

Discussion on the protection and development of the native Hakka culture under the urban planning of Macau – Take Ka Ho Village as Research Object

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# Discussion on the protection and development of the native Hakka culture under the urban planning of Macau -- Take Ka Ho Village as Research Object

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Abstract: Since the successful application for the heritage of the Historic District of Macau in 2005 has been included in the UNESCO's "World Cultural Heritage List"Macau has been committed to expanding the protection of folk cultural heritage and intangible cultural heritage. Since the 16th century, Macao has been an important port for cultural exchanges between China and the West, and its cultural value has been also recognized all over the world. However, with the rapid development of Macao's economy in the past decade, a series of contradictions between the protection of cultural heritage and urban expansion have arisen. Among them, Lai Chi Vun Village (Povoação de Lai Chi Vun) and Ka Ho Village(Pacoação Ká Hó) in Coloane area have been impacted by urban development. Before Macao's return to the motherland, the villagers' culture in Macao was dominated by Hakka culture. Under the background of cultural coexistence and cultural conflict caused by the influx of immigrants and colonialists after the impact of colonization and modern turbulence on Macao, how to protect the original local cultural context in the process of urban planning? Therefore, this paper will take the development and protection of Hakka culture in Macao as an research object, and take the overall design theory as a theoretical tool to analyze the current situation of Ka Ho Village's cultural heritage. At the same time, based on the case of Ka Ho Village, this paper will discuss the possibility of using cultural heritage in the way of "village protection" during the period of urban expansion. Finally, this paper will analyze how to further build and develop local cultural heritage from the perspective of the government, tourists and local residents.

## 1. URBAN CHARACTERISTICS AND PLANNING CONDITIONS OF MACAU

#### 1.1 Situation in Macao

Macau is located in the southwest of the Pearl River Delta, bordering Zhuhai City, Guangdong Province. Macau was part of Xiangshan County in the Ming and Qing Dynasty. It has a total length of 30.4 square kilometers, and included Península de Macau<sup>2</sup>, Taipa, Coloane and Cotai. In 1863 under the Macau-Portuguese government, Macau began Sea Reclamation Project, which contiunes to this day. It is gradually expanding from 11.6KM<sup>2</sup>

in 1912 to 30.4KM<sup>2</sup> in 2015, in it, area of Macao Peninsula is the most, it accupy 30.6% of total area.

Macao is located in the important connection junction between Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA). As the largest urban conglomeration in southern China, its connection with other cities in Dawan District which is from the Land roads adjacent to Zhuhai urban area to the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge was opened to traffic.So it is more convenient to connect to HongKong and also ended the means of transportation which that needed to make a detour to the Pearl River Delta or by sea. It provide connection for island city in the southeast and southwest which is the most important city in Greater bay Area. Since the creation of the construction era of the Greater Bay Area, some isolated cities and the urban form on the island which was broken and made the progress of urbanization to extend to many core areas of Greater Bay Area. This has gradually become an urban conglomeration.

With the the scale and zoning of change, the urban development of Macao is divided into five periods which from fishing village period, opening period, early urban period, stagnancy period to modern metropoly. Because the external and internal reasons of urban development are different, it can also be divided into spontaneity of city dwellers before 1842 and passive response of the government in the Ming and Qing Dynasties, and the initiative of the Portuguese colonial regime after 1842 and internal situation of intertwined game between internal and external forces.

After the opening of Macao, there was a situation of living in separate areas with different ethnic groups, the main groups are the Chinese and Portuguese groups who have moved out and originally lived here. From the late 16th century to the mid 17th century, with the increasing demand for trade and foreign defense, Macao has ushered in a construction climax. As population increased, urbanization construction has began to expand outward on a full-scale. At the same time, for strengthen the city's defense to build strong walls and defensive fort. Since the Portuguese invaded Macao by the Netherlands in 1622, they have built large-scale defense facilities in Macao, and large-scale construction of Fortaleza do Monte also beckoned. Around 1632, it is to form a complete system with complete city walls and the Chinese community, portuguese inhabited areas are concentrated within the city wall, while Chinese inhabited areas are concentrated outside the city wall.



Figure 1 Changes of road network in historic urban area of Macao (Author: Zheng JianYi)

Under the old urban system, Macao has the medieval background of Europe in terms of its external form and background, showing an irregular expansion and a disorderly appearance, whose layout is similar to the "straight street" system that existed in Portugal, with several core streets connecting various churches to extend the residential areas, reflecting the influence of traditional Portuguese construction in Macao.

#### 1.2 The modern and contemporary situation of Macao

After the Opium War, as the control of the Qing Dynasty government declined, the Portuguese colonial government continuously expanded and began to directly rule the area around Macao and levy taxes on the Chinese community until 1887, when Portugal obtained the privilege of "permanent administration of Macao" officially turned Macao into a Portuguese colony. During the period of the Macao Portuguese government, a number of modern industries and businesses began to develop, generating new functional areas of the city. When it came to the 20th century, the authorities, under the pressure of the limited land area, started to reclaim land from the sea on a large scale. After 1912, reclamation activities were gradually formed from Toi San to Ilha Verde extending to the direction of Chopsticks Base, which began to lay the foundation for the subsequent urban pattern of Macao. From 1975 onwards, Macao began to enhance its landrelated laws and regulations, establishing the "Macao Land Law", the "Macao Regional Directive Plan", the "General Statute of Urban Architecture", and the "Decree on the Protection of Cultural Heritage" to regulate the construction and planning of the city.

By 2009, the State Council has approved the reclamation of a total of 350 km<sup>2</sup> of land for the construction of a new urban area in Macao. Nevertheless, Macao has not had an overall urban plan covering the entire region for a long time, which inevitably brings about unbalance and incoordination among various regions.<sup>2</sup> It is only in recent years that the Macao government has begun to reflect and work on the design direction and master plan for overall urban planning, incorporating holistic ideas into construction considerations.



Figure 2 Master Plan of Macao.

# 2. PROTECTION OF MACAO CULTURAL HERITAGES

### 2.1 Cultural Heritage of Macao

As we all know, at the 29th World Heritage conference in 2005, "Macao historical buildings" were included in the world cultural heritage list and has become the 31st World Heritage site in China, which renamed "The Historic Centre of Macao"." The Historic Centre of Macao " was a historical block. with the old urban area as the core.It was the Chinese and Western architecture in China with longest history, largest scale, the most complete and concentrated preservation. It covered 25 historical buildings in Macao. The protection of Macao's cultural heritage began in 1905. The architectural heritage of Macao was recorded through registration to facilitate future protection. The governor of Macao set up a task force in 1960, which began to have a systematic understanding and opened the prelude to the protection of cultural heritage. However, there was no system to protect cultural heritage at that time, the task group did not have the support of corresponding legal and administrative powers. It was no any decree promulgation, until "in 1976 - Decree No. 34 / 76 / M" was promulgated to solve this reality. Further promoted the protection of Macao's cultural heritage. After Macao's returned to the motherland, its government successfully applied for the heritage of the Historic District of Macau in 2005, it has also borrowed part of the "Law of the People's Republic of China on the Protection of Cultural Relics" and local legal provisions to further promote the protection of Macau's cultural heritage at the legal level. " Macao's Cultural Heritage Protection Law" was promulgated in 2013, through law and practice, it made joint efforts to explore rich achievements in cultural heritage protection. At the same time, Macau was also planning a buffer zone around the historical city area, under the protection of the original historical appearance and environment, which further stabilized the overall integrity of the historical city area in Macau.

### 2.2 Heritage Protection & Macau City Development

Further protection and expansion of cultural heritage can further reflected the cultural connotation of the city and preserved it as a memory of the city's heritage. Historical buildings can provided visitors and citizens with visits and appreciation, visual and cultural enjoyment, it is more authentic in recording the history of the city. However, with the promotion of Macao's awareness of protecting and strengthening urban heritage, the conflict between cultural heritage in Macao's historical urban area and urban development and expansion often occurs. Posterity Era with the rapid development of tourism and the impact of Macao's economic transformation were attracted visitors from all over the world. In the cultural heritage protection area, the traditional architectural pattern and street background were needed to carry the conflict and game between the function of tourism and leisure center and local residents, it has become the focus of Macao society. At the same time, successful tourism and Casino investment needed large land area to build an integrated place of shopping, tourism and entertainment. Gambling tourism complex has largely changed the urban texture of Macao, it was very different from the world heritage landscape and cultural heritage buildings. The existence of gambling tourism complex has an impact on tourists, which isolates the connection between traditional cultural blocks and entertainment places, while the impact on the original residents leads to the shortage of their housing area and public space. This situation also indirectly resulted in high house prices and insufficient student posts.

The landscape crisis centered on the Guia Fortress also occurred in the same period in 2006, some real estate developers tried to build buildings without public consultation and explanation which affect the landscape and high-rise buildings of the lighthouse.

But after the government's efforted to persuade, the developers finally compromised and ended the crisis. However, the discussion and aftermath caused by this have had a great impact and recurs. If Macau is to become a well-managed historical city, it needs to have enough vigilance to deal with every public incident, also public consultation and inclusive participation are needed. Strive to be more responsible for the issues of heritage protection in the process of urban planning and decision-making.

#### 3. HAKKA CULTURE IN MACAU--- KA HO VILLAGE





Figure 3 a diagram of Century Coloane and Land use Planning of Ka Ho Village(bureau of public works)

The Coloane is located at the southernmost end of Macao, which was originally a separate island. It is connected with Taipa and integrated with Taipa after land reclamation. It is one of the four major parts (areas) that make up Macau. There are still a lot of undeveloped areas in the Coloane area with abundant vegetation covering and it is very scenic. So Coloane also called the "Macao Back-Garden". Dieshitang mountain, the highest peak in Macao, is located in the Coloane area. It is divided into country park and Mazu cultural village, which are strictly protected. Coloane area is defined as residential area, industrial area, green ecological protection area, tourism and entertainment area, green area or public open space area and public infrastructure area, which are cover most of the land uses. In the past, Coloane used shipbuilding companies and fisheries as its main sources of income. So far, the shipyard site of Lai Chi Vun Village village is still left now. Meanwhile, the communities in Coloane area include the urban area, shipaiwan, Lai Chi Vun Village village, jiuao village, Hác Sá village, etc. Among them, the key urban planning project in the Coloane area is Shek Pai Bay which were built public housing, commercial facilities and supporting community public service facilities, etc. At present, with the shipyard in Lai Chi Vun Village area as the core planning, and it is a key cultural heritage protection project in Coloane area. Since 2013, the Macau government has proposed a development plan to envisaged to activate regional to transform the shipyard in Lai Chi Vun Village Village into a leisure and tourist destination with museums and leisure facilities as the mainstay. Although Ka Ho Village has a long history and culture, and there are industrial areas around it, its geographical location is in an awkward position. Coupled with the inconvenient transportation, there are few tourists, and the local young residents have moved to other places to expand their lives.

#### 3.2 Past and present of Ka Ho Village

Ka Ho Village is an ancient village located in the northeast of the Coloane of the outlying island of Macao, and the area is larger than Hác Sá Village and most of the aborigines are Hakka. In the modern history of Macao, it does not have a great presence. The Coloane Massacre in 1910 was a more famous incident in modern times, it was a cross regional event to disturb Portugal, Australia and the Qing government. The early Ka Ho Village was almost isolated from the rest of the world, so Macao established the only leprosy Institute here. Ka Ho Village was almost left behind in the urban planning process of Macau, it was not until the Portuguese-Australian government discovered that the Ka Ho Village had a good deep-water port. The government began to build some modern facilities for this area, but very few of them were people's livelihood projects. It was not until 1975 that the Portuguese-Macau government began to study the establishment of two dams in Ka Ho Village and Hác Sá Village to solve the drinking water problem in the two places. But its core thrust was to serve the Ka Ho deep water port and power generation facilities. By the end of the eighties. The problem of environmental pollution in Ka Ho area has become a problem that can not be ignored. Wong Zhangnan and Liu Guangpu had pointed out in the Legislative Council that the oil pollution from Ka Ho power station was so serious that a trace of oil was left on the beach, the authorities have set up signs prohibiting fishing and swimming on the coast. In addition, the cement factory and trees on the mountain are covered by nearby cement dust. When the wind blows, it blows directly towards Ka Ho Village and it was a serious danger to health to the local. Not long ago, the government approved the land for the construction of iron and steel plants in Ka Ho Village, it will cause more serious pollution to the future environment. At that time, the consideration and focus of urban planning led to a passive situation in the Ka Ho Village area, and it also had a certain degree of impact on the deterioration of the local ecology and living conditions. The neglect of the planning of Ka Ho Village is also due to the remoteness of this area and the radiation area of the core area of Macau's urban area. While the Macau peninsula and Taipa area had already completed the process of modernizing the city, the Ka Ho Village still had not resolved the sewage disposal of the sewer at the beginning of the 21st century. Although so far there are still all sorts of issues and land disputes Ka Ho Village vicinity, but its excellent geographical location, you can still have broad prospects for tourism and cultural protection.

#### 3.3 Hakka Culture in Ka Ho Village

In Macao, there is a gap in Hakka-related research, so that it is only in recent years that relatively specialized scholars have elaborated on the culture and history of Hakka. In the "Encyclopedia of Macao" (Revised Edition), published in 2005, there is an entry on the "Aborigines of Macao", in which there is a sentence about the demographic history of Ka Ho Village: "Its early villagers were Hakka".15The origin of Hakka culture can be traced back to the migration of Hakka people from Guangdong, Fujian and Jiangxi Province to the south during the Ming and Qing dynasties. In order to fight against the remnant Southern Ming forces and the Japanese invasion, the implementation of Prohibition of Sea Trade Policy during the Kangxi period of the Qing Dynasty led to a decline in the number of population generated along the coast of Guangdong. However, during the Yongzheng years, a preferential policy of land reclamation was started in order to restore the population of the coastal areas. During the same period, the mountainous areas of Guangdong, Fujian and Jiangxi provinces had spawned a large overpopulation problem. As a result, the Hakka people gradually moved south, and some of them became the source of the Hakka culture of the present-day Ka Ho Village in Macao.

## 3.4 Influence on Ka Ho Village's Culture from Macao's Urban Planning



Figure 4 Regional Planning in Coloane District in 70s (Va Kio Daily)

As it showed in the early planning in Macao in the 1970s, it has had not very clear, but very broad planning in the area of Ka Ho Village and even the whole Coloane District. Then the port area established around Ka Ho Village was the most important planning element and was the important project undertaken till 90s. Including Ka Ho Oil Tank and Ka Ho Power Plant in the later period, they were planned by centering on the industrial area. This has made Ka Ho Village not receive the protection from the tourism division and also brought hidden troubles for living in Ka Ho Village and the environmental deterioration in this area. However, as the government starts to pay attention to the long-term planning and with the efforts from the local original inhabitants, it has driven much more attention to the future values and tourism economy in Ka Ho area in the government's long-term planning. Similarly, it has taken Macao Peninsula and Taipa Area as the core in Macao's urban planning for a long time, which has led to population outflow in Ka Ho Village on the edge of planning and other phenomena. This issue has appeared since in the ending of 60s. Then most villagers worked outside to make a living. This has further deteriorated the condition of reserving local culture. Subject to the policy, the tourism development in Ka Ho and Hac Sa has been limited for a very long time due to the issue of "Sand Paper Contract"1. In this way, it has reserved the original culture in Ka Ho Village. There are still a great number of traditional Hakka culture elements reserved in the village till now.

## 4. FEASIBILITY OF VILLAGE TOURISM FOR THE PROTECTION OF KA HO VILLAGE

Since 2013, Macao's government had started to renovate klunky and aged buildings in Ka Ho Village in a small scale one by one, which lasted till 2016. They have completed renovating two rooms. On this basis, Macao's government has started to study that Ka Ho Village in Coloane District will be included into the research scope of the specific Ancient Town Tourism. Subject to the renovation of old buildings and the realistic reasons that it is very difficult to develop and plan Ka Ho Village due to "Sand Paper Contract", which has lasted for several decades, it is still a very promising planning mode to promote tourism mode in Ka Ho Village. When lots of problems have not been solved completely in time, the activity - Half Day's History Travel in Ka Ho, Hac Sa and Coloane held by local society has been very popular among the masses. It could even receive the application from dozens of people without any announcement2. The tourism potential they represent is huge. In addition, the local residents also represented that it was really attractive to hold the high-quality local tourism and in-depth travel. The key is to let the original inhabitants to introduce, which will be more realistic. The reason is that the relative history presented orally is very valuable and can not be found in official documents and books.

Macao's government has also found a lot of issues behind it after it developed relevant study in 2016. Some residents in Ka Ho Village think that the environment in Shengmu Village is very messy right now. Chief Secretary of Social Culture Department, Tan Junrong said they had planned to create "Ancient Village Tourism" in Ka Ho Village in the earlier period. However, the residents said they knew little about this plan3. Up to now, Macao's government has not come up with a feasible plan for the Ancient Village Tourism. They have stopped the environmental and historic advantages, which can be utilized in Ka Ho Village.

#### 5. CONCLUSION

In terms of the Ancient Village Tourism mode presented in Coloane District in Macao, only in current situation, only Lai Chi Vun Village Region has received the high attention from Macao's government due to the

Authors 9

good reservation of the original shipyard in this area. In addition, the activation project and relevant design concept are also very broad. However, Ka Ho Village is outside of the positioning of the circle for being away from the urban planning for decades. Since 70s, the main construction projects are mainly the large-scale ones serving the overall interest of Macao. Aiming at the concept of protecting local specialty and cultural conservation, there are always questions. Due to that its issue about residential title deed for land in the village violates against government 's policy, Ka Ho Village with regional advantage can not be developed and its own resources can not be utilized for a long time. At present, they only receive tourists and individual travelers in a small scale. However, with its humanity history for a long time and ancient building complex, as well as its geological advantage in the backyard of Macao, Ka Ho Village can have its glorious time in the tourism of cultural heritage in the future in Macao.

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