

# **COLLECTION OF CLIPPINGS ON OVERSEAS CHINESE AT HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY LIBRARY**

by

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## **Objective**

The objective of this report is to introduce the Hong Kong Baptist University Library Collection of clippings on Overseas Chinese with two goals. The first is to publicize and promote this collection for use by students, scholars, and researchers interested in the topic of Overseas Chinese, and the second is to explore opportunities for collaborative efforts in enhancing the collection's accessibility.

## **A brief introduction**

The collection contains 707 files, each with an average of 200-250 pages. It is also available on 141 microfilm reels. The clippings were taken from approximately 230 Chinese language newspapers and 40 periodicals, published in 17 countries or regions: Hong Kong, China, Taiwan, Singapore, the Philippines, Indonesia, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, Burma, Macao, Malaysia, Japan, India, Canada, and USA. As shown in Appendix A, Hong Kong and China publications received more comprehensive and sustained attention than those of other countries. There may be a number of reasons for the uneven coverage. One would be the ephemeral nature of the source newspapers and periodicals, as they were Chinese language materials published locally in the Chinese communities in the countries involved. Furthermore, it should be taken into consideration that there was

probably no organized dissemination method or structure for a good number of these publications.

The years of coverage also varied considerably with some titles spanning a twenty-one year period and others limited to only one year. Overall, the collection covered a twenty-one year period from 1950-1971, presenting information on a tumultuous and dynamic period of political, social, and economic changes and developments in the history of China and Overseas Chinese. With the founding of the People's Republic of China and the retreat of the Nationalist Government to Taiwan in 1949, there were major efforts on both sides to woo Overseas Chinese for political, economical, social, and cultural reasons.

The files were categorized into (1) Chinese -- Foreign countries -- Government policy -- Taiwan; (2) Chinese -- Foreign countries -- Government policies -- China; and (3) Chinese in different foreign countries (sub-categorized by country). A perusal of the clippings in the collection showed several areas of focus:

- Chinese education of Overseas Chinese in the countries they settled: These clippings would be useful in studies and research of problems and issues related to studies of Chinese language education, history of Overseas Chinese education, as well as government policies towards Chinese and Chinese education in the countries of settlement.
- Economic status of the Overseas Chinese and their contributions to the economy of the countries they settled. The entrepreneurial, industrious, and perseverant attributes of Overseas Chinese as well as their business acumen have been commonly acknowledged over time in conjunction with their economic success to their adopted countries, especially in Southeast Asia. The clippings in this collection would add information resources to studies on this topic.
- Government policies towards the Chinese who had settled in their country and the relationships between the native citizens and citizens of Chinese ethnic origin. The clippings on this topic would focus on government policies in some of the countries covered as well as on anti-Chinese incidents and practices.

- Organizations and associations of Overseas Chinese and their activities in the countries they settled. The nature and frequency of these activities would shed light on their relationships or interactions with the China and the Taiwan governments.

**The Overseas Chinese clippings collection: a subset of a larger clippings collection**

The HKBU collection of clippings on Overseas Chinese is a small subset of a large collection of clippings on China, made up of 11,900 files. Out of this group, it appears that 8,627 files, or about 72.5%, have been microfilmed (see Appendix B). The collection as a whole was purchased by Hong Kong Baptist University in the mid-1980's from the Union Research Institute (Yu lien yen chiu so -- 友聯研究所). This organization was actively involved in gathering information on the People's Republic of China from the years of 1950-1975, essentially the period of its grand isolation from much of the Western world and during a time when internal events and developments were closely guarded. It has been alleged that many of the source newspapers and periodicals were taken out of China clandestinely to Hong Kong. Apparently, with the gradual opening of China in the mid 1970's, the need for having an information gathering organization such as the Union Research Institute was diminished. Although efforts were made by the Union Research Institute to find a home for the collection in the United States, including negotiations with several US research libraries, the decision was eventually made to keep the collection in Hong Kong.

In conversation with some library colleagues with subject expertise in Chinese studies, we were given the impression that the entire collection of clippings file of the Union Research Institute was microfilmed and, therefore, already held by a number of large U.S. research libraries with strong East Asian studies. Although we made the effort of searching OCLC and the online public access catalogs of several libraries, the results were not conclusive. The only accurate way to ascertain the microform holdings of this collection by major U.S. East Asia libraries would be to enlist the assistance of the libraries themselves by having their staff verify their holdings. In the process of checking the microform holdings of several libraries against their own online public access catalogs, we did recently discover that the Chinese University of Hong Kong has a good portion of the clippings file on microfilm, including the

files on the Overseas Chinese. Appendix B lists HKBU Library's holdings of Union Research Institute's Clippings Collection. At the same time, we were surprised to find that approximately 27.5% of HKBU's clippings file may be a unique information resource, that is, no microfilm copies have been made at all. These include 2,581 files of two subject categories, one on Taiwan and the other on International Affairs, as well as 692 files of other subject categories which were compiled in the 1970s.

The HKBU Library has maintained a clippings program from 1985 to 1998 focusing on topics related to China studies. Ten major newspapers from Hong Kong were systematically clipped. One area receiving special attention was information related to the transfer of sovereignty of Hong Kong to China in July 1997. In 1998 we established an indexed Contemporary China Newspapers Clippings Database (CCNC). Users can now retrieve appropriate citations of clippings of 1992, 1996 and 1997 by searching the headlines, authors, newspaper titles, publication date, and/or subject headings. We do plan to add citation records for the earlier years and up to the end of 1998.

***Complementary research areas: clippings on Overseas Chinese and the larger collection of clippings on China***

The HKBU Library collection of clippings on Overseas Chinese would be especially valuable when used with the larger clippings collection on China compiled by the Union Research Institute. These may include:

- China and Taiwan governments' policies toward Overseas Chinese --At the early years of its establishment, the Chinese Government made active outreach efforts to win the support and recognition of the Overseas Chinese. It also needed their help in dealing with the country's enormous economic problems. As a result, the government organized many visitation tours for Overseas Chinese with the goal of encouraging them to invest in China. The Taiwan government, then the Republic of China, made similar efforts. Consequently, the two governments kept modifying their policies concerning Overseas Chinese in their countries to capture and sustain their support. Through the study of these changing policies, changes in policy by the two governments concerning Overseas Chinese would be better

understood.

- Foreign relations between China and other countries and impact of such relations on Overseas Chinese in the countries involved. As the term “Overseas Chinese” is often used to include two groups: those who have some attachment to China or Taiwan and those who are the citizens of their adopted country, either by naturalization or by birth.
- Education of Overseas Chinese in China and Taiwan – both governments provided ample studying opportunity for Overseas Chinese. Did this strategy strengthen the relationships of the two governments with Overseas Chinese and what contributions did these Overseas Chinese make to China, Taiwan, and their host or adopted countries are topics of interest in studies related to Overseas Chinese at large.
- As many Overseas Chinese regularly sent money back to their family members in China and Taiwan, the two governments’ policies on remittance often affected the economic and political conditions of the Chinese recipients of remittance. Moreover, as the two governments were in much need of funds for reconstruction in the 1950’s, they encouraged Overseas Chinese to buy government bonds. Thus, the tripartite relationship between remittance policy, government bonds, and government financial policies are of potential interest to historians and scholars of Overseas Chinese studies.

### ***Efforts to publicize the HKBU Library’s collection of Overseas Chinese clippings***

We have done some preliminary work in preparation of our desire to publicize, promote, and make more accessible the use of the HKBU Library’s collection of Overseas Chinese materials through our homepage. The first effort was conducting a methodical inventory of our complete holdings of materials in the larger Union Research Institute collection, including the Overseas Chinese materials. In the process, we have also discovered that a small portion of our microfilm holdings has developed the “Vinegar Syndrome”, a common

term to describe the deterioration of acetate film<sup>1</sup>. According to preservation specialists, while it is possible to slow the deterioration of acetate film, the only long-term solution is reduplication onto polyester-based film. Our discovery of this problem duly raised the uncomfortable question of how extensive is this "Vinegar Syndrome" problem and what may be the best long-term solution. Should we reduplicate the entire microfilm collection onto polyester-based film? Does this mean all the libraries which currently hold some portions or the entire set of microform collection purchased from the Union Research Institute should be aware of this problem and deal with the problem individually?

The second effort, initiated recently, was to request from several vendors in Hong Kong and China for cost proposal to digitize the Overseas Chinese subset. In tandem with this effort, we have also written to nineteen major Hong Kong and Taiwan newspaper and periodical publishers for permission to make available the full-text newspaper articles through the Internet/WWW. We only contacted these nineteen because the remaining fifty-five were not locatable or the publications had been discontinued. Out of the ten responses received to date, one has decided to withhold such permission and two have given us permission to make full-text articles available to the HKBU academic community only.

To date we have received cost proposals from four vendors, two in Hong Kong and two in China. One of the Hong Kong vendors, with experience in digitizing technical reports and files of several Hong Kong government agencies, has provided us with a more detailed proposal than the others. The data conversion approach they proposed will involve the converting of newspaper articles from microfilm format to electronic format, and then extracting the indexing information and the contents from the electronic format into the database for searching and retrieval. Although two methods may be used: (1) OCR and creating index fields for the articles, and (2) scanning the full-text content of the articles, this vendor is not recommending the OCR

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<sup>1</sup> According to Meg Bellinger, Preside to Preservation Resources, "Acetate microfilm was produced and used from the 1920's to the 1970's, with the majority produced in the 1930's and 1940's. Acetate microfilm is not recommended for use for preservation microfilming and/or where long term record retention is required, due to the inevitability of deterioration of the acetate film base." (Quotes taken from a letter to S. Leung in May 1999.)

method after examining the sample microfilm we provided. We are in the process of analyzing the cost proposals to make meaningful comparisons.

In summary, the HKBU Library is keenly interested in making its clippings on Overseas Chinese more readily accessible to students, scholars, and researchers. We would especially welcome partnership or cooperative opportunities so that we may be a member of an information network of Overseas Chinese information resources. We welcome all comments and suggestions.

## Appendix A: Newspapers and Periodicals Used for the Overseas Chinese Clippings (僑務類剪報選用資料), 1950-71

### 香港

#### 報紙：

大公報（香港）	[1950-71]	South China Morning Post	[1962-70]
工商日報	[1950-71]	Hong Kong Standard	[1955-70]
中南日報	[1953]		
中聲晚報	[1952-55]	期刊：	
公教報	[1956-70]	工商觀察	[1953-60]
天天日報	[1968-71]	中國之聲	[1951-53]
天文台報	[1953-71]	今日世界	[1953-70]
文匯報（香港）	[1950-71]	自由陣線	[1950-59]
民聲報	[1952]	明報月刊	[1967-71]
自由人報	[1952-59]	長城內外	[1964]
自然日報	[1951-56]	週末報（週刊）	[1952-63]
呼聲報	[1952]	新聞天地	[1950-70]
明報	[1962-71]	萬象	[1961]
星島日報	[1951-72]	經濟導報	[1950-71]
星島晚報	[1952-71]	遠東觀察（半月刊）	[1963]
香港中國學生週報	[1953]	Far Eastern Economic Review	[1959-69]
香港時報	[1951-71]	The Asia Magazine	[1962-63]
香港商報	[1970-71]		
香港教育週報	[1955]	其他：	
真報	[1968]	文教通訊社稿	[1956]
真報夜刊	[1956-59]	香港自聯通訊社稿	[1953-55]
勞工報（香港）	[1956]	新華社電訊	[1962-67]
循環日報	[1960]	<i>Current Scene News Feature Article: Developments in</i>	
晶報	[1960-70]	<i>Communist China</i> written by Kenneth Priestley, M.A.,	
華僑日報	[1950-71]	Department of Education, University of Hong Kong on	
新民報	[1962-63]	19 January, 1960.	
新生晚報	[1953-71]		
新晚報	[1952-71]		
新報	[1962-70]		
聯合報（香港）	[1955-71]		
聯合評論	[1962-64]		
China Mail	[1968-69]		

## 中國

報紙：

人民日報（北京）	[1950-71]	長春日報	[1956-58]
上海晚報（上海）	[1966-67]	青年報（上海）	[1953-61]
大公報（天津）	[1955-70]	青年報（廣州）	[1958]
大公報（北京）	[1956-70]	青島日報	[1952-59]
大南山報	[1959]	南方日報（廣州）	[1950-70]
大眾日報（濟南）	[1952-66]	南安僑訊（福建）	[1959-60]
山西日報	[1951-59]	南京日報	[1956-58]
工人之路報（蒙古）	[1961-62]	哈爾濱日報	[1954-59]
工人日報（北京）	[1951-66]	泉州日報	[1964]
中國青年報（北京）	[1953-66]	紅電訊	[1968]
中蘇友好報（北京）	[1952-57]	紅衛報（廣州）	[1966]
今日新聞（北京）	[1962-67]	重慶日報	[1956-59]
天津日報	[1950-64]	旅大日報	[1956-61]
文匯報（上海）	[1950-66]	晉江鄉訊	[1960]
北京日報	[1956-68]	桃源（福建）	[1960]
北京晚報	[1958-63]	海豐報（廣東）	[1957]
台山報（廣東）	[1957]	浙江工人報	[1956-57]
四川日報（成都）	[1955-60]	浙江日報	[1950-59]
甘肅日報	[1952-58]	高要農民報	[1956-58]
光明日報（北京）	[1950-70]	婦僑與僑鄉（廣州）	[1956]
吉林日報	[1954-57]	教師報（北京）	[1956-58]
同聲（福建）	[1960]	晨報	[1964]
安徽日報	[1952-59]	梅縣建設報	[1957]
成都日報	[1957-58]	陸豐報	[1957]
江西日報	[1954-59]	無錫工人生活	[1957]
汕頭報	[1957]	開平農民報	[1956-57]
羊城晚報（廣東）	[1957-66]	雲南日報	[1954-59]
西安日報	[1956-58]	黑龍江日報	[1954-63]
批廖戰報（北京）	[1967]	廈門日報	[1951-63]
杭州日報	[1956-71]	新中華報	[1955]
武漢晚報（湖北）	[1961]	新民晚報（上海）	[1954-66]
河北日報	[1954-59]	新海南報（海口）	[1954-58]
河南日報	[1952-58]	新湖南報（長沙）	[1954-59]
長江日報	[1950-59]	新華日報（重慶）	[1950-54]
長江鄉訊（福建）	[1960]	新華日報（南京）	[1950-66]

## 中國

### 報紙：

新華月報	[1956-58]
新聞日報 (上海)	[1952-59]
新疆日報	[1951-59]
粵西農民報	[1952-55]
解放日報 (上海)	[1950-64]
僑鄉報 (福州)	[1958-65]
寧波報	[1957]
漳屬鄉訊 (福建)	[1960]
福建日報	[1952-61]
福建僑鄉 (福州)	[1956-57]
福清鄉訊 (福建)	[1960]
閩中日報	[1958]
閩西日報	[1958]
韶關報	[1956]
齊齊哈爾日報	[1956-57]
廣州日報	[1952-66]
廣西日報	[1953-64]
廣東僑報 (廣州)	[1956-59]
撫順日報	[1956-57]
澄海報	[1957]
鄭州日報	[1955-58]
鞍山日報	[1956-58]
遼寧日報	[1956-60]
濟南日報 (山東)	[1957-58]
穗郊農民報	[1959]
瀋陽日報	[1956-59]
鷺風 (福建)	[1958-60]

### 期刊：

人民教育 (月刊)	[1951-55]
工商界 (月刊)	[1954-58]
中國青年 (半月刊)	[1950-66]
中國婦女 (半月刊)	[1958-66]
支農紅旗 (廣州)	[1967]
民主評論	[1955-58]
政治學習 (月刊)	[1955-59]
新南開 (天津)	[1967]
新建設 (月刊)	[1950-66]
新觀察 (半月刊)	[1950-60]
僑務報 (雙月刊) (北京)	[1956-65]
僑務報 (月刊) (廣東)	[1956-58]
China Reconstructs	[1967]
Peking Review (Peking)	[1960-71]

### 書籍：

華僑問題研究會編 (1951-52)《僑務法規彙編第一輯》，聯合書店出版。

### 其他：

中國新聞通訊稿 (廣州)	[1956-71]
華僑投資手冊 (廣東)	[1959]
華僑救國聯合總會第一次代表大會決議案簡編	[1957]

### 台灣

#### 報紙：

中央日報	[1952-72]
公論報	[1954-61]
民族晚報	[1955]
新生報	[1955-71]
聯合報 (台灣)	[1955-71]

#### 期刊：

人生 (半月刊)	[1955]
中共研究月刊	[1969-71]
中國一週	[1955]
今日大陸 (半月刊)	[1963-68]
台灣中國文摘	[1950]
台灣自由青年 (旬刊)	[1953-58]
民主憲政	[1959]
自由中國	[1953-59]
問題與研究 (月刊)	[1963-70]
教育與文化	[1956]
畢業僑生 (月刊)	[1959]
華僑文教會議月刊	[1955]
華僑週刊	[1954]
僑生通訊	[1959-60]
僑訊 (半月刊)	[1959-62]

#### 其他：

台灣大道通訊社稿	[1953]
台灣遠東新聞社稿	[1955]
華僑通訊社稿	[1955]

### 星加坡

#### 報紙：

中興日報	[1956]
民報	[1962-65]
南方晚報	[1956]
南洋商報	[1954-70]
星洲日報	[1953-66]

### 星加坡

#### 報紙：

海星報	[1955]
陣線報	[1962]
馬華論壇報	[1955]
創造	[1955]

#### 其他：

南洋年鑑	[1951]
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#### 書籍：

人民行動黨中央編輯委員會編 (1960 年 4 月)  
《語言與政治》，人民行動黨中央編輯委員會  
出版。

### 菲律賓

#### 報紙：

大中華日報 (馬尼拉)	[1952-58]
公理報 (馬尼拉)	[1955]
晨報 (岷里拉)	[1957-58]
華僑商報 (馬尼拉)	[1954-56]
新閩日報 (岷里拉)	[1954-70]
China Mail (Manila)	[1955]

#### 期刊：

華僑週刊 The Chinese Weekly (菲律賓)	[1957]
新閩日報 (岷里拉) 雜誌	[1967-70]

### 印尼

#### 報紙：

中華商報 (耶加達)	[1956-58]
天聲日報 (印尼)	[1956-58]
自由日報 (印尼)	[1956-60]
青光日報 (印尼)	[1955]
前鋒日報 (古晉)	[1956]

## 印尼

### 報紙：

新中華報（印尼）	[1955]
新報（耶嘉達）	[1956-57]
僑聲報（印尼）	[1956]
蘇島時報（印尼）	[1955-57]

### 其他：

大道新聞（耶加達）	[1955]
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## 泰國

### 報紙：

中原報	[1955-56]
民主日報（曼谷）	[1952-55]
民主晚報（曼谷）	[1952-55]
各華文報（曼谷）	[1956]
星泰晚報（曼谷）	[1952-70]
星暹日報（曼谷）	[1952-71]
暹京中原晚報	[1954-56]

## 寮國

### 報紙：

時代日報（永珍）	[1969]
華僑新聞（永珍）	[1968-69]

## 越南

### 報紙：

大夏日報（堤岸）	[1954-55]
工人報（西貢）	[1955-56]
中國日報（堤岸）	[1953-56]
中國畫報（堤岸）	[1955]
世界報/世界日報（堤岸）	[1955-61]
光華日報（堤岸）	[1955]
成功日報（堤岸）	[1955-70]
每日論壇（堤岸）	[1953-54]
亞洲日報（堤岸）	[1955-58]
越南時報（堤岸）	[1954]
越華晚報（堤岸）	[1956]

## 越南

### 報紙：

新越華報（越南）	[1966]
新聞日報（堤岸）	[1954]
新聲日報	[1956]
萬國日報晚刊（堤岸）	[1955]
群聲日報（堤岸）	[1955]
遠東日報（堤岸）	[1954-55]

### 期刊：

自由太平洋（月刊）	[1962]
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## 緬甸

### 報紙：

人民報（仰光）	[1955-65]
中國日報（仰光）	[1955-58]
民眾呼聲報（仰光）	[1955-58]
自由日報（仰光）	[1954-64]
亞洲日報（緬甸）	[1957-58]

## 馬來西亞

### 報紙：

中國報（吉隆坡）	[1952-71]
中華日報（沙勞越）	[1962-66]
民眾報（沙勞越）	[1962-65]
光華日報（檳城）	[1962-65]
亞庇商報（北婆羅洲）	[1962-65]
虎報（吉隆坡）	[1961-64]
前鋒日報（沙勞越）	[1962-64]
勁報（吉隆坡）	[1955]
南洋商報（吉隆坡）	[1968-70]
建國日報（怡保）	[1956]
星洲日報（吉隆坡）	[1953-70]
星檳日報（吉隆坡）	[1969]
星檳日報（檳城）	[1956-70]
砂民日報（沙勞越）	[1962]
美里日報（沙勞越）	[1962]
馬來亞通報（吉隆坡）	[1961]

### 馬來西亞

報紙：

婆羅洲時報（山打根）	[1962-67]
勞工報（馬來亞）	[1962]
華僑日報（北婆羅洲）	[1962-65]
新路報（吉隆坡）	[1952]
新聞報（沙勞越）	[1962]
鏡報（馬來亞）	[1955]

其他：

《事實勝過雄辯 關於華文教育問題》	
馬來亞司法部長郭梁宇皋關於華文教育的談話	[1961]

### 美國

報紙：

三民晨報（芝加哥）	[1956]
世界日報（三藩市）	[1962]
自由中國日報（美國）	[1955-56]
亞洲日報（紐約）	[1959]
金山時報（三藩市）	[1962]
美洲華僑日報（紐約）	[1962]
國民日報（舊金山）	[1954-55]
華美日報（紐約）	[1959]
聯合日報（紐約）	[1962]
The Chinese World (San Francisco)	[1962]

期刊：

大華週刊（紐約）	[1962]
中美週報（紐約）	[1962]
The China Quarterly (London)	[1962]

### 日本

報紙：

東京大地報	[1954]
揚華僑報	[1968]

### 高棉（柬埔寨）

報紙：

工商日報（金邊）	[1962-67]
金巴南洋週報	[1954]
金邊日報（高棉）	[1954-56]
棉華日報（金邊）	[1956-60]
湄江日報（金邊）	[1957-58]
環球日報（金邊）	[1956]

### 加拿大

報紙：

大漢公報	[1962-70]
中興報	[1955]
新民國報（渥太華）	[1962]
僑聲日報（渥太華）	[1962]

期刊：

人生漫談（五月刊）	[1962]
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### 印度

報紙：

印度日報	[1959-67]
印度尼西亞日報	[1969]

### 澳門

報紙：

市民日報	[1959-63]
華僑報	[1962]
澳門日報	[1959-71]

## Appendix B: Overview of Holdings of HKBU Library's Collection of Union Research Institute Clippings on China, 1950-1975

Subject Categories	No. of Files, 1950-1975	No. of MF reels, 1950-1975
1. Politics	2,385	278 (28)*
2. Social Sciences		88 (13)*
3. Armed Forces	388	62 (9)*
4. Economics	3,547	649 (38)*
5. Civilization & Education	1,946	317 (38)*
6. Overseas Chinese	707	141 (4)*
7. Recording of Broadcasting	346	39
8. Taiwan	940	--
9. International Affairs	1,641	--
10. Profile **	--	87
Total	11,900 #	1,661 (130)*

HKBU Library has 1<sup>st</sup> ed. (1957) and 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (1962) of the indexes to the clippings files.

\* Number of microfilms with Vinegar Syndrome

\*\* Index cards of English biographical information on different people

# Among the ten subject categories, all 2,581 files of Taiwan and International Affairs clippings and 692 files of the remaining subject categories compiled in the 1970s are not microfilmed.