

**27 July 2022 (Wednesday)**

**Hong Kong Chronicles**  
**Historic launch of first volume of**  
**English edition**

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*HKCI Executive Committee Chairman*

Good afternoon!

The honourable Chief Executive of the HKSAR Mr John Lee, Commissioner Liu Guang Yuan, Deputy Director Lu Xin Ning, Deputy Director Li Jiang Zhou, Chief Secretary KK Chan, honoured guests, ladies and gentlemen. A warm welcome.

Today, we are privileged to enjoy the presence of so many distinguished guests from a broad spectrum of society --- government representatives, consulates, chambers of commerce, community and academic organizations. A true reflection of the diversity of Hong Kong's social fabric.

Thank you for joining us here at Government House for the historic launch of the first English edition volume of **Hong Kong Chronicles** titled "**Overview & Chronology**". I am very honoured to welcome you to Hong Kong Chronicles Institute's launch ceremony.

As you may be aware, **Hong Kong Chronicles** is a comprehensive series of historical records on Hong Kong, based on a Chinese traditional form of preserving history known as "local chronicles".

A monumental project eight years in the making, the Chinese book series comprises 68 books published in 54 volumes -- with a word count of around 25 million! It chronicles the 7,000-year history of Hong Kong, tracing its development.

The **English edition of Hong Kong Chronicles** is a groundbreaking translation project that is the largest-in-scale and most comprehensive in Hong Kong's history.

The first English volume -- "**Overview & Chronology**" -- traces the footsteps of the 7,000-year history of Hong Kong -- replete with folktales and cultural stories on local traditions and customary practices. The sweeping history tells the stories of Hong Kong's roots, and its political, social and economic development into the "Pearl of the Orient" and gateway to China.

This remarkable book is the result of meticulous research and scholarship of Professor Elizabeth Sinn and more than 370 Hong Kong historians and experts, with valuable contributions from thousands of organizations and individuals.

Of course, none of this would have been possible without the vision of Hong Kong's first Chief Executive, Mr. Tung Chee Hwa, who initiated this truly ambitious project -- and without the financial support of our donors and benefactors -- a BIG thank you -- to all contributors to and supporters of this very meaningful and extraordinary project!

**Hong Kong Chronicles** -- both Chinese and English versions -- seeks to recover the collective memories shared by the people of our dynamic city we call home. We sincerely hope that you will enjoy the fascinating stories of Hong Kong with its vibrant culture and unique blend of East and West!