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Analysis of the Change in Characters in the Parade of floats in the Cheung Chau Bun Festival and its meaning towards modern Hong Kong Society
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1. Introduction

Cheung Chau Bun Festival has always been a fascinating fiesta which attracts numerous locals and tourists every year on the day of Buddha’s Birthday. Among the events held in the Festival, the one which can reflect most Hong Kong culture would be the Parade of floats.

Parade of floats literally means scenery that floats in the air. It originally came from Guangdong, China. The characters appear in the Parade of floats are divided into two groups: those in ancient costumes and those in modern costumes. The characters in ancient costumes dressed resplendently, while the ones in modern costumes dig at recent political and social issues.¹

The characters featured in the parade came into my interest because they reflect present social values. Through the characters, we can have a peek at present Hong Kong society. Although some may treat the Parade of floats as a show only, I believe that there are more to seek through the characters featured in the parade. Therefore, I would like to find out the structure and trend of the present characters, their meanings and their influence towards Hong Kong society. To carry out the research, I would visit the Parade of floats by myself and review the characters of the Parade of floats in the past ten years and this year, meaning 2002-2012.

¹ "長洲春色飄飄" Hong Kong Beats. ATV. 29/05/2005. Television.
2. **Research objectives**

The objectives of this project are-

- to find out the examples of ancient characters and modern characters in the Parade of floats of the past ten years and this year
- to find out the changes in trend through the years
- to find out the extent of the politics-related characters in the Parade of floats on reflecting the political environment of Hong Kong
3. **Research Methodology**

3.1 **Field Research**

A field research would be carried out on Saturday, 28\(^{th}\) April 2012 in Cheung Chau. The field research would be focused on the characters featured in the Parade of floats. The objective of the field research would be to find out the characters of this year’s Parade of floats, so as to gain basic information of the characters of this year. The information obtained would be used for further analysis.

3.2 **Image Data of past years’ Parade of floats characters**

As first hand data of the past years’ characters could not be obtained by visiting the Cheung Chau Bun Festival of this year, the analysis of past characters in the Parade of floats would be relying on image data. Such data could be found on the home page of Cheung Chau Bun Festival\(^2\).

3.3 **Limitations**

Firstly, the crowd in Cheung Chau on the Cheung Chau Bun Festival may make it difficult to collect information about the characters in this year’s Parade of floats. The large number of visitors on that day may block the sight and hence information of this year’s characters may be missed. As this situation is expected and is hard to prevent, the data of this year’s characters would be supported by other photo sources on web. Another limitation would be that the image data from the web may not be adequate to reveal the full image of past years’ characters. The samples may not be large enough to make the result representative of all 10 years investigated.

\(^2\) ‘Cheung Chau Bun Festival Home Page’ (http://www.cheungchau.org/) (last access 18/11/12)
4. Literature Review

Episode 9 of the program ‘Hong Kong Beats’ aired on ATV in 2005 provided basic knowledge and information about the Parade of floats. It stated the origin of the parade, the details about a float and the difficulties nowadays on preparing the Parade of floats.

The program stated that the origin of the Parade of floats. When a uprising failed in 1860s, the Qing court banned all the Cantonese operas. People from Guangzhou then invited the characters in the operas to join a parade, where the opera would be performed in the form of a parade but not an opera. This parade was then passed to Foshan, where people treated this as a celebration event of the harvest in autumn. It was then passed to Cheung Chau in Hong Kong and became one of the events of the Cheung Chau Bun Festival.

The program also described the details of a float. A float consists of mainly a metal structure, when the metal holder holds the child, who was dressed as ancient or modern characters, in the middle of the air. The ancient characters included those from ancient folks and tales, history and novels, while the modern ones reflect current issues.

The program revealed the difficulties faced by the makers of the floats too. As there was only one old handicraftsman who can make metal holders of the metal stand now, the designer of the floats have to reuse the metal stands of past years as there are few new ones. The makers are now considering to invite handicraftsmen from Guangdong so as to keep the parade going on.
5. Findings and Analysis

5.1 Examples of characters in the Parade of floats of the past ten years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of ancient characters found</th>
<th>Number of modern characters found</th>
<th>Total number of characters found (actual number of characters)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7 (13)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6 (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>12 (12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>14 (14)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>14 (14)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12 (20)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>15 (15)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>17 (17)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>18 (18)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>13 (15)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fig. 1

5.1.1 Characters in the Parade of floats in 2002

The total number of characters in this year’s Parade of floats is 13. Among the 13 characters, 7 of them were identified by image or text sources. 4 of the 7 characters were ancient characters, including Guanyin and the Red Boy from *Journey to the West*. (Refer to Fig. 2) The other characters were either from Chinese history or myths. The modern characters included a fireman with former Chief Executive Tung Chee Hwa, China national football team and the God of wealth with a cleaner. The fireman with former Chief Executive Tung Chee Hwa symbolizes the attempts of the Chief Executive on solving socio-economic problems and improving the living standards of Hong Kong people. (Refer to Fig. 3) The China national football team was featured as the team made their first appearance in World Cup in 2002. The God of wealth with a cleaner reflects the status of some of the commuters.

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3 The photo sources of some of the years are limited and hence some of the characters could not be identified.

4 “長洲太平清醮飄色精彩”, Wen Wei Pao, 19/05/02 (http://paper.wenweipo.com/2002/05/19/HK02051900045.htm)

5 “長洲巡遊 飄色搶鏡”, Apple Daily, 20/05/02 (http://hk.apple.nextmedia.com/news/art/20020520/2609490)
5.1.2 Characters in the Parade of floats in 2003

Due to the spread of SARS, the number of teams joining the Parade of floats sharply decreased. Also, most of this year’s characters were related to SARS and the wish of the disease to disappear. Half of the characters were ancient characters and half of them were modern ones. The 3 ancient characters included Bao Zheng, which symbolized the honest and upright officials and reflected the discontent towards mediocre officials. Another ancient character would be 2 Taoist priests, whose responsibilities were to swipe away diseases. Out of the 3 modern characters, 2 of them were related to SARS. The 2 characters included paramedic who wore masks and brought along stethoscopes with them, and cleaners who sprayed out ‘1:99 disinfectants’, which was actually water (Refer to Fig.4). The left modern character would be Antony Leung, the former Financial Secretary of Hong Kong, and his wife. The set also included a new car which dug at his act of buying a car before a related policy was revealed, and a flag with words of ‘As long as you are dissolute, you are out of luck’, which was mentioned by him and aroused public discontent (Refer to Fig.5).8

6 http://www.cheungchau.org/copy2002/page1/web/2135.jpg
7 http://www.cheungchau.org/copy2002/page1/web/2118.jpg
8 “長洲飄色 主題驅瘟”, Apple Daily, 09/05/03 (http://hk.apple.nextmedia.com/news/art/20030509/3282211)
5.1.3 Characters in the Parade of floats in 2004

There were a total of 12 characters in this year’s parade. There were 5 ancient characters and 7 modern characters in 2004. The ancient characters included Xi Shi and Diao chan who were two of the four beauties of ancient China, and also a Daoist priest who wished for no more spread of diseases in Hong Kong, due to the spread of SARS in 2003. The modern characters this year did not only include political figures, but also characters from foreign countries and TV dramas. Famous British soccer player Beckham was included in this year’s parade, as well as two Kendo players, where Kendo is one of the Japanese martial arts. Characters from TV dramas were also featured in the parade, such as the flight attendants in the drama *Triumph in the Skies*, and Ji Xiaolan in *The Eloquent Ji Xiaolan*. As for political incidents, there was the model of Hunghom Peninsula with Michael Suen, who was the Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands then, and a boy dressed in a suit, representing developers. This was to dig at the government’s act of selling Hunghom Peninsula at a very low price to developers.¹¹ There was also sets which combined factors from the past and present, including a couple in traditional clothings sitting in a rickshaw.

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¹¹ “長洲飄色將演「紅灣絆倒」”, Wen Wei Po, 23/05/04 (http://paper.wenweipo.com/2004/05/23/YO0405230008.htm)
and modern food in Hong Kong. This was to symbolize the individual visitors from the mainland to Hong Kong.

5.1.4 Characters in the Parade of floats in 2005

There are 14 characters in this year’s parade. Among the 15 characters, 8 of them are ancient characters while 6 of them are modern characters. We can see that this year is different from the past 3 years, where the ancient characters carried a bigger proportion among all characters. The 8 ancient characters included the four beauties of ancient China, and also characters from The Dream of the Red Chamber. The modern characters of this year also carried features of globalization, where there were characters symbolizing Japanese militarism and the mourning feels towards the 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami. (Refer to Fig.8) There was also a team featuring kids who were wearing traditional Thai clothes. Moreover, as there was changing of Chief Executive of Hong Kong in 2005, there were also characters featuring the new Chief Executive Officer Donald Tsang. (Refer to Fig.9) There were also characters from TV dramas like last year, where the character in the drama The Prince’s Shadow was featured. There were also girl scouts and judges featured in the

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12 “長洲飄色「碧咸」搶鏡”, Wen Wei Po, 27/05/04 (http://paper.wenweipo.com/2004/05/27/HK0405270027.htm)
13 http://www.cheungchau.org/day/day26/day26_3/26_306.jpg
14 http://www.cheungchau.org/day/day26/day26_2/26_218.jpg
5.1.5 Characters in the Parade of floats in 2006

In this year, there were 14 characters in the parade. Half of them were ancient characters and half of them were modern characters. Except the Red Boy from Journey to the West, this year’s parade also included another 2 characters in ancient Chinese literature: Mu Guiying, the heroine from the Generals of the Yang Family legends (Refer to Fig.10), and Chu Liuxiang, who is from the Chu Liuxiang series. Apart from ancient characters, the modern characters were also meaningful. As same as the past years, there was a Thai girl as one of the modern characters, but this time she was accompanied by a new couple. (Refer to Fig.11) A little girl carrying a bag of chicken was also on the set as to dig at the government’s new policy on breeding poultry. As to celebrate Hong Kong being chosen as the venue for equestrianism in the Beijing Olympics, there was also a boy dressed in related clothing in the parade. As for social issues, a girl with a red headband was featured to dig at the increase of

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15 “飄色人旺「煲呔」熱到扭計”, Singtao Daily, 16/05/05 (http://www.singtao.com/archive/fullstory.asp?andor=or&year1=2005&month1=5&day1=16&year2=2005&month2=5&day2=16&category=all&id=20050516a02&keyword1=&keyword2=)
16 http://www.cheungchau.org/Year2005/15_May/15_MayB/2217.jpg
17 http://www.cheungchau.org/Year2005/15_May/15_MayB/2210.jpg
18 “長洲太平清醮將舉行飄色巡遊 吸引四萬眼球”, Singtaonet, 05/05/06 (http://www.stnn.cc:82/global/hk_macau/headline/t20060505_205410.html)
ferry fares. A boy dressed as a doctor was also there to spread the wish of no more diseases in Hong Kong.

5.1.6 Characters in the Parade of floats in 2007

As 2008 was the year of Beijing Olympics, this year’s parade contained lots of Olympics-related characters. As a result, the number of ancient characters only made up 1/3 of the characters found with text or image source. The ancient characters included Guanyin and characters from Butterfly Lovers. As for the modern characters, we can see that there were many characters who were related to Olympic games, especially equestrianism, which Hong Kong was chosen as the venue for competition in Beijing Olympics, and windsurfing, where Hong Kong has a well-known player: Lee Lai Shan in this kind of sports. (Refer to Fig.12) The mascots of Beijing Olympics: the Fuwas were also featured in the design of sets. As 2007 was the 10 years anniversary year of Hong Kong’s return to China, characters dressing in different traditional clothing of different races were also featured in the parade, so as

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20 http://www.cheungchau.org/Year2006/Page11/061130.jpg
21 http://www.cheungchau.org/Year2006/Page11/061138.jpg
22 “二萬五人爭看飄色逼爆長洲”, Singtao Daily, 25/05/07 (http://www.singtao.com/archive/fullstory.asp?andor=or&year1=2007&month1=5&day1=25&year2=2007&month2=5&day2=25&category=all&id=20070525a04&keyword1=&keyword2=)
to symbolize the joy and happiness of coexisting with different races in China. However, the controversies over Nina Wang Kung Yu-Sum’s estate were not included in the parade. The only political incident involved was the controversies over the Education Bureau on threatening to intervene in the operations of the Hong Kong Institute of Education.\(^{23}\) (Refer to Fig.13)

\[\text{Fig.12}^{24} \quad \text{Fig.13}^{25}\]

5.1.7 Characters in the Parade of floats in 2008

Just like last year, this year’s parade is full of ideas from the Beijing Olympics. Among the 15 characters, there were 6 ancient characters and 9 modern characters. The 6 ancient characters included Xi Shi, who was one of the four beauties of ancient China, and also Lin Daiyu from the Dream of the Red Chamber. The 9 modern characters contained mostly features related to the upcoming Beijing Olympics then, including equestrianism and table-tennis, where competitions of equestrianism of Beijing Olympics took place in Hong Kong. As for table-tennis, more than one team featured Ko Lai Chak and Li Ching in table-tennis men doubles. (Refer to Fig.14) As usual, there were teams featuring different races, and children were dressed in traditional clothes of different races. As for political incidents, there was a parade

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\(23\) “香港萬人觀看長洲飄色巡遊”, Daijiyuan.com, 25/05/07 (http://www.epochtimes.com/b5/7/5/25/n1722153.htm)

\(24\) http://s1.djyimg.com/i6/705250041571366.jpg

\(25\) http://s1.djyimg.com/i6/705250041271366.jpg
team featuring the Hong Kong Island by-election, 2007, with 2 girls dressing like the 2 candidates in the by-election, Anson Chan and Regina Ip.26 (Refer to Fig.15) In this year, Samba girls from Brazil joined the parade and performed their dances in the parade, which added new factors into the parade and showed signs of globalization.27

5.1.8 Characters in the Parade of floats in 2009

Due to the economic crisis took place last year, this year’s theme was to tell Hongkongers not to give up. There were 8 ancient characters and 9 modern characters this year. The ancient characters included the Eight Immortals in Chinese mythology, and also characters from the novel *The Deer and the Cauldron*. As for modern characters, they were divided to 3 main themes: financial crisis, the East Asian Games, and public health. The bankruptcy of Lehman Brothers was one of the incidents featured in the parade, where a girl wore clothes with the words ‘AIG’ and the set contained big rocks, dead crabs and names of banks, citing the irresponsible behavior

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26 “車 頭顯奧運熱潮”, Wen Wei Po, 11/05/08 (http://paper.wenweipo.com/2008/05/11/HK0805110010.htm)
27 “長洲靚色——兩代角力”, Singtao Daily, 12/05/08 (http://www.singtao.com/archive/fullstory.asp?andor=or&year1=2008&month1=5&day1=12&year2=2008&month2=5&day2=12&category=all&id=20080512m01&keyword1=&keyword2=)
28 http://www.cheungchau.org/Year2008/Page14/081415.jpg
29 http://www.cheungchau.org/Year2008/Page14/081433.jpg
of the banks on selling the financial products.\(^{30}\) (Refer to Fig.16) The East Asian Games took place in Hong Kong in 2009, and as a result, there were a lot of characters featuring this event, including children dressing as cycling athletes. (Refer to Fig.17) As there were cases of H1N1 in the past year, the parade also included kids who dressed as paramedics.\(^{31}\) As an exception, there was also a fireman featured in the parade, who paid respect to the fireman who died at his post.

![Fig.16](http://www.cheungchau.org/2009Pages/page9/9956/99564.jpg) ![Fig.17](http://www.cheungchau.org/2009Pages/page9/9978/99782.jpg)

5.1.9 Characters in the Parade of floats in 2010

In this year, there were total of 18 characters, including 10 ancient ones and 8 modern ones. The ancient characters included Diao chan, who was one of the four ancient Chinese beauties, and a mermaid from the ancient Chinese fairy tales. (Refer to Fig.18) This mermaid appeared in the parade 30 years ago, and was brought up again so as to arouse teenagers’ awareness towards ancient Chinese tales.\(^{34}\) As for the

\(^{30}\) “長洲飄色搶包山”, BBCChinese.com, 03/05/09 (http://news.bbc.co.uk/chinese/trad/hi/newsid_8030000/newsid_8031200/8031253.stm)

\(^{31}\) “六萬人逼爆長洲賞飄色”, Singtao Daily, 03/05/09 (http://www.singtao.com/archive/fullstory.asp?andor=or&year1=2009&month1=5&day1=3&year2=2009&month2=5&day2=3&category=all&id=20090503a10&keyword1=&keyword2=)

\(^{32}\) http://www.cheungchau.org/2009Pages/page9/9956/99564.jpg

\(^{33}\) http://www.cheungchau.org/2009Pages/page9/9978/99782.jpg

\(^{34}\) “新聞故事——長洲飄色 猛人雲集 黃飛鴻志雲大師輪番登場”, HK Headline, 20/05/09 (http://news.hkheadline.com/dailynews/headline_news_detail_columnist.asp?id=111145&section_name=wtt&kw=8)
modern characters, the most well-known one surely was Tommy Cheung Yu-yan, who suggested a minimum wage of $20/hour, and then became the subject of insults, stating that he failed to know the people’s lives. (Refer to Fig.19) The increase in transport fares also was a theme in this year’s parade, where a little girl dressed in traditional Chinese clothes waved a flag with the words ‘against transport fare increase’. Many TV shows were also featured in this year’s parade, including the interviewing show Be My Guest which was hosted by Stephen Chan Chi Wan, and TV drama The Eloquent Ji Xiaolan, where Hesen and Du Xiaoyue from the drama were featured in the parade. As 2010 was the year of the Asian Games which took place in Guangzhou, there were also teams featuring the Asian Games, with cycling athletes and windsurfing athlete Lee Lai Shan.

5.1.10 Characters in the Parade of floats in 2011

There were 15 teams joining the parade this year. Among the 15 teams, they included 7 ancient characters and 6 modern characters. The ancient characters included Wong Fei-Hung and Mu Guiying, the heroine from the Generals of the Yang Family legends. Both characters are related to martial arts; and the other characters

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35 “港長洲飄色諷刺時弊 “廿蚊張”最搶鏡”, chinareviewnews.com, 22/05/10 (http://www.chinareviewnews.com/doc/1013/30/7/101330755.html?coluid=91&kindid=2673&docid=101330755)
36 http://www.cheungchau.org/2010Pages/page13/A1324.JPG
37 http://www.cheungchau.org/2010Pages/page13/A1305.JPG
included Guanyin and other gods. (Refer to Fig.20) As for modern characters, this year’s theme was closely related to political and social issues. For example, there was a set divided into 2 sides, with one side of high valued goods such as red wine and abalone, and the other of inexpensive food such as sweet potatoes and bitter melon, symbolizing the economic disparity in Hong Kong.38 Moreover, there were other characters and sets which dug at the dissatisfying performance of the government, such as Empress Dowager Cixi so as to symbolize that the government was doing the same as her dictatorship. The construction of an incinerator near Cheung Chau was also a main theme in the parade, and the set of an official stepping on a fishermen showed the discontent of Cheung Chau residents.39 (Refer to Fig.21)

![Fig.20](http://www.cheungchau.org/2011Pages/page11/B1125.JPG) ![Fig.21](http://www.cheungchau.org/2011Pages/page11/B1115.JPG)

5.2 Examples of characters in the Parade of floats in 2012

There were 18 teams joining the Parade of floats this year. Half of them were featuring ancient characters while the other half featured modern characters. The ancient characters included Guanyin and the Red Boy from *Journey to the West*, and

38 “長洲太平清醮 飄色主題財爺派錢”, Wen Wei Po, 09/05/11 (http://paper.wenweipo.com/2011/05/09/Y01105090003.htm)
40 http://www.cheungchau.org/2011Pages/page11/B1125.JPG
41 http://www.cheungchau.org/2011Pages/page11/B1115.JPG
also characters from *The Dream of the Red Chamber*.\(^{42}\) (Refer to Fig.22) As for modern characters, they included candidates from the Chief Executive Election: Leung Chun Ying and Tang Ying Yen Henry. One of the teams featured a boy and a girl trying to drink red wine, which dug at his extra-marital affairs. Another team featured decorations related to horses, symbolizing Leung’s winning in the race of Chief Executive Election. The change of Chief Executive was also a hot theme in the parade, where there were 2 teams featuring this incident, one of them dug at the unfairness of the election and the other one showed the wish of Leung improving the lives of the poor. The former Chief Executive Officer Donald Tsang was also featured in many of the sets, while one of them was about him using jet planes, villas and yachts to support his wife, which dug at him being nicely treated by foreign officials.\(^{43}\) (Refer to Fig.23)

Fig.22\(^{44}\)

Fig.23\(^{45}\)

\(^{42}\) “長洲飄色傳民意 大和解題材火熱”, Wen Wei Po, 22/04/11 (http://paper.wenweipo.com/2012/04/22/HK1204220005.htm)


\(^{44}\) http://www.cheungchau.org/2012Pages/page15/C1533.JPG

5.3 Structure of characters in the Parade of floats

5.3.1 General structure of characters

From Fig.24, we can see that in past 11 years, ancient characters took up 48% of the parade characters while modern characters took up 48% of the figure.

5.3.2 Structure of modern characters

Fig.25
By referring to Fig.25, we can infer that characters related to politics made up 34% of the modern characters, which enjoyed the greatest proportion. After that, characters related to sports events took up 20% of the modern characters. Characters related to social issues also took up 14% of the total number of modern characters. Characters related to TV shows also enjoyed 11% of the modern characters, while characters related to globalization made up 4% of the figure. Other characters obtained a 17% proportion in the figure.

5.3.3 Trend of the appearance of political characters

![Fig.26](image)

From Fig.26, we can see that there is a rising trend of featuring political characters in the past few years. In terms of numbers, the number of political figures varies from 1 to 2 in 2002 to 2010, but increased to 3 in 2011, then doubled to 6 in 2012. In terms of percentage, although it reached 66% in 2002, in the next 8 years, it had never passed the mark of 33%. However, in 2011, the percentage reached 60% again, and increased to 66% in 2012.
5 Conclusion

From the analysis, we can infer that the Parade of floats includes increasing number of politics-related characters. This may reflect the fact that the Parade is changing its role of a celebration event to an event that mirrors the political environment of Hong Kong on that year. This also showed that the public awareness towards politics is increasing in the past years. For example, in 2005, there was only 1 team in the parade which chose to present a character about the election of the Chief Executive Officer, but there was 6 teams which chose to present the similar theme in 2012. Most of those characters reflect political facts, while some of them expressed discontent of the public towards the government.

The parade had also taken an important role of warning the public and the government on current political issues. It revealed the same opinion shared among most of the people, and while the public showed their sympathetic responses towards these characters and themes, the government should make note of the responses and make amendments if necessary. Others can also have a peek at Hong Kong’s political environment by referring to those characters.
6 Reflection

In this study, I learnt a lot on collecting data from newspapers. In the past, I used books as my main source of data, but it was different this time. When I started the process of data collection, I immediately found out that there is little books about the Cheung Chau Bun Festival and the Parade of floats. Moreover, as I need to analyze the characters in the past 10 years, the only way to get to know about these characters is to flip through the news. It was my first time to deal with so many articles in a research, and this helped me a lot on collecting data by reading newspaper. I am sure that this would also be useful for my further studies. I am glad that I have chosen this topic where I have to use different research methods comparing with my classmates, whom mainly used interviews and questionnaires as their main source of data.

In the past, I only treated the Parade of floats as a show or a carnival. I agreed that the characters are dressed beautifully and it was fun to watch the parade, but I never knew that there were such serious messages behind them. The parade is not only a show; it showed people the true values of Hong Kong. The parade actually taught us about current issues through a fun way.

Though the parade met the problem of declining, I hope that it may continue to take place every year in the Cheung Chau Bun Festival. I recommend this event to all of the people who want to know more about Hong Kong.

Still, further study is needed in order to find out the factors affecting the choice of characters. In some years, no response from the parade was made to some current issues, and there must be a reason behind it. Moreover, one should not neglect that the choice of themes might contain personal biases and it may not reveal the full image of the political environment.

(Word Count: 4388)
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| Exemplar 5 | Analysis of the Change in Characters in the Parade of Floats in the Cheung Chau Bun Festival and its meaning towards modern Hong Kong Society | 7 | ● The candidate provided an analysis of the change in character of the Parade of Floats, but barely touched on its meaning for modern Hong Kong Society.  
● Relevant data have been collected, presented and analysed in an organised manner.  
● The candidate has shown an ability to analyse the data and provide findings related to the issue.  
● Findings were presented properly and clearly, but they could have been more thoroughly and deliberately discussed before reaching a conclusion. |