

Traditional Chinese:

我要介紹的是大坑舞火龍，顧名思義就是源自天后大坑的一個傳統，2011 年被列入國家非物質文化遺產名錄。據說在 1880 年的中秋節前的一個晚上，颱風吹襲大坑村。有一條大蟒蛇吞食村裡的家畜，村民合力將其打死在一個破屋子裡面。第二天颱風過後，大蟒蛇的屍體失蹤。之後大坑村發生了瘟疫，很多村民病亡。當時村中的族老表示，收到菩薩的報夢，說在中秋節要舞火龍繞村遊行，同時燃燒爆竹，那樣就可以驅瘟疫。另外爆竹裡有硫磺，這樣就可以驅除瘟疫。村民發現了這個古老的良方後，十分開心。自此之後，大家就舞火龍繞整個村子。火龍晚上 6 點多在大坑蓮花宮點睛開光，到七點左右，再于安庶庇街插香後起龍，先到浣紗街對嘉賓作致敬禮，多數會打龍餅，之後會按傳統遊街，火龍會在大坑的街道上舞動，途徑浣紗街、新村街、施弼街、京街、書館街等，遊街完畢回到浣紗街拔香，將火龍身上燒剩的香派送給市民和遊客，重新插香後，會在浣紗街表演至 10 點左右。整個儀式可分為三部分：「火龍過橋」、「火龍纏雙柱」、「彩燈火龍結團圓」。自 2010 年起，火龍更在中秋正日 10 時左右舞至鄰近的維多利亞公園中秋彩燈會。從前，節日完畢後，習慣把火龍拋下銅鑼灣避風塘的海底，以示“龍歸天”，但近年為免污染海水，於深夜用貨車送到焚化爐去，變作“飛龍在天”。

Simplified Chinese:

我要介绍的是大坑舞火龙，顾名思义就是源自天后大坑的一个传统，2011 年被列入国家非物质文化遗产名录。据说在 1880 年的中秋节前的一个晚上，台风吹袭大坑村。有一条大蟒蛇吞食村里的家畜，村民合力将其打死在一个破屋子里面。第二天台风过后，大蟒蛇的尸体失踪。之后大坑村发生了瘟疫，很多村民病亡。当时村中的族老表示，收到菩萨的报梦，说在中秋节要舞火龙绕村游行，同时燃烧爆竹，那样就可以驱瘟疫。另外爆竹里有硫磺，这样就可以驱除瘟疫。村民发现了这个古老的良方后，十分开心。自此之后，大家就舞火龙绕整个村子。火龙晚上 6 点多在大坑莲花宫点睛开光，到七点左右，再于安庶庇街插香后起龙，先到浣纱街对嘉宾客致敬礼，多数会打龙饼，之后会按传统游街，火龙会在大坑的街道上舞动，途径浣纱街、新村街、施弼街、京街、书馆街等，游街完毕回到浣纱街拔香，将火龙身上烧剩的香派送给市民和游客，重新插香后，会在浣纱街表演至 10 点左右。整个仪式可分为三部分：“火龙过桥”、“火龙缠双柱”、“彩灯火龙结团圆”。自 2010 年起，火龙更在中秋正日 10 时左右舞至邻近的维多利亚公园中秋彩灯会。从前，节日完毕后，习惯把火龙抛下铜锣湾避风塘的海底，以示“龙归天”，但近年为免污染海水，于深夜用货车送到焚化炉去，变作“飞龙在天”。

English:

I would like to introduce the Tai Hang fire dragon dance. As the name implies, it is a tradition originated from Tai Hang, which was listed in the National Intangible Cultural Heritage list in 2011. It is said that in 1880, a typhoon hit Tai Hang Village one night before the Mid-Autumn Festival. A python entered the village and ate their livestock. The villagers worked together and killed it in a shabby house. However, the next day, the typhoon was gone but the body of the python disappeared. Then an plague broke out in the village and many villagers died. At that time the head of the village said bodhisattva came to his dream and told that said in the Mid-Autumn Festival, people should stage a fire dragon dance parade around the village,

and set out firecrackers, so that it could drive off the plague. In addition, firecrackers contain sulfur to rid of the plague. The villagers were very happy to learn this method. From then on, the dragon dance has become a tradition around the village. The fire dragon dance starts around 6p.m. In the lotus temple at Tai Hang, the villager will paint the eyes of the dragon, which is called "waak lung dim zing" in Chinese. Around 7p.m., incense will be burned at Ormsby Street to worship the fire dragon. The parade runs starts from Wun Sha Street where the dragon blesses the visitors and get the "dragon cake". According to the tradition, it goes via Wun Sha Street, Sun Chun Street, Sun Chun Street, Shepherd Street, King Street, School Street, etc. Afterwards, the fire dragon will return to Wun Sha Street to get the burnt-out incense out. and give the incense sticks to the villages and visitors. After re-burning new incense, the dance at Wun Sha Street goes until 10pm or so. The dance includes 3 movement: "Bridge-crossing", "Double-pillar Mount" and "the Circling ". Since 2010, the Fire Dragon dance have been performed nearby Victoria Park at Mid-Autumn Lantern Displays & Carnival, when it comes around 10pm on the Mid-Autumn Day. In the past, after the festival, it was customary to throw the dragon into Causeway Bay from the Typhoon Shelter, which was a ritual known as "Dragon Returning to Heaven". However, in recent years, in order to avoid polluting the sea water, the dragon is sent to the incinerator by truck at night and changed the ritual into "Dragon in Heaven".