



國際潮團總會

TEOCHEW INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION

A BRIEF INTRODUCTION TO TEOCHEW INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION

Teochew International Federation, previously known as Teochew International Convention was established in 1980 founded by the Teochew associations from Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore and Hong Kong. The ancestral hometown of Teochew people lies in the Chaoshan region of Guangdong Province. According to incomplete statistics, there are about 50 million Chiu Chow people in the world, of which nearly 20 million are living outside China. The mission of the Federation is to enhance clan ties, promote cultural exchanges, develop industry and business relationships, and serve the community.

The Secretariat of the Federation is located in Hong Kong to handle daily affairs and coordinate the activities of Teochew Associations around the world. The Federation has a well-defined charter, manages a website and publishes newsletter and journal for better communication. The Federation has over one hundred member associations from dozens of countries and regions of the world. Most of these member associations are influential in their local communities. Through such a broad network, Teochew people around the world are well connected with each other.

Teochew International Convention is one of the major events of Teochew International Federation. Since 1981, Teochew International Convention has convened every two years in different locations around the world. The 1st Convention, held in 1981, was hosted in Hong Kong by Hong Kong Chiu Chow Federation. From the 2nd to the 17th Convention, it was successively hosted by The Tio Chew Association of Thailand, Federated Teochew Associations of Malaysia, Singapore Teochew Poit Ip Huay Kuan, Macau Chiu Chow Association,

Amicale des Teochew en France, the US Teochow Associations, Hong Kong Chiu Chou Association, Shantou Overseas Exchange Association, The Tio Chew Association of Thailand, Chao Zhou Natives of Overseas Association Beijing, Teochew Poit Ip Huay Kuan and Yi An Company in Singapore, Chao Zhao Natives Association Macau, The Australian Chinese Teochew Association Inc., Guangdong Chao Ren Overseas Friendship Union, Federated Teochew Associations of Malaysia, Hubei Chao Zhou Natives Overseas Friendship Association and Canada Chaoshan Business Association, Perkumpulan Teo Chew Nusantara and Chao Shan General Association of New Zealand. The 21st Convention of Teochew International Federation hosted by Chaoshan Economic Promotion Association of Hainan Province will be held in 2021 in Hainan of China.

The Convention has gained the attention of leaders of the host countries and they attended in person or sent congratulatory messages to the Convention. As a demonstration, the Convention was held four times in mainland China, two of which were officiated by Li Ruihuan, then the Chairman of the CPPCC National Committee and one was officiated by Li Changchun, member of Politburo's Standing Committee. Taking advantage of its close international ties, the Federation has been successful in playing its role as the bridge for exchange for Teochew people in all comers of the world.

There are four major affiliated organizations: International Teochew Youth Federation, International Society of Teochew Studies, Organization for Economic Cooperation of International Teochew Commerce & Industry and International Teochew Doctors Association, covering youth, culture, business and academic research.



**INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY
OF TEOCHEW STUDIES**

國際潮學研究會

International Institute of Teochew Culture

“Chao Studies” was proposed by Prof Jao Tsung-I. It is a study of Chaoshan History and Culture that covers research in its history, economy, social, ethnic tradition, dialect and overseas emigrants.

In 2005, at the 13th International TeoChew Convention, Mr. Chan Wai Nam proposed the establishment of the Institute of Teochew Culture which was adopted by the International Teochew Federation. The president of the Institute has a term of 2 years and ex-officially is the chairman of the Teochew Convention.

In July 2006, leaders of the International Teochew Federation met in Hong Kong and the proposal to established the International Institute of Teochew Culture was officially adopted. An academic committee was set up to preside over the activities of the institute, including the organization of the bi-annual conference and its developments. The academic committee will be located at the history department of Zhong Shan University while the secretariat will be set up at the Institute of Chaozhou Culture of the Hanshan Normal University. Both the academic committee and the secretariat will have double leadership. The first two chairmen of the academic committee were Prof. Zeng Xiantong and Prof. Cai Hongsheng. Prof. Chen Chunsheng of Zhong Shan University and Prof. Huang Ting of of Hanshan Normal University were the chief secretaries. The other members were Prof. Wushu Lin,

Prof. Weiwu Chen, Prof. Honglin Zhu, Prof. Zhixiang Cai, Prof. Shaochuan Zhou, Prof. Lunlun Lin, Prof. Jingguo Du and Prof. Zhixian Li.

At the moment, the international Institute of Teochew Culture is one of the 4 major directly affiliated organisation of the International Teochew Federation and its mandates include the following

1. Coordination of all academic activities.
2. Receive and review research papers for financial support.
3. Publications of the journal, "Teochew research" and the management of the website, Teochew Study work shop.



國際潮商經濟合作組織

TEOCHEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION ORGANIZATION

Organization for Economic Cooperation of International

Teochew Commerce & Industry

The Organization for Economic Cooperation of International Teochew Commerce and Industry is a non-profitable organization, made up of members from various business sectors on a global scale and is under the umbrella of the International Teochew Federation. The main objective is to promote economic exchange, cooperation and development. Its mandate also includes to advance the tradition and spirit of Teochew business practice.

In November 2009, at the 15th International Teochew Convention's leaders and secretariats meeting, the proposal to establish the Organization received strong support and was adopted. The major regions and countries that came on board included Hong Kong, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Macao, Beijing, Shanghai and Guangdong. It was legally registered in Hong Kong in November 2010 and the first general meeting took place in 2014 where Mr. Liu Yiliang was elected chairman of the first term with Mr. Wu Kaisong the executive chairman. In 2017, the Organization declared it would encourage Teochew entrepreneurs to take part in the one belt one road initiative. 4 Overseas products exhibition were held with tremendous global responses. These activities were part of the effort by the Organization to support the One Belt One Road and the Great Bay Area developments. Furthermore, an investment fund was setup to focus on investment in infrastructure projects in ASEAN countries.

Since its inauguration, the Organization has developed 3 platforms for Teochew business growth, resource development and brand promotion. The scope covers cooperation, investment, finance, information, brand building, charity, nurture talents and research. The ultimate goal is to achieve major solidarity, cooperation, charity leading to the injection of new energy for the Teochew business community.



國際潮籍博士聯合會
INTERNATIONAL TEOCHEW DOCTORS ASSOCIATION

International Teochew Doctors Association

The International Teochew Doctors Association (ITDA) is an international organization under the supervision of the International Teochew Federation. ITDA is a non-profit organization with a network of Teochew scholars and experts from different parts of the world. Its objectives are the following

1. Promote fellowship
2. Enhance scholarly research
3. Cooperation for further developments
4. Serve society

Using the experiences of Hong Kong, Beijing and Guangzhou, the seed of founding the Doctors Association was germinated. A consensus was reached in May of 2012 and a preparatory committee was formed under the leadership of Dr. Chan Yau Nam to establish the Association. Visits to various major cities were organized and met with enthusiastic support. Conveners were identified and appointed at different locations of the world. Besides Hong Kong, Beijing, Guangzhou, Shenzhen, the Association also has representations from Shantou, Singapore, Macao, Malaysia, the United State of America, France, Thailand, United Kingdom, Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

The first preliminary meeting took place during Chinese New Year in 2013 with more than 150 in attendance. In May of the same year, the International Teochew Convention appointed Dr. Chan Yau Nam was to overlook the establishment of the Doctors Association. The first General Meeting took place in Chaozhou in July 2013 with over 150 delegates present in person or on-line. The Ordinance was officially

adopted and the Doctors Association subsequently registered in Hong Kong in August 2013.

Since its establishment, the Association has attracted more than 2000 scholars and experts, representing a broad spectrum of research interests. With the support and the close network of the international Teochew Federation, liaison offices were set up to manage the daily work. Distinguished scholars were invited to be advisors of the Association, enhancing its global status. With the close ties, an International network of intellectual resource was formed.

Four high caliber seminars were successfully organized that covered themes on Biotechnology, AI, robotics, economics and the last one about “Smart City” was held in Singapore. In these seminars, world renowned scholars (not necessary of Teochew) were invited to be speakers.

The Association also assists its members to commercialize their research results. Events were organized to allow the scientists to have direct dialogues with the entrepreneurs.

Other meaningful activities included, Chinese New Year get together with members who returned to the Chaoshan region during the holiday, drawing over 200 participants every time; seminars, discussion groups, display of research results were also held. To encourage scholarly exchange, a subsidy was setup for scholars to engage in research overseas.

It should be pointed out that all the financial needs of the Doctors Association came from generous donations of Teochew entrepreneurs. Without their support and endorsement, the Doctors Association will not be as successful.



International Teochew Youth Federation

The first International Teochew Youth Convention was held in Hong Kong in 1999 under the leadership of Dr. Ian Chan Yau Nam of Hong Kong. With the support from Mr. Li Ka-shing, Mr. Chuang Shih-ping and a global group of distinguished Teochew, the International Teochew Youth Federation (ITYF) was established at the Third International Convention at Montreal in May of 2004 with the participation of more than 30 Associations from different parts of the world. Mr. Chong Hok Shan of Hong Kong was elected to be the first president of the Federation. The Main Mission of the Federation is to enhance communication among Teochew Youth Groups of the world by establishing a network to promote Teochew culture, engage in charity work, build a global information structure to strengthen closer ties.

Under the leadership of Mr. Chong Hok Shan and subsequent presidents, ITYF has become an Institution that attracts the younger Teochew generation from different sectors, all of them are distinguished leaders in their own fields. The 9th ITYF is led by Mr. Li Yi Biao, Mr. Cheung Tsun Yung, Mr. Chen Si Yu and Mr. Huang De An focuses on perfecting the structure of the Federation with an emphasis on innovative ideas to nurture a new generation of Teochew youths who will carry the tradition of their forefathers.

Since the 1st Convention was held in Hong Kong, 9 other Conventions were successfully held at Paris, Montreal, Shenzhen, Bangkok, Shantou, Macao, Singapore, Tianjin and Hong Kong. The 11th Convention is scheduled for 2022 in Beijing. For each of these conventions, Government officials and distinguished guests were represented, a demonstration of the recognition of the Youth Federation.

The success of the bi-annual Conventions elevates the position of Chinese and Teochew culture and facilitate the solidarity of the Teochew youth allowing it to continue its development. At the same time, activities like golf, culture, art exchanges also help the understanding of different groups residing in various countries. The fast development in China offers great opportunities for members of the ITYF. These include the 'Belt and Road initiative', 'Greater Bay Area, Shenzhen and Zhuhai's special zone for innovation project etc. The ITYF can provide assistance to its members who has the aspiration to work in these areas.