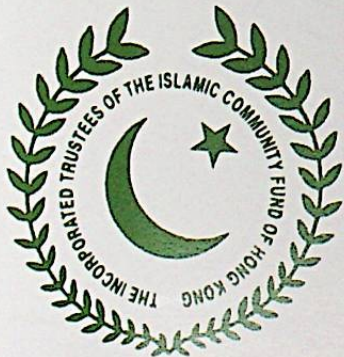


Muslim Community Hong Kong



THE INCORPORATED TRUSTEES OF
THE ISLAMIC COMMUNITY FUND OF HONG KONG

مجلس الامناء موارد جالية الاسلامية هونغ كونغ

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Anton Hazewinkel

Compiled & Written by
Mr. Saeed Uddin Trustee
Mufti Muhammad Arshad Chief Imam

Design
Zhao Yan

Proof reading
Lydia Georgieva

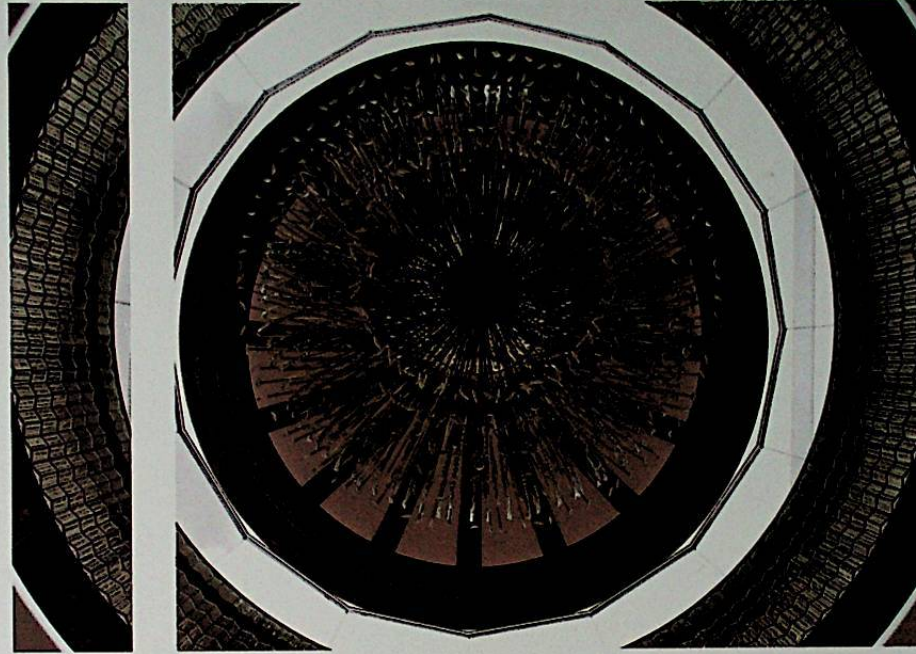
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HISTORY OF MUSLIMS IN HONG KONG

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Maulana Abdul Aleem Siddiqui at Jamia Masjid Central

The first British ships to sail into the Chinese waters were those of East India Company from Calcutta in India (where most of the crew were recruited) for trading between the various posts from India to Japan. The East India Company's trade with China reached its peak in the early 19th century and seamen were then mostly signed on from Bombay and Calcutta by the British first opium clipper which was then a wooden boat known as "Red River," built by Jardine & Matheson in Calcutta in 1829. Since then it had opened the gate for the early Muslims settling down in Hong Kong.

Hong Kong means "Fragrant Harbour" and the early seamen mostly came from the shores of Malabar (India), Bay of Bengal, Campbellpur

Before the island of Hong Kong was ceded to Britain by the Viceroy at Canton (Guangzhou) in January 1841, Hong Kong was a tiny part of San On District of Kwan Tung Province. At that time the population of the island was only about five thousand (as compared with 7.5 million today) consisting mostly of farmers and their families living in the valleys, and fishermen living on boats along the sheltered coast.

With Hong Kong beginning to develop into an important seaport, more and more seamen and garrisons were passing through

