

## Table of Content

- 1-2 Table of Content
- 3 The History of Women in Hong Kong

### Stories of Women

#### Female Labour and Economic Autonomy

- 4 Fisherwomen
- 5 Farming Women
- 6 Domestic Helpers
- 7 Female Factory Workers (1)
- 8 Female Factory Workers (2)
- 9 Women at Work (Healthcare)
- 10 Women at Work (Teachers)
- 11 Women at Work (Clerks, Executives and Entrepreneurs)
- 12 Women at Work (Judges, Lawyers, Accountants, Engineers and Social Workers)
- 13 Women at Work (Police Officers and Fire Fighters)

#### Education and Empowerment of Women

- 14 Education Policy (1)
- 15 Education Policy (2)
- 16 Education in Earlier Times (1)
- 17 Education in Earlier Times (2)
- 18 Schools Founded by Social Organisations
- 19 "Capacity Building Mileage Programme"
- 20 Adult Education, Continuing Education and Vocational Training
- 21 Gender Education

#### Over the Years...

- 22 Women and Family (Changes in Women's Familial Role and Family Pattern)
- 23 Women and Family (Wedding Featuring a Mixture of Chinese and Western Styles and Wedding on Boat)
- 24 Family Planning Campaign
- 25 Unpaid Household Work
- 26 Women's Life in the Early Days - Interesting Anecdotes
- 27 The Seven Sisters' Festival

#### Women's Participation, Service to the Community

- 28 Support for the War against Japanese Aggression
- 29 Participation in District Affairs
- 30 Political Participation
- 31 Celebrating the Reunification of Hong Kong with the Mainland

## Table of Content

### The First Women in ...

- 32 Yam San-san
- 33 Irene Cheng
- 34 Kimmy Koh
- 35 Ellen Li
- 36 Lee Ching-chee
- 37 Catherine Joyce Symons
- 38 Fung Yuet-wah, Mui Yim-ling, Wong Ying, Cho Ping and Wong Yuk-mei
- 39 Lydia Selina Dunn
- 40 Catherine Che Kuk-hung
- 41 Rosa Chak
- 42 Emily Lau
- 43 Anson Chan
- 44 Felicia Wong
- 45 Regina Ip
- 46 Lee Lai-shan
- 47 Elsie Leung
- 48 Rita Fan
- 49 Rebecca Lee
- 50 Laura Cha
- 51 Margaret Chan
- 52 The First Women in...

### Key Achievements in Promoting Local Women's Rights and Interests

- 53-54 Overview of Key Achievements in Promoting Local Women's Rights and Interests
- 55 Against the Mui Tsai System
- 56 Reform of Marriage System
- 57 Labour Rights of Women
- 58 The Right to Inherit Land in the New Territories
- 59 Women's Safety - Sexual Violence
- 60 Women's Safety - Domestic Violence
- 61 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
- 62 Sex Discrimination Ordinance, Family Status Discrimination Ordinance and Equal Opportunities Commission
- 63-64 Women's Commission
- 65 List of Local Women Organisations

### The Cultural Life of Girl-Child

- 66 Gender Stereotypes
- 67 Children's Toys
- 68 School Curriculum and Textbooks
- 69-70 Acknowledgement

## **The History of Women in Hong Kong**

Over the past century, Hong Kong has evolved from a fishing village to a cosmopolitan city, and women have played an important part in the process. In the past two to three decades in particular, the contribution of women has become more significant in the areas of education, economy and social and political participation. Today, many of them are outstanding leaders in their respective fields. Among government officials, members of public councils and boards, as well as influential opinion leaders in Hong Kong, many are females. In the private sector, the number of women entrepreneurs is on the rise while an increasing proportion of senior management and professional posts is taken up by women.

According to traditional Chinese ideology, women were expected to be subservient to men, characterised by the rules of "obedience to father before marriage, to husband after marriage, and to son after husband's death". Nevertheless, the roles of women in family and employment have changed substantially since the early days, as a result of the inculcation of the concepts of equality and gender awareness from the Western culture in the Chinese community, accompanied by other factors such as the introduction of universal education and the rapid economic development and growth. Particularly after the Second World War, there were increased job opportunities for women as a result of industrialisation and more women have become economically independent, and their status in the community has further improved since then.

Generally speaking, both women and men in Hong Kong can now enjoy good opportunities to develop their potential and make contribution to the community. This could not have been achieved without the sustained efforts of all sectors in the community in enhancing public awareness of gender issues and promoting equal opportunities and women's interests, leading towards the goal of achieving gender equality.