

Department of Anthropology,  
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

# Summer Internship 2015

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**Institution: The Hong Kong Museum of History**

## Introduction

I was eager to practice my learning in anthropology, it was a great opportunity for me to participate in a one month internship in the archeology unit of The Hong Kong Museum of History. Thanks to the Department of Anthropology and the museum who gave me a chance to experience museum work, and I was lucky that during the internship period, the Hong Kong Museum of History was organizing the *The Rise of the Celestial Empire: Consolidation and Cultural Exchange during the Han Dynasty* exhibition, and I could have the valuable opportunity to participate in some preparation work of the exhibition.

## Duties

First of all, since the book of the exhibition was going to be released, I was assigned to proofread the draft of the book, such as some grammatical and spelling mistakes, or the consistency of the format and the layout. Moreover, I also helped to proofread the website. My colleagues had demonstrated to me a very professional attitude toward the duty, and I learnt that it is really important to pay attention when doing proofread. Also, by proofreading the book, I had a more comprehensive understanding of the artifacts. An interesting part was that I helped to find out the English name of some plants which were populated in the Han Dynasty, it was a challenging task because there were different version of names.

Besides, I was asked to plan some tourist spots for the guests and the officers from major cultural institution in Mainland who came to prepare the exhibition. I also had lunch with them. Throughout the time I spent with them, I noticed their competence and enthusiasm toward their careers and the field, it was a valuable experience for me to be with these officers.

Apart from that, the archaeology unit let me walk around the exhibition when they were preparing for it. Different teams in the museum were working together, for example, some unit was responsible for the repair and maintenances work, some pay attention on how to place the artifacts and the lighting, some handle the administrative and the security issue. By observing their work, I learnt about the operation of the museum and the exhibition. By the way, a few

days before the exhibition opened to the public, a mistake was discovered in the pamphlets, thus, I spent a couple of days working with my colleagues to fix the problem.

Last but not least, because of the 60th anniversary of the discovery of Lei Cheng Uk Han Tomb, I had to prepared a PowerPoint to for my colleagues. I learnt a lot more about the Lei Cheng Uk Han Tomb, the characteristic of the artifacts and the cultural significance of the tomb in the process, which enriched my understanding in this aspect.

### **Reflection**

Overall, the internship provided me a valuable and precious experience to work in the museum and learnt from the professionals. It made me understand more about how an exhibition operates. I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the Department and my colleagues in The Hong Kong Museum of History who provided me with this memorable lesson.