

新聞稿

PRESS RELEASE



For Immediate Release

Documentary Screening and Special Japanese Lecture on the hidden history of the Japanese language through an 1856 Chinese newspaper article on the western-style lighthouse

Hong Kong, 13 January 2022 – In view of the latest social distancing measures announced by the Government, the documentary screening and Special Japanese Lecture on 23 January 2022 will now be conducted online.

The Hong Kong Maritime Museum (HKMM) and the City University of Hong Kong jointly present the screening of the documentary *Lighthouse Memories: Waglan Island Lighthouse* (Japanese version) and a Japanese lecture by Taga Yumi on Chinese writing as the historical connection between Japan and China. The event will be followed by a sharing session of the documentary production.

Produced by the Lighthouse Heritage Research Connections (LHRC) of the City University of Hong Kong, the documentary *Lighthouse Memories: Waglan Island Lighthouse* introduces an article published in 1856 in the *Chinese Serial*, Hong Kong's first Chinese newspaper published by Ying Wah College. The article described western-style lighthouse with an illustration. The notion of a western lighthouse was unbeknownst to people in Hong Kong, China and Japan at that time. Since the era of Bakumatsu (1853-1868), learned Japanese was interested in western knowledge through *Chinese Serial*. The Japanese hand copied them in order to disseminate and circulate. It is reasonable to conclude that *Chinese Serial* is a bridge for East Asia to learn the west's advanced science and technology.

Narrator and translator of the documentary, Taga Yumi, will give a lecture to reveal a hidden history of the Japanese language through exploring the article. Archived in Japan, the article includes a Japanese transcription which people who understand Chinese can read without problem. Marks in red ink were added, indicating the system "Kanbun kundoku go" which is applied in Japan in order to read Chinese with Japanese grammar. Taga Yumi will compare the article with other official documents written by Japanese officials and explain that Chinese writing was an official language of Japan at that time.

After the lecture, participants can enjoy a sharing session by the documentary production team. This event is funded by the Maritime and Aviation Training Fund.

Download Images: <https://bit.ly/lighthousejp>

Details

Date: 23 January 2022 (Sunday)

Online via Microsoft Teams: <https://bit.ly/3FsVMsy>

香港海事博物館 HONG KONG MARITIME MUSEUM

香港中環八號碼頭 Central Pier No. 8, Hong Kong

T: +852 3713-2500 | F: +852 2813 8033 | E: info@hkmaritimemuseum.org | www.hkmaritimemuseum.org

(Hong Kong Maritime Museum is incorporated with limited liability)

Time	Event
15:00-16:00	Lecture by Taga Yumi <i>The first Chinese newspaper "Chinese Serial" published in Hong Kong which Japanese learned about the notion of lighthouse for the first time</i> (Japanese supplemented in English) Documentary Screening <i>Lighthouse Memories: Waglan Island Lighthouse</i> (Japanese)
16:00-17:00	Sharing Session by City University of Hong Kong's Lighthouse Heritage Research Connections Documentary Production Team (in Cantonese and translated into Japanese)

About Hong Kong Maritime Museum

The Hong Kong Maritime Museum (HKMM) is founded by members of the Hong Kong Shipowners Association to help Hong Kong residents and visitors to the city explore its unique maritime heritage. HKMM is an independent, non-profit registered charity supported by the shipping industry, the business community, individuals, and the Hong Kong SAR Government. The HKMM is a cultural institution that tells the stories of Hong Kong's relationship with the sea, including the trades between Hong Kong and the Pearl River Delta and the World, and the vital roles played by so many ships in those stories.

The Museum opened its door to the public at Murray House in Stanley in 2005 and relocated to beautifully situated Central Pier No. 8 in the heart of the Central Harbour Waterfront in 2013. Today the Museum displays over 1,200 objects in 15 galleries. The HKMM also houses various event spaces for rent, a resource centre, its rooftop (social enterprise) Café 8 which enjoys wonderful harbour views, and a gift shop. The HKMM engages with the community of Hong Kong by providing education and public programming to schools, community groups and families.

www.hkmaritimemuseum.org

For media enquiries, please contact:

Christy Li
Head of Marketing
Hong Kong Maritime Museum
+852 3713 2508
christyli@hkmaritimemuseum.org