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Mr. Li, formerly from Toishan, and now currently living in San Francisco, attended one of our Gom-Benn monthly meetings. At the meeting, Mr. Li advised the members attending on how they can retrieve properties they owned in their native village now. There was a full house attending this session.

On February 24, 1985 a month-old party was held for Jade Wong, daughter of Wesley and Brenda Wong, and granddaughter of the Park Kam Wongs. The buffet was held at the Kam Wah Restaurant, and needless to say, the scrumptious food was prepared by none other than Jade's grandmother. A large crowd turned out for the happy occasion, which was from 12:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.

On March 85, the Chinese Government via the Consulate's Office in San Francisco donated a video cassette recorder and two tapes about China to the Assn. Anyone wishing to borrow the tapes may do so as alot of the members have seen the tapes and were quite impressed with them.

March 12, 1985 was "ting ming" and the Assn. placed flowers on gravesites of deceased villagers at the Chinese Cemetery. After the ritual, the members returned to the Assn. Office for lunch consisting of chicken, roast pork, and teacakes.

Our New Year's celebration of the Ox was celebrated at the Golden Dragon Restaurant, with over 500 people attending. Consular Lee of San Francisco was one of the participants. Door prizes were donated by the following: Mr. and Mrs. Albert Wong, of Sam Sing Market, one whole roast pig, Great Wall Restaurant, 4 bottles of booze, Harold and Mary Wong gave four individual gifts, Mr. and Mrs. Park Kam Wong of Kam Wah Restaurant gave a deluxe dinner for 10 people, President Lui Wong, a wall clock as well as a man's shaver, Ying Chong Lung, a crate of sweet cranges, and two bottles of oyster sauce, Mr. and Mrs. Gim H. Wong, kitchen utensils, Mr. and Mrs. Chew Hoi, a set of coffee cups, Gar You, a set of glasses, Mr. and Mrs. Bing K. Wong, a box of preserves, Mr. and Mrs. Bing Wong of San Bernardino, a canned ham, the Yangtze Restaurant, two bottles of whiskey and a box of Graber Olives, Mrs. Hon Jin Gin of Bell, two canned hams, John Gin donated a gift, Moon Palace, two bottles of whiskey, Mrs. Nam Wong also donated two bottles of whiskey, Mr. and Mrs. Roland Wong also gave three individual gifts and Kwong Hing Lung, three individual gifts. Many, many thanks to these generous donors who made the evening fun-filled and complete.

The Guangzhou Cantonese Opera arrived in Los Angeles 3/20/85 after playing in San Francisco for four days. The 50 plus members were met at Los Angeles Internation Airport by many of the local people. They spent the next day at Disneyland before attending a buffet dinner at General Lee's Restaurant attended by over 200 people. The group was treated to singing by four of their lead singers--three females and one male member.

Four researchers from Toishan County, headed by 1st Secretary Wong Kong Kin, were in Los Angeles May 11, 1985 doing research on the probability of manufacturing and/or importing of electric fans from China. President Lui Wong, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Wong,

Voice of Gorn-Behn

1986



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Mrs. Bing T. Wong and Raymond Gin met them on their arrival at LAX. Consulate Lee from San Francisco also came to Los Angeles while they were here. At 6:00 P.M. the entire group to the Kam Wah Restaurant for dinner. Attending the dinner were: Mr. and Mrs. Lui Wong, their son and son-in-law, Mrs. Bing T. Wong, Mrs. Park Kam Wong, Bing Wong, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Gin, Mr. and Mrs. Hing Wong Lee, Mr. and Mrs. William Wong, Mr. and Mrs. Yam Yan and Mrs. Lau Tat Ming. Everyone had a great time with dinner stretching until 9:00 P.M. The group also toured Disneyland the following day.

Wilmondson Lau, son of Pak and Linda Lau, made his debut into their household on March 22, 1985 at 7:00 P.M. Little Wilmondson tipped the scale at 4 pounds 11 ounces.

The Gom-Benn Mother's Day buffet luncheon was held at the Assn. Office on 5-5-85 from 12:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M. followed by our monthly meeting.

Anna Yee, daughter of the Hing Fong Yees and Ken Sam Wong, son of the Wing Yow Wongs were married on June 8, 1985 and had their wedding banquet on June 9, 1985 at the Golden Dragon Restaurant.

A baby shower was held on June 22, 1985 at the residence of our Vice-President Bing Wong, honoring the forthcoming of their third grandchild. The party was hosted by Clarinda, Debbie Wong, Dorothy Wong, and Andrea Wong, the latter two being aunts of the new baby. Jennifer and Arthur Wong received many gifts for their baby- baby crib, dresser, car seat, stroller, blankets, quilt set made by Andrea with matching pillows and a diaper bag, to name some of the gifts.

An engagement party for Andrea Wong and Peter Young was given on July 6, 1985 by the parents of Peter at Andrea's parents' house. In addition to the good food, everyone had a good time at the party.

This is really a year of weddings as Walter and Sandy joined ranks of matrimonial bliss. The son of Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Louie, Walter, and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Wong, Sandy, were married and had their banquet at the Golden Palace Restaurant on 7/28/85.

In August, 1985, John Wong's sister emigrated to the United States from Hong Kong. She visited us at the Assn. Office and fattened our treasury by \$20.00. She and her husband are presently living in San Francisco where her husband wants to open a barbecue shop. We want to wish them the best of luck in their new venture and for their donation to the Assn.

John Wong went back to Gom-Benn Village for a few days last year, where he visited with his family. He says they are converting to free enterprising now and there are three teahouses now. You can choose whichever one you want to patronize now.

(3)

The Wong Family Association Convention was held in Chicago this past year. All the Wong Family Associations from the United States were gathered in Chicago on August 2nd. Ten people from the local Wong Association attended, among them our President Lui Wong.

Lindsay Nicole Wong, daughter of Jennifer and Arthur Wong, and granddaughter of the Bing K. Wongs, arrived to join her parents and grandparents on 8/31/85. The grandparents donated \$50.00 to the Gom-Benn Assn. and \$25.00 to the Gom Sing Magazine. Thank you very much for your generosity.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Chew Hoi, Jerri, was married on 8/10/85 to William Tung Wei, son of Mrs. Sophia Pih. The wedding was at the First Baptist Church in Alhambra, with a reception at the Mandarin Baptist Church also in Alhambra, followed by a wedding banquet at the Golden Dragon Restaurant at 6:30 P.M. the same evening. We just went from one binge to another, but oh what fun.

Man Sang Wong, known to many as Fook Sang, retired in July and he and his wife are presently living in Kowloon. His address is 12 Tsing On Street, 1st Floor, Front Kam Kwok Bldg., Kowloon, Hong Kong, if anyone wishes to contact him if you are in Hong Kong. His phone number is: 3-380-274. His children, James and Teresa Wong, gave them a farewell dinner at the Tai Sam Yuen Restaurant prior to their retirement. Before they settled in Kowloon, the couple spent some time in Thailand where Mrs. Man Sang Wong's parents live and where their married daughter also lives.

On July 27, 1985, President Li Xiannian of China was guest of honor of Mayor Bradley of Los Angeles. A banquet in President Li's honor was held at the Beverly Hilton Hotel that evening with another dinner also in his honor at the Century Plaza Hotel the previous evening. President Li and his wife arrived in Washington, D. C. on July 22, 1985 where they were guests of honor of President and Mrs. Reagan.

Our Moon Festival celebration was held on the actual day of the occasion this year, August 15th. A fairly large group of celebrants came for the buffet from 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. The following people donated to the luncheon: Ying Chong Lung, 2 boxes of moon cakes, Lung Jue Wong, 12 bottles of beer, Yuen Chew, one pan of homemade teacakes, Bing Wong, one pan of "ling foon thay", Kai Wah Wong, 12 bottles of soda and 12 bottles of beer and a bottle of wine, and Kam Wah Restaurant, their delicious sweet rice.

Between wedding banquets, baby showers, bridal showers and buffet luncheons for the various occasions, it's no wonder we cannot stick to our diets. Here is another buffet luncheon, Thanksgiving, at the Assn. Office on 11/17/85 from 12:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M. Bing S. Wong brought three delicious Marie Callender's apple pies, Ying Chong Lung, a box of oranges, Raymond Gin, turkey,

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turkey dressing, dinner rolls, Bing Wong, more rolls, Kam Wah Restaurant, chow mein and other goodies donated by the various members.

In 1908, Anna Jarvis of Philadelphia made a suggestion to the Philadelphia City Council to designate the second Sunday of May as Mother's Day. It took Congress four years, 1912, to legally declare the second Sunday in May to be Mother's Day, which is now being celebrated worldwide. The Gom-Benn Assn. always has their buffet luncheon one week before the actual day of the special day. Again, here is the list of the generous donors: Ying Chong Lung, one case of oranges, Bing Wong, three Marie Callender's apple pies, Lui Wong, two boxes of pastry, Ray Gin, one crate of strawberries, Bing K. Wong, sweet rice, Mrs. Bing T. Wong, 50 pieces of sweet cakes, Sui Ching Lau, one cake, Hoy Yuen, one pan of salad, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Wong, grapes, and Kam Wah Restaurant, chow mein.

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" THE REPRINT OF AN OLD STORY"

BY JAN HONG, 10TH EDITION OF THE VOICE OF GOM BENN.

ONE DAY DURING THE GOM BENN MONTHLY MEETING, MR BIEN T. WONG (柏旋) SAID; I HOPE SOMEONE CAN TRANSLATE THIS ARTICLES INTO ENGLISH; SO THE NEXT GENERATION CAN UNDERSTAND IT, AS HE POINTS TO THE ARTICLE THAT HE WROTE.

SINCE MY CHINESE AND ENGLISH IS JUST ORDINALLY AND I HAVE TO TIGHTING MY FACE SKIN TO TRANSLATE THIS ARTICLES. ALTHOUGHT, I HAVE DIFFICULTY IN THE TRANSLATION, I AM NOT GOING TO GIVE IT UP, BECAUSE MR. B.T. WONG ARTICLES DO HAVE AN EDUCATIONAL VALUE FOR THE YOUNGER GENERATION TO KNOW.

THE ARTICLE BEGINS AS ----- RECENTLY I WANT TO WRITE SOMETHING FOR THE VOICE OF GOM BENN MAGAZINE, JUST TO FILL OUT THE PAGES, COUPLE TIMES I JUST SITTING DOWN WONDERING, JUST WONDERING WHAT I AM GOING TO WRITE, STILL I CAN NOT ABLE TO START, ALL DAY SEARCHING THE WRITING MATERIALS FROM MY DRY MIND, YET STILL UNABLE TO FIND THE WRITING MATERIAL, SUDDENLY, I AM REMEMBERED FROM A FRIEND WHOM HAS SAID, WHEN SOMEONE WANTS TO WRITE, IT MUST BE IN A GOOD MOOD WITH GOOD FEELING, AGAIN I TRIED TO THINK DEEPLY, THE MORE I THINK, THE MORE I GET INTO CONFUSION WHICH THEN CAUSED A MIX-OF EMOTION, NOT KNOWN WHERE TO START, KNOWING IN MY MIND, THE MAIN REASON TO BE MORE OR LESS AFFECTED BY THE CURRENT BAD AMERICA ECONOMIC, THE INCUSTRIES DECLINE WHICH AFFECTING THE GOLD AND STOCK MARKET DOWN, ALSO CAUSED TO BE INFLATION, DEVALVED THE DOLLARS, UNDER THIS CIRCUMSTANCE THAT MADE PEOPLE SPIRIT DOWN, THE BLOOD PRESSURE UP, BUT THE TIME OF THE MONTH NOT GOING TO STAYS, TO WRITE CAN NOT BE DELAY ANY FUTHER, IN SUCH A CONFUSE MOMENT, FORTUNATELY, FROM THE OLE SHELF, FOUND A COPY OF AN OLD NEWS LETTER, OPEN AND LOOK, IT JUST LIKE OBTAIN A PRECIOUS JEWELY,

INSIDE, IT HAS SOME OF MY OWN WRITING, ALSO LOOK AT SOME OF THEM WHICH WERE SO RICH IN HISTORICAL VALUE, WHILE KNOWN SOMETHING OLD THAT COULD LEAD TO KNOW SOMETHING NEW, THE FEELING SUDDENLY BRIGHT UP. SO FROM THE OLD NEWS LETTER, AFTER RECOMPILED, IT IS TO BE "THE REPRINT OF AN OLD STORY", THIS EVENTS WERE RELATED TO THE PEOPLE OF GOM BENN AND IT IS A GOOD REFERENCE FOR THE GOM BENN PEOPLE TO KNOW, PLEASE DO NOT NEGLECT IT, JUST BECAUSE IT IS AN OLD STORY

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FROM THE DAY WHEN I WAS A NEW IMMIGRANT, AND LANDED IN LOS ANGELES, AT SAM SING WHERE I WORKED, HEARD A SCROLL FROM UNCLE DIAN CHUN (典傳) OF TANG CHUN VILLAGE (塘唇村), SAID 斧Y YA 髻JI 高GAO 山SHAN 樵QIAO 子ZI 出CHU, 雙SHANG 門MEN 屢LU 代DAI 舉JU 人REN 歸GUY, ROUGHLY MEANS F FROM THE HIGH HILL THUS BUN PEOPLE BORN TO BE A WOOD CUTTER, THUS SHUANG MEN VILLAGE PEOPLE BORN TO BE AN EDUCATOR FOR GENERATION TO GENERATION, WHAT THE SCROLL REALLY MEANS, ITS AN INSULT TO THE PEOPLE OF GOM BENN WITH NO EDUCATION, AT THAT MOMENT, THE SCROLL GAVE ME SOME ENCOURAGEMENT AND WANT TO MEMORIZE IT WELL ALWAYS, HOPING THE NEXT GENERATION DOES NOT HAVE TO GO UP TO THE HILL TO COLLECT FIRE WOODS, SO TO WASHING THIS INSULT TO SNOW WHITE.

IN 1924, AS A RESULT, THE OVERSEA GOM BENN PEOPLE IN THE U.S., STARTED TO FIGHT FOR ILLITERACY, OPEN CAMPAIGN TO COLLECT CONTRIBUTION TO BUILD A SCHOOL FOR GOM BENN, AT THAT TIME, I AM ALREADY NINE YEARS OLD, MY FIRST SCHOOL WAS STARTED IN HE QING LI (和慶里), AT THE START OF THE FIRST DAY, I GAVE MY RESPECT AND BOWED TO CONFUDUS, MASTER BING YING ZHANG (張炳英) WAS MY FIRST TEACHER, I STUDIED ON A RED BOOK, LEARNING 人REN 之ZHI 初CHU ROUGHLY MAN OF THE BEGINNING, ALSO LEARNED 萬WAN 般BAW 皆JI 下XIA 品PIN 唯WEI 有YOU 讀DU 書SHU 高GAO ROUGHLY NOTHING BETTER THAN STUDYING, AS A

KID OF MY INTELLIGENT, OFTEN I CAN NOT RECITE THE BOOK AND TEACHER ZHANG ALWAYS SCOLDING AT ME, AND I AM GOING HOME CRYING. LUCKILY MA MA WAS VERY UNDERSTANDING, ALWAYS ENCOURAGING ME TO STUDY HARDER TO OVER COME THE WEAKNESS, SOMETHING SHE USE TO SAY 書 SHU 中 ZHANG 有 YOU 美 MEI 如 RU 玉 YU, 書 SHU 中 ZHANG 自 ZI 有 YOU 黃 HWANG 金 JIN 屋 WU MEANING THE BOOK HAS A BEAUTIFUL COLOR AS JADE, 「THE BOOK ALSO COULD HAS A GOLDEN HOUSE」. THIS SENTENCE, MA MA JUST WANTED ME TO BE MORE ENCOURAGE ON MY STUDY, HOW COULD I UNDERSTAND WHAT SHE MEANT AT THE TIME OF MY AGE AND INTELLIGENT?.

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THE GOM BENN SCHOOL WAS STARTED BY USING THREE MEMORIAL HALL AND A SMALL HOUSE AS CLASSROOM, THE STUDENTS WERE CAME FROM THE VICINITY OF THE VILLAGES, THERE WERE ABOUT 100 STUDENTS, THE EDUCATED YOUTH FROM THE VICINITY VILLAGES TO TAKE UP THE TEACHING JOB, FROM THAT TIME ON, I WAS REALLY STUDYING IN SCHOOL THE FIRST TIME IN A HIGH SPIRIT, EVERYDAY AFTERSCHOOL, MA MA ASK ME, WHAT DI LEARN IN SCHOOL?, I SAID, THE TEACHER TAUGHT ME HOW TO SAY 手 HAND, 脚 FOOT, 刀 KNIFE, 尺 RULER, 山 HILL, 水 WATER, 田 FIELD, ALSO TAUGHT ME TO ADD $1+1=2$, $1-1=0$, EASILY LEARNED HOW TO DIVIDE 1 BY 2 INTO 2 HALF, MA MA SAID WITH A SMILE 「JUST STARTED SCHOOL AND ALREADY BECAME SMART」 CONTINUING SCHOOL FOR FOUR MORE YEARS, AT THE UPPER HALF OF THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, EVERYTHING BECAME DEEPER AND DEEPER, THEN I BEGIN TO REALIZING, THERE IS NO LIMIT IN STUDY AND ALSO REALIZED NOT EASE TO BE A SCHOLAR, THEREFORE, I LEFT SCHOOL, IMMIGRATED TO THE US. IN THE FALL OF 1935, TO BECAME THE THIRD GENERATION OF OVERSEA CHINESE.

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THE YEAR BEFORE UNCLE CHUN ZHU (傳珠) MADE A VERY PRECIOUS CONTRIBU-

TION, A REPORT OF 1928 GOM BENN SCHOOL PAPER, TO CALCULATE ITS TIME IS ALREADY BE A HALF OF CENTURY, THE EVALUATION OF ITS VALUE IS UNCOMPARABLE, EVERYONE WAS SO INTERESTING TO READ THE PAPER, BECAUSE IT HAS A REPORT OF THAT YEAR'S STUDENTS SCORE REPORT, (1) FROM FIRST PLACE, COUNT ALL THE WAY TO THE 16TH PLACE, THERE IS MY NAME, FOLLOWED BY WAS PAN LIN (泮麟), UNCLE HUA HUANG (華冕) WAS IN THE FIRST PLACE, JUN JU (均巨) WAS SECOND, THE WHOLE CLASS HAD MORE THAN FOURTY STUDENTS, STANDING IN THE 17TH & 18TH PLACE, SHOULD IT FIGUIRE JUST MERELY TO BE A GRADE OF C!

IN THIS SEMESTER, A COLUMN REPORTED BY THE TAI SHAN (台山) NEWSPAPER AS FOLLOW^TGOM BENN OF TONG KOW (洞口) COUNTY, MANY OF THEIR PEOPLE GO OVERSEA, (2) YET THOSE PEOPLE STILL WHOLE HEARTED CONCERN FOR THE PUBLIC AFFAIRS FOR THEIR PEOPLE BACK HOME, FEW YEARS AGO, KUN ZHONG (昆仲) FROM OVERSEA, CONTRIBUTED A BIG DONATION TO BUILT THE GOM BENN SCHOOL, ALSO AS CHUN XU (傳緒). CHUN SHENG (傳勝), BING SHI (炳世) AND SO ON, DONATED THOUSAND OF DOLLARS EACH, MANY OTHER PEOPLE DONATED IN HUNDRED OF DOLLARS EACH, ALSO EACH YEAR HUNDRED OF DOLLARS CAME FROM (3) HO KANG (禾更) FOR THE SCHOOL EXPENSE USE, AS FAR AS THE SCHOOL'S FINANCE CONCERN, IT IS VERY WELL TAKING CARE OF, EXCEPT THE PEOPLE IN CHARGED MIS MANAGED FROM YEAR TO YEAR AND THERE WAS CAUSED SOME SET BACK, THIS SPRING TO BE REORGANIZE, SELECTED MASTER YUN QIAO WONG (黃雲橋) TO BE THE SCHOOL'S PRINCIPLE AND WHOM IS WILLINGLY TO BE REGROUP AND IN CHARGE OF ALL THE SCHOOL DUTIES, OF THE SAME PERIOD, A DIFFERENT REPORT, REPORTED THERE WERE SOME DIFFERENCE IN DONATION, THE ACTUAL DONATION FROM CHUN XU (傳緒), CHUN SHENG (傳勝) \$600 EACH, BING SHI (炳世) \$500 SHANG SHI (尚世), SHA QI (紹祺). SHA CAN (紹燦), LIN SHI (霖世) AND SO ON \$200 each. YAN SHI (衍世), QUANG CHUN (曠傳), ZHANG CHUN (章傳), PU YE (普業), SHI YOU (世佑), WAN SHI

(浣世) \$150 each, TWENTY PEOPLE DONATED \$100 each, THIRTY EIGHT PEOPLE DONATED \$5 TO \$ 20, FROM MEXICALI, MEXICO, 13 PEOPLE DONATED \$25 each, ADDITION TWO FRIENDS DONATED \$5 each, BACK HOME IN GOM BENN KUN ZHONG (昆仲) YUAN LONG (元龍), BAO YE (寶業) CHONG YAO (崇耀), TING SHEN (廷深) \$100 each, MIN CHUN (民傳), GONG MU (公木), ZHAN CHUN (湛傳), KWAN YE (寬業) \$50 each REN SHI (任世) \$30, ZHAO ZUO (兆佐) \$15. THOSE WERE THE FIRST GROUP OF PEOPLE TO DONATE MONEY FOR THE GOM BENN SCHOOL THE TOTAL DONATION FROM OVERSEA IN THE U.S., WAS \$8400, FROM GOM BENN VILLAGE WAS \$800 IN SILVER, THE FIRST GOM BENN SCHOOL BULIT TOTALLY DEPEND ON ALL THIS DONATION. LATER DUE TO MISINVESTMENT ON A SIN NING (新寧) RAIL ROAD WHICH COMPLETELY WENT BANKRUPT, ALL THE MONEY INVESTED IN IT, WAS TOTALLY LOST, EVEN FROM ONE MISMANAGEMENT TO MIS INVESTMENT, YET STILL HAVE TO SUPPORT THE SCHOOL TO SURVIVE, FROM HERE ON FOR 20 YEARS, THE SCHOOL'S SUPPORT ONLY DEPEND ON 40 KANG, OBVIOUSLY THE REAPPEARANCE OF THE HIGH HILL BUN PEOPLE BORN TO BE A WOOD CUTTER CAN NOT BE ESCAPE.

THE DONATION FROM THE GOM BENN OVERSEA PEOPLE IN THE U.S., THERE WERE ABOUT 100 PEOPLE, AT THAT TIME, ACCORDING TO THOSE PEOPLE SAID, EVERY ONE HAD TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION, AMOUNT THOSE PEOPLE WHOM STILL WITH US TODAY, ARE CHUN FA (傳法), FU PEI (福培), JING PEI (景培) IN THE U.S. EVERY TIME WHEN MENTION ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTION, THEY WILL TELL YOU, (4) HOW HARD THEY HAVE TO WORK FOR, IN ORDER TO GET THE MONEY TO SUPPORT THE SCHOOL, THOSE PIONEER WHO WORKED SO HARD WITH THEIR SWEAT JUST FOR THE BETTER OF NEXT GENERATION, WE SHOULD ALL STAND UP SOLUTE, GIVE OUR THANKS AND RESPECT TO THEM ALL.

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WHEN WE NEWLY ARRIVED IN THE U.S., MOST OF OUR AMBITION EITHER WAS

ABLE TO GO TO SCHOOL OR ABLE TO FIND A JOB, I HAVE NO EXCEPTION, IN CHINA-TOWN L.A., I WORKED AS A CLERGY MAN TO SUPPORT MY LIFE, ABSOLUTELY HAVEN'T THOUGHT OR EXPECTED THAT THERE WILL COME THE DANGER OF WAR, NOT LONG AFTER JAPAN STARTED A FULL SCALE INVASION ON CHINA, AT THE PLACE NAMES LU GOU QIAO (籃溝橋), THE JAPANESE AMBITION WAS TO CONQUER THE WHOLE CHINA, ONCE YOU GAVE THEM AN INCH AND THEY WANT A YARD, SO THE WAR GOES ON AND ON, THE JAPANESE ARMY ENJOY VICTORY AFTER VICTORY AND KEEP PUSHING SOUTHWARD, AT THAT PARTICULAR TIME, THE WHOLE COUNTRY WAS IN DANGER, SO THE GOVERNMENT DECLARED THE WHOLE COUNTRY IN STATE OF EMERGENCY, THEREFORE, (5) TO BE SAFER AND PREPARE FOR A LONG WAR, THE GOVERNMENT MOVED THE CAPITAL FROM NANKING TO CHUNG KING, LUCKILY THE COUNTRY NOT YET DOWN TO IT RATE, JAPAN ATTACKING THE PEARL HARBOR, THAT DREW THE U.S. INTO WAR WITH JAPAN, AND WHICH IS ALSO THE BEGIN OF WWII IN THE U.S., THE WHOLE COUNTRY ON A STATE OF ALERT AND STARTING RECRUIT THE ABLE PEOPLE TO FIGHT THE WAR, AT THAT TIME, I AM STILL UNDER THE DRAFT CODE, IN ORDER TO SERVE AS PART OF THE COMBAT FORCE, I QUITTED MY JOB AND JOINED THE RICHMOND SHIP BUILDER, LEARN TO BE A WELDER (THE WORKS IN THE SHIP YARD AS PART OF THE NATION'S DEFENSE WORK, THEREFORE, YOU DON'T HAVE TO SERVE IN THE ARM FORCE), ALSO I BEGIN TO DO SOME PROGANDA WORKS AT THAT TIME WITH CHI TI (叱咤) MUSIC GROUP TO RAISE MONEY, TO SEND RELIEF PACKAGES TO HELP THE CHINESE ARMY IN CHINA, DOING THE DUTIES OF「國 KOU家 JIA興 XING亡 WANG,匹 PI夫 FU有 YOU責 ZE」 ROUGHLY THE COUNTRY RISE OR FALL,「THE BURDEN IS ON ITS CITIZENS」 THAT WAS IN 1942, AFTER WORKED A YEAR AND HALF, I GOT A RELEASE FROM THE SHIP YARD AND CAME BACK TO RIVERSIDE TO OPEN FOR BUSINESS, THAT YEAR, THE WAR STILL GOING ON IN CHINA, SUDDENLY, AN EMERGENCY LETTER RECEIVED FROM CHINA, SIGNED BY GONG MU (公木), PAO YE (寶業), HAI SHAN (海珊), HU SHI (護世),

JIE CHUN (傑傳), TO KUN ZHONG (昆仲), THE LETTER URGED THE GOM BENN OVER-SEA PEOPLE TO RAISE FUND AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO HELP THE PEOPLE IN NEED AND FOR THE LOCAL POLICE FEE, AFTER WE READ THE LETTER, WE HAVE AN EMERGENCY MEETING, HELD AT THE WONG'S ASSOCIATION, ATTENDED THE MEETING WERE CHUN SHENG (傳勝), CHONG REN (崇仁), DI CHUN (第傳), YAN SHI (衍世), ZHANG CHUN (章傳), SHI YI (世飴), CHUN DONG (傳棟), CHUN FANG (傳芳), ALTOGETHER ABOUT 20 PEOPLE, DI CHUN READ THE LETTER TO THE PEOPLE AT THE MEETING AND PAN LIN (泮麟), THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY, FOLLOWING CHONG REN (崇仁), AND BAI XUAN (柏旋) SUGGESTED HOW TO BE FUND RAISING, AFTER UNANIMOUSLY AGREED, AN ANNOUNCEMENT WAS PUBLISHED IN THE SAN FRANCISCO CHINESE TIMES, DELEGATED SHI YU (世禹) IN STOCKTON, SHA REA (紹仁) IN SAN FRANCISCO, LI JIN (禮斌) IN SAN BERNARDINO, LI JIAN (禮儉) IN RIVERSIDE TO BE IN CHARGE FOR THE FUND RAISE, THE COLLECTION MUST BE TURN IN BY JUNE 1ST AND EITHER SEND TO THE STORES OF SAM SING OR YING CHUNG LONG OR CHUNG KING RESTAURANT, IN THE EVENING OF THE SAME MEETING, ALSO APPOINTED CHONG REN AND CHUN SHENG TO BE THE FINANCE SECRETARY.

WHEN THE FUND RAISE COMPLETED, TOTAL OF \$6000 WAS COLLECTED, BUT THE MONEY CAN NOT BE SEND HOME IMMEDIATELY DUE TO THE COMMUNICATION BROKE DOWN BY THE WAR, SO THE MONEY TEMPORARY DEPOSIT IN THE BANK UNDER THE NAMES OF DI CHUN AND CHONG REN, THAT WAS THE SECOND TIME IN FUND RAISE IN THE U.S.,

THE MONEY DEPOSITED IN THE BANK ORIGINALLY SUPPOSE TO BE USE FOR RELIEF FUND. BUT AFTER THE WAR WAS OVER, SOME COUNTRY MEN RETURNING BACK TO CHINA AND APPOINTED A FEW OF THEM TO BRING THE MONEY BACK FOR GOM BENN SCHOOL USE INSTEAD, THERE USED SOME OF THE MONEY TO BOUGHT A STORE IN SIN CHANG (新昌), THE RENTAL FROM THE STORE ALSO TO BE USE FOR THE SCHOOL'S EXPENSE. THAT WAS 1947.

AFTER CHINA WAS LIBERATED IN 1949, THE COUNTRY SYSTEM CHANGED, THERE WASN'T ANY BODY TAKE CARE THE STORE BUILDING, THE SCHOOL MANAGED BY THE COMMUE, THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE PEOPLE OF GOM BENN ON BOTH SIDE WAS ISOLATED FOR MORE THAN TWENTY YEARS, (6) IN 1972 AFTER PRESIDENT NIXON REOPEN THE DOOR TO CHINA, ME AND MY WIFE WENT BACK TO GOM BENN, THERE I CAN NOT SEE OUR SCHOOL ANYMORE, AT THAT MOMENT, MY HEART WAS HARDEN AND FELT VERY SAD ABOUT IT, LATER THE COMMUE DIRETOR ZE DI JIN (金澤弟) TOOK US TO SHANG TANG VILLAGE (上棠門口山), THERE WE SAW A NEW SCHOOL AND MY HEART IMMEDIATELY TURN FROM SAD TO JOY, WALK UP TO THE SCHOOL GATE, THE WHOLE SCHOOL BODY OF STUDENTS AND TEACHERS WERE THERE TO WELCOME U.S. I WAS SO BUSY WITH MY CAMERA TO TAKING PICTURES, SIGHT SEEING ALL AROUND, BEFORE WE LEFT, WE TOLD THE LITTLE FRIENDS BE SURE TO STUDY HARD AND MAKE PROGRESS FRIENDS BE SURE TO STUDY HARD AND MAKE PROGRESS IN EVERYDAY.

XXXXX

IN 1971, UNDER THE SPONSORSHIP OF BANG CHUN (邦傳) LI SHENG (禮聖), BAI XUAN (柏旋), FULI (復禮), QUANG CHUN (煥傳), XI ZHU (錫柱), WEI LIN (偉林), JIA QUAN (家權), JIAN XIANG (健祥), PAN LIN (泮麟) AND SONJE KUN ZHONG (昆仲) SUGGESTED TO ESTABLISHED A GOM BENN VILLAGE ASSOCIATION HERE IN THE U.S., IN THE THIRD YEAR AFTER THE FOUNDING OF GOM BENN VILLAGE ASSOCIATION, THERE STARTED A CAMPAIGN TO RAISING MONEY TO BUY A BUILDING LOCATES IN CHINATOWN, 935 SIN MIN ROAD, TO BE NAMED THE GOM BENN VILLAGE ASSOCIATION CO. LIMITED, T T NEEDS ABOUT \$100,000 TO BUY THE BUILDING THEREFORE, BONDS WERE ISSUED AND COST \$100 PERSHARE, SOON AFTER, A TOTAL OF \$108,600 WAS RAISED AND MORE THAN ORIGINAL PLANNED, THIS SUCESS WAS DUE TO THE ENTHUSIA SUM SUPPORT FROM THE PEOPLE OF GOM BENN IN U.S., ITS

ALSO A RECORD BROKEN IN FUND RAISE IN THE U.S., BAI XUAN WAS ELECTED AS THE PRESIDENT OF THE COMPANY, AND SERVED FOR SEVEN CONSELUTIVE YEARS, RESIGNED THE POSITION AFTER RESPONDED TO LIQUIDATING THE DEBT ON ALL THE BONDS, THEN SELECTED WEI LIN TO BE THE SUCESSOR. THE GOM BENN VILLAGE ASSOCIATION ABLE TO EXIST TODAY, DEPENDS ON ALL OF THE PIONEER & FIGHTERS AND THE PEOPLE OF GOM BENN SUPPORT, SAYING RESIGN FROM ACCOMPLISHMENT GOAL IS NOT EXAGGERATED ITS MERIT.

CHINA AFTER LIBERATION, THE GOM BENN SCHOOL MOVED TO THE HILL SIDE OF SHANG TANG VILLAGE, THE NEW SCHOOL BUILDING, TO ITS ENVIRONMENT IS FAR BETTER PLACE FOR THE STUDENTS ACTIVITIES, BUT DUE TO THE LIMITATION ON THE COMMUE'S ECONOMIC AND LACK OF MATERIALS AT THAT TIME, BESIDES THE SCHOOL BUILT IN A HURRY, RECENTLY, THE SCHOOL BUILDING, PART OF IT, FOUND TO BE ENDANGER, IT IS VERY UNSAFE TO OCCUPY IN IT, NEAR THE END OF LAST YEAR, A LETTER RECEIVED FROM BACK HOME AND IT SAID, THE SCHOOL BUILDING SHOULD BE REPAIR, ALSO MENTIONED SOME OF THE BROTHERS IN HONG KONG SUGGESTED TO MOV-ED THE SCHOOL BACK TO ITS ORIGINAL PLACE, BUILD A A NEW SCHOOL, BUT DIDN'T SAID, HOW THE SCHOOL'S FINANCE GOING TO BE ?, AS THE LETTER CONTINUE SAY-ING, JUST TO REPAIR THE BUILDING, IT COST APPROX. \$30,000, BUT IF TO BUILD A NEW SCHOOL, THE COST, IS NEEDLESS TO SAY, WILL BE SO GREAT, AT THE PRE-SENT TIME, THE COMMUE CAN NOT RESPOND TO ITS DEMAND, HOPEFULLY ALL THE OVERSEA GOM BENN PEOPLE CAN RAISE THE MONEY TO SUPPORT THIS PLAN, THIS AF-FAIR IS CONCERNING OF EVERYONE, SO EVERYONE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT IT, AS THE LETTER CONCLUDED.

OF THE ABOVE MENTION, ONE CAN SEE THE DIFFERENCE OF THE TWO GENERA-TION THAT UNDER THE DIFFERENT CONDITION TO RAISE MONEY, IT IS EASILY DIS-TINCTED THE RELATIVITY OF THE GOOD AND BAD, THE OLDER GENERATION OF THE

GOM BENN OVERSEA PEOPLE ALWAYS CONCERN THE WELFARE OF THE YOUNGER GENERATION, THEY WERE DONATED HARD EARN MONEY TO BUILD SCHOOL, AND THE MOST OF ALL, THEY ALWAYS REMEMBER AND RESPECT FOR THEIR ANCESTORS, WITH DEEP FEELING OF THE ROOT, BEGIN IN THE FIFTY, MOTHERLAND POLITICAL SYSTEM CHANGED, THE PEOPLE LIFE STYLE CHANGED, PEOPLE IMMIGRATED TO DIFFERENT COUNTRY AND BECAME CITIZEN, THE CHILDREN AND THEIR CHILDREN BECOME FOREIGN CITIZEN, (7) THE NEW GENERATION AND THE OLD GENERATION OF THE OVERSEA PEOPLE CREATE A PHILOSOPHY OF CONTRAVERSE THINKING, TILL NOW THERE ARE NOT TOO MANY YOUNG PEOPLE THINK ABOUT WHERE THEIR ANCESTORS ORIGINAL FROM, EVEN SOME OF THEM WENT BACK TO VISIT CHINA, (8) THEY TREAT LIKE A FOREIGN GUEST (THIS IS ALSO THAT THE MOTHERLAND WANTS THE OVERSEA CHINESE TO BECOME CITIZEN WHERE EVER THEY ARE), TALK TO THE TU ZHI (土紙) IN THE THEORY OF REASON, (9) ABOUT FENG SHUI (風水), ABOUT WHATS THE 道 DAO 德 DE 尊 ZUN 朝 CHAO 廷 TING, 世 SHI 傳 CHUN 禮 LI 義 YI 振 ZHE 家 JIA 聲 SHANG, ROUGHLY MORALE, RESPECT TO THE COURT, CARRYING THE FAMILY TRADITION OF POLITENESS AND EARNESTY, IS ABSOLUTELY UNTHINKABLE, EVEN TOOK THEM BACK TO CHINA, TO VISIT THE BOMB OF THEIR ANCESTORS, THEY TOOK IT JUST LIKE GOING TO A PICNIC, HAVING FUNDS ONLY, HERE PEOPLE TALK ABOUT SELF ENJOYMENT, WHO CARE WHAT THE OTHER PEOPLE LIVE OR DIE?.

IF MASTER BING YING ZHANG STILL LIVE TODAY, I BELIEVE HE WILL NOT TEACH THE STUDENTS OF THE CONFUCIES' THOUGHT, BUT CHANGED TO LEARN THE GENERATION SCROLL OF 道 DAO 德 DE 尊 ZUN 朝 CHAO 廷 TING, 世 SHI 傳 CHUN 禮 LI 義 YI 振 ZHE 家 JIA 聲 SHANG. THIS IS OUR FAMILY SCROLL FOR THE GENERATIONS.

- (1) SCORE BASE ON 100%, THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE RANK IN FIRST PLACE.
- (2) THEY ARE NEVER FORGET THEIR HOME LAND OR IDENTITY, REGARDLESS WHERE EVER THEY MAY BE.

- (3) HO KANG, JUST LIKE THE TAX SYSTEM, ON EACH HARVEST, THE FARMER HAS TO CONTRIBUTE SO MUCH OF THEIR HARVEST TO THE PUBLIC USE.
- (4) THE PIONEERS EARN SO LITTLE, YET THEY STILL DONATED MORE THAN THEY MADE.
- (5) JAPAN WAS STARTED INVADING CHINA FOUR EARLIER PRIOR TO THE START OF WWII.
- (6) CHINA SHOULD NOT HAS BEEN ISOLATED FORMORE THAN TWENTY YEARS, IF NOT THE SUPER POWER BLOCKADED ON CHINA.
- (7) CULTURAL GAP.
- (8) HOSPITALITY, THE COURTESY OF CHINESE PEOPLE.
- (9) FENG SHUI, THERE IS NO ENGLISH EQUIVALENT, LITERARY MEANS WIND AND WATER, BUT WIND AND WATER HAS A COMING SOURCE. ACTUAL FENG SHUI; TO THE CHINESE PEOPLE IS THE SOURCE OF FORTUNATE, OR SIMPLY GOOD LUCK

CONCLUSION OF NOTE #7 & 8.

FOR ABOUT THE LAST HUNDRED YEARS, CHINA WAS HUMILIATED BY THE FOREIGN INVASION, PLUS THE CORRUPTION OF ITS GOVERNMENT, TO THE MOST SHAMEFUL OF ALL THAT THE GOVERNMENT BOWED THEIR HEAD TO THE INVADER. THE INVADER SAW THE WEAKNESS OF THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT. THE INVADER TOOK THE ADVANTAGE OF AND BECAME MORE SAUAGE AGGRESSION, ALSO EXPLOITED ON CHINESE WEALTH. UNDER THIS CONDITION, MANY CHINESE WERE SUFFERED FROM POVERTY, LOT OF THEM TRIED TO GET OUT OF THE COUNTRY AND GO WHERE EVER THEY CAN TO MAKE A LIVING TO SURVIVE, NEEDLESS TO SAY, THE FOREIGNER LOOK DOWN AT THE CHINESE PEOPLE

AFTER CHINA LIBERATED IN 1949, A FEW COUNTRIES STILL DO A LOT OF PRO-GANDA AND DISCRIMINATION AGAINST THE CHINESE, UNDER THOSE CONDITION, THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT REALIZES THE SUTUATION AND SAID TO THE CHINESE LIVING ABROAD, TO OBEY AND RESPECT THE LOCAL LAWS WHERE THEY ARE, JUST TO AVOID ANY UNNECESSARY HARASSMENT. EVEN THUS, THE FOREIGN COUNTRIES STILL NOT SATISFY, THEY STILL DO WHAT EVER THEY CAN TO DESTROY CHINA FROM INDEPEN-

DANT AND STRONG. JUST GOING BACK TO THE EARLY FIFTY, A SENATOR NAMED JOSEPH McCARTHY PUT A LOT OF PRESSURE ON THE CHINESE LIVING IN THE U.S., HE ACCUSED EVERY CHINESE IS A COMMUNIST OR SYMPATHY TO THE COMMUNIST. WHY SENATOR McCARTHY SAID A THING LIKE THAT? ISN'T THIS IS A PART OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION?. ALSO WAY BACK EISENHOWER ADMINISTRATION, THE SECRETARY OF STATE, JOHN F. DALLAS PUT EMBARGO AND BLOCKADE ON CHINA. ITS SO OBVIOUS THAT THESE PEOPLE WHAT THEY TRIED TO DO, WAS TO STRANGLE CHINA'S ECONOMIC, SO CHINA CAN NOT BE INDEPENDANT AND STRONG. PRESIDENT NIXON SAW THE ABORTION OF THE U.S. POLICY, THAT'S WHY, HE REOPEN THE DOOR TO CHINA. BESIDES THIS, THERE WAS ONCE CALLED CHINA A YELLOW DEVIL BY THE EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AND TODAY SENATOR JESSE A. HELM SAID, CHINA IS INHUMAN. WHAT IS THIS ALL ABOUT?, A YELLOW DEVIL CALLED BY THE EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, IT IS SIMPLY BECAUSE THEY PROGANDA AGAINST CHINA HAS A LARGE POPULATION AND SAID SOMEDAY CHINA IS GOING TO CONQUER THE WORLD (IT TAKES ONE TO KNOW ONE). TODAY CALLED CHINA IS INHUMAN, BECAUSE THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT WANTS TO HAVE A FAMILY PLANNING, TO AVOID FROM THE POPULATION BOOMING OVER POPULATION WILL ALWAYS KEEP CHINA UNDER POVERTY, CAN NOT HAVE THE NECESSARY MEDICAL CARE AND EDUCATION FOR EVERY ONE. THAT'S WHY THE GOVERNMENT WANTS THE POPULATION UNDER CONTROL, SO THE CHINESE PEOPLE WILL ENJOY A HAPPIER LIFE AND A STRONG COUNTRY. BUT TO THE INVADER, THEY JUST WANT THE OPPOSITE, THEY WANT CHINA CONTINUE TO LIVE JUST LIKE IN THE PAST, POOR, WEAK AND FEVDAL, AND MOST OF ALL, FIGHTING AGAINST EACH OTHER, SO THE FOREIGN INVADER CAN GO INTO CHINA, JUST DO ANYTHING AS THEY PLEASE.

CHINA LIVED UNDER THE FOREIGN INFLUENCE FOR TOO LONG. EVEN TODAY, LOT OF PEOPLE STILL WORSHIP ALMOST EVERYTHING FOREIGN. JUST LIKE GENERAL CHENAULT'S WIFE, MADAM XIANG MEI CHAN SAID RECENTLY (BY THE WAY, SHE IS AN

ADVISOR TO THE WHITE HOUSE IN WASHINGTON D.C. ON ASIA AFFAIR) CHINESE PEOPLE GOT TO BREAK DOWN THIS FOREIGN WORSHIP. I AM REALIZED. THAT THE FOREIGN WORSHIPPERS ARE ALREADY PLANTED DEEP INTO THEIR MIND. PEOPLE DO ANY MEAN JUST TO GET OUT THE COUNTRY AND IMMIGRATE TO OTHER COUNTRY, BECAUSE THEY STILL BELIEVE THAT OTHER COUNTRY HAS A BETTER OPPORTUNITY. MAYBE THAT WHY MR B.T. WONG WROTE "PEOPLE WANT TO IMMIGRATE AND BECOME CITIZEN OF THE OTHER COUNTRY."

REGARDLESS WHAT TACTICS THE OTHER COUNTRIES MAY USING ON CHINA, IT JUST WON'T WORK AND NO BODY COULD DOMINATE THE CHINESE FATE EXCEPT THEMSELVES. IN A RECENT YEARS, A LOT OF OVERSEA CHINESE ARE REALIZING THAT THEY ARE CHINESE THEMSELF, AND THEY WANT TO LIVE TO BE A PROUD CHINESE..SO SOME OF THEM DONATED MONEY TO CHINA, TO BUILD SCHOOLS FROM ELEMENTARY TO UNIVERSITY OR HIGHER INSTITUTIONS. FROM SMALL BUSINESS TO BIG CORPORATION JUST TO DO THE PART OF "THE COUNTRY RISE OR FALL, THE BURDEN IS ON ITS CITIZENS." A STRONG CHINA WILL BENEFIT TO EVERY CHINESE IN EVERY WHERE. AS CHINESE OURSELF, WE SHOULD DO SOME PART AS TO BE MORE UNITED AND FIGHT FOR OUR EQUAL RIGHTS.

SPEAKING OF THE NEW GENERATION AND OLD GENERATION, EXPECIALLY THE NEW GENERATION BORN IN THE U.S. WE KNOW THERE ARE SOME DIFFERENCE IN CONCEPT THAN THE PEOPLE BORN IN CHINA, BECAUSE HERE THE PEOPLE EDUCATED TO BE WESTERN CULTURE ONLY, NEEDLESS TO SAY, THE CHINESE CULTURE AND WESTERN CULTURE ONLY, NEEDLESS TO SAY, THE CHINESE CULTURE AND WESTERN CULTURE HAS SOME DIFFERENCE.

SINCE THERE IS NO SCHOOL MORE AVAILABLE TO THE CHINESE CULTURE, THE YOUNGSTERS DEPEND ON THEIR PARENTS TO PASS ON THE CHINESE CULTURE TO THEM BUT THERE IS ON OBSTACLE, THE LANGUAGE DIFFICULTY, BECAUSE MOST OF THE

CHINESE BORN PARENTS DO NOT SPEAK ENGLISH WELL, THE SAME FOR THEIR CHILDREN WHO CAN NOT SPEAK GOOD CHINESE OR SOME NONE AT ALL, THEREFORE, THERE CREATED A CULTURAL GAP. MANY PARENTS JUST LEAVE IT UP TO THEIR CHILDREN WHAT EVER GOING TO BE . IN FACT, THEY DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT THEIR CHILDREN LEARN IN SCHOOL

CHINA HAS A RICH CULTURE IN ART, PHILOSOPHY, LITERATURE AND MEDICINE. JUST LOOK AT OURSELF, WHEN WE CAME FROM CHINA AND ESTABLISHED A NEW LIFE FROM ALMOST NOTHING TO THE LIFE OF TODAY, LOOK AT THE MODERN TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT, A LOT OF IDEAS ARE CAME FROM CHINA (JUST LIKE MR. B.T. WONG SAID, "WHILE KNOWN THE OLD THAT COULD LEAD TO KNOWN THE NEW"), SUCH AS COMPUTER, MISSILE, MEDICINE, EXPLOSIVE, NEVIGATION AND MANY OTHER, JUST LOOK AT THE MARSTIAL ART. HOW MANY COUNTRY CAN MASTER IT YET?, NO WANDER THERE SO MANY COUNTRIES ARE JEALOUS ON CHINA AND THEY WANT TO DESTROY CHINA ANY WAY THEY CAN.

IN THE U.S. HAS SO MANY OTHER CULTURES AND ORGANIZATIONS, ALL OF THEM HAS ONE PURPOSE IN MIND, TO KEEP THEIR ORIGINAL CULTURE AND IDENTITY. FOR THE SAME REASON, SOMEDAY I HOPE THAT OUR CHINESE REALIZE THE NEED OF THEIR OWN CULTURE, SOME TOO CAN HAVE AN ORGANIZATION TO SERVE FOR THEIR OWN PEOPLE.



甘聲小啓

本刊是一份免費贈閱的小冊子，多年來，皆由各熱心親友，捐款支持，使本刊得以繼續出刊，現在我們為酬謝各親友捐助的盛意起見，由本期起，特辟有「賀年廣告」多頁，凡是私人或商號捐助本刊，美金十元以上者，本刊將免費代其刊登「賀年廣告」一次，以酬盛意，謹此敬告各讀者。

甘聲編委會啓

UNCLE POY

By Janlee Wong

He was a remarkable man, my Uncle Poy. He was but one of those thousands of "gum san haak," guests of Gold Mountain who sojourned to America to find their fame and fortune. He was from a small village in the rural interior of southwest Kwangtung, a village called Gom-Benn. In the old days, one had to walk from the village to a local waterway, take a boat and ferry to get to the provincial capital of Canton. Uncle Poy made that trip as a teenager. From Canton, he took the train to Hong Kong and awaited passage on a steamship. Before the ponderous steamship, the largest thing that he had seen was "Ay Gok San," a large hill near Gom-Benn. Now this metal whale loomed before him to take him to Gold Mountain. Grandpa had written home, sending some money, asking that Uncle Poy join him in America. It was time for the boy to help increase the family fortune -- U.S. dollars and gold that helped the family build a new house in the new part of Gom-Benn and increase the family's share of land.

The sea voyage seemed to take weeks, and seasickness was common. The end of the journey through San Francisco and Angel Island's immigration detention center was a dusty town in the Inland Empire called San Bernardino. The rough Toisan dialect transliteration was "San Beh Na Denh Da." The nearby sister city of Riverside was "Li Ba Sai." Grandpa had a Chinese dry goods store -- Gee Cheung Co. The store wasn't profitable but the lottery operation on the side was, when the numbers were lucky. The lottery had the tacit approval of the sheriff--, if those "Chinamen" kept it quiet and didn't create any ruckus with those "tong wars."

Uncle Poy went to school at first. In China, you had to pay to go to school, in America, it was free. There were no special English as a second language courses, bilingual education or immigrant education centers. Chinese were placed in lower grades with children several years younger. Uncle Poy learned English and quitely acculturated. America's energy and spirit, it's freedom and democracy inspired Uncle Poy. Chinese were full of new ideas then, the Chinese American communities buzzed with talk of revolution and republics. The old Manchu Empire/Dynasty crumbled, a new China took its place. Uncle Poy took these new ideas and concepts to heart. He was a new Chinese man-- no more pigtailed and bowing. He wore new double breasted suits, snappy hats and drove shiny new cars. He listened to radio, read speeches by Dr. Sun Yat-Sen, and sent money home. He had ideas for business and eventually opened a Chinese restaurant. But things didn't work out. The business failed and Uncle Poy got sick.

When he recovered, Uncle Poy had to face the hardest challenge of his life. He was partially disabled, Grandpa had died and left debts. The Japanese had invaded China. America was in a depression. Instead of resigning himself, he continued to be optimistic. When my dad came and opened a restaurant in Riverside, Uncle helped out. He was a natural as a host and front man. He spoke English well, made the customers feel at home. During the war years, everyone did well. Servicemen and locals loved Chinese food and always had good food and service at Chungking Cafe in Riverside. Chungking was always in the headlines, the wartime capital of China in the province of Szechuan. People at that time had never even heard of Szechuan food, but they got good egg foo young and chow mein/chop suey at Chungking.

Separated from his own wife and children by civil war and the Communists, my brother and sisters and I quite naturally became Uncle Poy's extended family children. We all lived together with cooks and business partners in a big turn-of-the-century house on Eighth St. We grew up with rice bags and bean sprouts, and careful nurturing from Uncle Poy. He took us for walks and trips to San Bernardino, bought us toys and told us about the world, politics and what it was to be as a Chinese in America. A lifelong Democrat, he impressed upon us the need to vote, to be represented and to count. Stevenson would have been the first candidate if I could have voted.

Whenever we were mad at my parents for making us work at the restaurant, Uncle Poy defended them-- telling us that they had to work very hard to support us and to give us what they never had, especially a college education. We grumbled, but Uncle Poy told us about how great America was, that if one chose to work hard, one could achieve great things. He still had that great view of America. As Uncle Poy got older, his sight got worse. When we were young he took us around. Now we took him around.

Uncle Poy was just as pleased as my parents when we graduated from high school and college, and only marginally disappointed when we didn't become doctors, lawyers and engineers. Instead we chose teaching and community service. My parents wished we had chosen something more lucrative, but we were children of the sixties, imbued with the spirit of activism and working for the public good. Uncle Poy understood. He knew what times we were in and our deep heartfelt desire to help our Chinese American communities. My Uncle Poy told us that Chinese immigrants only wanted to work and make a new life but sometimes they didn't know their rights and let themselves be exploited. He argued for voter registration, political representation and public services. We agreed.

When Uncle Poy retired and moved to LA, we were sad. There was a huge gap in our lives and in some ways we thought we'd never see him again. But we were busy and moving out of Riverside. We would always remember Uncle Poy and try to see

him on our whirlwind visits to LA. He still made us feel good and kept up with current events.

Uncle Poy became a regular at the Gom Benn Village Association. He'd hang out at the Gom Benn office in Chinatown and swap stories with the other oldsters. The only regret he had was that his health prevented him from visiting China. He told me once that you can't forget you're Chinese, and that Chinese are like leaves of a tree, when they fall off, they always return to their roots.

Uncle Poy is buried in a suburb of Los Angeles but it may as well be China because Uncle Poy brought his roots with him and shared them with me.

Lila Gin Jue

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IN BABA'S VILLAGE

Anna Wong

October 15, 1983

Today was the day that we were going to Baba's village—Gom-Ben Lo Toont (outside of Hoisen). We all piled into vans and started off. I was so anxious to see the village, I ask the driver how long it would take to get there. He told me it would be twenty minutes. I couldn't believe it! In twenty minutes I would see where Baba was born and grew up. I would walk the same paths that he did and sit in the same house that he and Mama lived in after they were married.

We had been driving down the road for about fifteen minutes and there in the distance I could see some buildings. I asked Baba, "Is that it? Do you recognize it?" He said, "Yes, but it looks different, old." We pulled up to the village meeting hall where what looked like the entire village was out waiting to greet us. I got my camera ready as I wanted to record everything of my first visit to my homeland of Mama and Baba.

As we stepped out of the van, people went up to Mama and Baba and grabbed their hands and everyone was talking at once. The emotion I felt was overwhelming! Relatives they had left 35 years ago, that I had only known through stories were there in front of me! There was Say Po (great aunt) and Cheung po (great aunt) and dozens of others who I knew I could never remember their names.

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Following our initial encounter, we started to walk to Baba and Mama's house which was still there. We walked down several dirt paths, around the corner, and up the hill. Then I heard Baba say "I remeber this, that's cousin's house." Then in front of us was Baba and Mama's house where they lived some 35 years ago. It was made out of bricks with wooden swinging doors, and looked like it had fared well through the years.

As we walked in, I couldn't believe my eyes! This is where my Mama and Baba lived for so many years before they went to Gold Mountain. Just inside the door was two picture frames filled with photographs. When I took a close look, I was very surprised to find that there were pictures of myself and my sisters at various ages standing inside and in the garden around our house in Gold Mountain. I remember while growing up, Mama saying "Let's send a copy of this picture to cousin, or aunt etc. in Gom — Ben." Now I know who those pictures went to. They followed my sisters and I as we grew up, yet we hed never met each other until now.

After touring, exploring and examining Mama and Baba's house, cousins said let's go and walk mountain — han san—to visit the resting place of my ancestors. In Gold Mountain we would han san every year during the month of April, and I always wondered why it was called walk mountain. Now I found out! We actually had to climb the mountain to see the resting places of my grandmother, great-grandmother, grandfather and many more relatives from generations ago. We brought an entire roast pig, dumplings, chickens, cakes and liquor to offer to our ancestors. This would be a special offering as my generation had never taken part in it before, As the incense burned and the fire-crackers exploded, I felt very emotional and very close to my ancestors of whom I never met. I found myself introducing myself to them and I really felt like they knew I had come a long way to visit them. I felt very close to a family that I had never actually met.

After visiting the resting areas of some fifteen relatives, we made our way back to Mama and Baba's house for a feast of pork, chicken, noodles, dumplings and what seemed like twenty other dishes. We all piled into the house and ate and talked, After our meal, cousins took my sisters Linda and Carolyn and myself on a tour of the village. We saw the water buffalo they used to help plow the fields, the sewing factory, the main meeting hall as well as the big tree they sit around to socialize, We told them about Gold Mountain and they told us about Gom-Ben. Before we knew it, we were told that it was time to go back to the Taishan Garden Hotel where we were staying. Our first day in Gom-Ben Village was coming to a close 'all too fast.

My family and relatives from Gold Mountain and Gom-Ben United together.



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All high school and college students are eligible to apply for these annual awards. In addition, applications will be solicited from selected schools. Each award shall consist of a certificate and a monetary check whose amount shall be determined as indicated below.

The recipients of these awards will be selected by the Kan Pien Scholarship Awards committee.

The monetary portion of these awards is obtained from the Kan Pien Scholarship Fund. This Fund is a public foundation supported by contributions from the general public. These contributions are deductible from both state and federal income tax. This fund is organized around a financial base presently set with a goal of \$100,000.00 to be raised by public contributions. The number and the amount of the monetary awards will be based on the income generated by this financial base. The financial base shall be maintained intact. All income from this fund will be used for scholarships. (current expenses are being covered by contributions from Mr. Bing S. Wong) All officers and members of the Fund, the Awards Committee, and the Fund Raising Committee will serve without pay. The present status and activities of the Kan Pien Scholarship Fund are indicated below.

1. The Fund has been set up as a public foundation and is recognized by the IRS as a tax exempt corporation.
2. The current president is Mr. Bing S. Wong.
3. The Fund's monetary balance is invested in money market accounts and consists of \$12,000.00 (contributed by Mr. Bing S. Wong) and \$1,800.00 from earlier account.
4. Actions proposed for the next Fund meeting are selection of (1) chairman and members of the Fund Raising Committee and (2) members of the AWARDS Committee.
5. This Fund is supported by the Gom-Benn Village Society.



余黃思茵女士主理

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