparable part of Chinese territory. Hong Kong culture has belonged to the cultural of the Pearl River Delta since ancient times. Chinese traditional culture has a profound accumulation in Hong Kong, mainly including Confucianism, Buddhist and Taoist culture and folk beliefs and customs.

Confucianism is industrious practice, and attaches great importance to concepts such as harmony which has a profound impact on people's lives. all the people In Hong Kong have a strong desire to get rich and strive to seek development. It is through the hard work and enterprising spirit that Hong Kong people have realized the economic take-off of Hong Kong. Hong Kong Chinese generally attach great importance to thought of Confucius and Mencius. Before World War II, many academies and schools in Hong Kong offered "four books" courses. The Confucian philosophical view of the world is also subtly combined with the Hong Kong people's concept of reverence for ghosts and gods and belief in destiny This part of the Confucian thought is also consistent with the modern enterprise management thought and social stability which conducive to Hong Kong's economic development and social stability, so it has not been suppressed during the more than 10 years of British rule, but has been advocated.

There are 6 main religions that Hong Kong people believe in, among which Buddhism and Taoism are the most believers. Most of the ancestors of Hong Kong residents came from rural China hundreds of years ago. They are diligent and hardworking, believe in God.Despite the violent impact of Western culture, it is not easy to change the original habits. All the

major temples and Taoist temples are open at four o'clock for anyone to visit. Visitors enthusiastically "forked sesame oil" (donated money) to light incense lanterns and fast for the gods. In addition to believing in various religions, more people in Hong Kong also believe in ghosts and gods. Some people put the imperial calendar for divination into their briefcase for reference at any time; they also ask God for instructions on the filming date of the movie. Chinese residents in Hong Kong believe in feng shui very much. They generally believe that good feng shui of ancestral tombs will make their descendants prosperous, make business prosperous, make their family safe.

Hong Kong celebrates more festivals every year than in any other country in the world. The Hong Kong government combines eastern and western festivals, with a statutory holiday of 17 days every year. Including New Year's Day, Spring Festival, Tomb Sweeping Festival, Easter, Dragon Boat Festival, the Queen of England's birthday, heavy light memorial, Mid-Autumn Festival, Double Ninth Festival, Christmas and so on. The Spring Festival is the most grand and popular festival with a long holiday, lively atmosphere, enjoy the New Year's Eve dinner, see the flower market, visit relatives and friends, change the New Year gifts, all the people are on vacation.

### 2. The spread of Western capitalist culture

After Britain invaded Hong Kong in 1841, it imported Western capitalist ideology and culture into Hong Kong people through religious activities, Westernized education, news media and daily life.

Christianity and Catholicism entered Hong Kong at the same time as the first British colonists. It has been more than 150 years since the first Christian church was established in Hong Kong. During this period, Christianity has continued to develop. Now there are more than 50 denominations and 950 synagogues. Christianity has two organizations that transcend denominations. One is the "Chinese Christian Council" established in 1915. It consists of 275 churches which purpose is to connect with the Hong Kong Chinese Christian Church and spread the gospel; Management and public relations, etc., and often organize overseas churches to visit and preach in Hong Kong. Another organization, the "Christian Association" was established in 1954 with major sectarian and Christian services dedicated to promote the relationship between the churches in Hong Kong and the connection between the churches in Hong Kong and overseas churches. In the early days of Hong Kong's opening as a port, the Roman Catholic Church was already organized. The Society established a missionary district in Hong Kong in 1841 and designated it as a diocese in 1946. 90% of the believers are Chinese, and the rest belong to more than 40 different countries, mainly the Philippines and the United Kingdom. United States, Portugal and other countries. The Catholic Diocese of Hong Kong is the largest Catholic Chinese diocese in the world. There are 62 Catholic parishes and 34 evacuation centers in Hong Kong. Churches generally hold the Holy Mass and other religious activities in Chinese, but only a few people speak English.

In 1901, the education policy of the British Hong Kong government had two basic principles: Provide education funds and resources to a small number of upper-class Chinese children, let them receive Educated to serve British colonial rule. The second is to emphasize English education and Western values. These two principles reflected the colonialism of the education policy of the British Hong Kong government at that time, and at the same time made Hong Kong people lack a sense of national identity, creating a mentality that English and Western values are above all else.

#### 3. Cultural characteristics of the blending of ancient and modern

Since Hong Kong has always been a Chinese business society with the vast majority of immigrants from the mainland, China's traditional morals and values are deeply rooted. Before the 1911 Revolution, many people hired teachers from the mainland to come to Hong Kong to teach their children , or send their children back to the mainland to take exams Ask for an official. At the same time, the British government admitted certain Chinese laws and customs (such as family marriage, property inheritance, etc.) are applicable to Hong Kong for a long time, resulting in many feudal bad habits in Chinese society that persist in Hong Kong . In the 1820s, the spleen storage system was abolished in Hong Kong after enlightened people launched the spleen abolition movement, and feudal laws such as concubinage and women's non-inheritance were not abolished until 1971. At the same time, Hong Kong is also known as the "dynamic capital", is a modern metropolis. Various high-rise buildings with beautiful appearance, novelty and complete facilities are distributed in high density on steep hillsides

and coasts. Except for a small part of these buildings with more than 20 floors built in the reclamation area, most of them are densely distributed on the steep slopes of 30 to 45 degrees, forming a rare mountain high-rise building complex in the world. In 2022, Hong Kong's population density will reach 32,000 people per square kilometer, one of the highest population densities in the world. At the same time, Hong Kong is also an efficient metropolis. From government administration, financial and financial trade, to hospital visits, shopping, and communication, all are concentrated in one place that can be replaced by foot. International airports, external transportation terminals, and railway stations are also Within less than half an hour's drive, it is both very crowded and very efficient and convenient.

Under special historical conditions, Hong Kong had allowed Chinese and Western cultures to converge here which makes Hong Kong's culture unique. The following are examples of the fusion of Chinese and Western cultures in Hong Kong.

- 1. Hong Kong is the city with the most concentrated food in the world. It is the intersection of Chinese and Western cultures, and is known as a food paradise Hong Kong's "tea restaurant" is a typical example of the combination of Chinese and Western cultures. Hong Kong is influenced by the western food culture, before coffee, milk tea, sandwich, and other western snacks, later tea restaurant evolved into a popular food place, and many of Chinese characteristics such as Fried rice, soup, roast duck, roast chicken and so on to the menu, and original "yuanyang" drinks, which is a mixture of coffee, milk tea and Chinese tea, allows people to enjoy the fragrance of coffee while enjoying the silky smoothness of milk tea and unique tea. This representative Hong Kong-style tea restaurant drink combining Chinese and Western can best reflect that Hong Kong is a food city with a fusion of Chinese and Western. At the same time, the eating time of Hong Kong people also reflects the combination of Chinese and Western cultures, including traditional Chinese breakfast, lunch and dinner time, but also western afternoon tea time.
- 2. The language characteristics of coexistence of Cantonese and English. The language environment of Hong Kong also fully reflects the coexistence of Chinese and Western cultures. Although Hong Kong is a society composed of immigrants from many countries, even though 90% of them are Chinese, Cantonese is its official language. However, due to the influence of the United Kingdom, both Cantonese and English are used in government departments as well as in the legal and business circles. In daily life, people are also used to mixing Cantonese with English, and a lot of Western vocabulary is incorporated into Cantonese.
- 3. The wedding ceremony of Hong Kong people is also a typical combination of Chinese and Western elements. The wedding of Hong Kong people usually consists of two ceremonies, the first is the religious wedding ceremony. Many Hong Kong Christian or Catholic believers choose to hold wedding ceremonies in the church, and make vows in front of the clergy, giving marriage a deeper sacred meaning and unswerving loyalty. The second is the traditional Chinese wedding ceremony. On the wedding day, the groom will personally go to the bride's home to take the bride home, and then in the groom's home to the elders will give the groom and bride red envelopes and some will give the bride gold bracelets of dragon and phoenix as the gift , and then a Chinese dinner wedding banquet, will invite their relative and friends to witness the combination of the couple.

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