

## 华人参事局

1869年，英殖民地政府开始在新设立的立法议院引进华人领袖作为非官方议员。随后在成功解散私会党帮之后，于1890年1月又设立华人参事局，委任华人领袖闽籍5名、潮籍4名、粤籍2名、琼籍1名，帮忙协调与华人有密切关系的礼仪、庆典、教育、社会福利和其他有关立法的社会问题。第一届的委任代表包括陈若锦、余连城等人。

同年三月槟城华人参事局设立，委任闽、粤、客、潮四籍贯共十七人，其中许武安为潮人代表。

华人参事局究竟替当时的华社处理了什么具体的事件呢？在新加坡，宋旺相的《华人百年史》记录了好几项，包括

- (1) 1895年，抗议政府要求的军事捐款数目太大；
- (2) 1903年，要求改善染病的华工苦力在隔绝病房的居住环境；
- (3) 1908年，监督丹戎巴葛广东坟场的挖墓工作。

在槟城，许武安在1890年向政府提出要求豁免华工苦力在收到家乡寄来的信后补贴邮费。

而在仰光，华人的数目一向都大大少于印度人，1885年，缅甸更是属于英治印度的一个省份，殖民地政府并不重视华人问题。一直到革命风潮涌进，清朝政府匆促于1909年设立领事馆【\*】，仰光华人参事局才在同年设立。仰光华人主要是闽、粤二籍，因此参事代表也只限于这两个籍贯的侨领。

从南洋商报1926年2月的一篇报道【\*\*】看起来，在中国民初政党斗争激烈的时期，仰光华人参事局一开始就忙于调解殖民地政府为了削弱他们在缅甸的影响力而驱逐“不良份子”引起的诉讼。

字報、均派有訪員前往記事、是時主席、原定中國沈領事、沈君、以身體不爽、奉函告辭、故特推臨時主席楊榮君、首由陳顯在君宣佈、詳情錄下、

仰光警察華人顧問部之設置、約在一九〇九年間、顧問員計有華人十二名、警察司長即為部中之主席、顧問部設置之宗旨、在乎使居留政府與華僑之感情意見、更趨接近、有此公認之華人顧問、對於行政上、宜大有補助、對於關係華僑事務、政府宜藉得可靠之報告及忠告、而此團體宜能表示其忠忱與熱望、能申僑民之冤屈、能速僑民之疾苦、於政府失、但顧問員係由警察推舉、每任兩年、滿期可以再任、鄙人於顧問部設置之初、亦曾任部員約十二年之久、至一九一九年、始行告退、顧問部設置之原旨、本屬可嘉、但其所辦之事、不外(一)提議驅逐無辜無知、及可憎惡之華人出境、(二)訂華人過年及節期放炮時日、最可惜者、即部員中對於辦事多有失職者、如警察有提出驅逐華人出境案、即宜逐案加以審察、但彼等編造荒謬助警察所提議者、結果警察不時提出不審不惡之案件、鄙人親從前亦曾時成驅逐二次可憎可惡之華人廿名出境、然此等辦法、係根據調查之所得、及正確之報告、彼輩應受此等之處分、因其大體以懲治之罪類、於一九〇九年至一九一一年間、時常推動會黨之域鬧、經此兩次之被逐出境、發生良好之效果者、即自是之後、再不見有會黨鬧之舉也、凡被驅逐出境者、原因多由被逐者詳得親友之幫助、可將其情由陳述於官長之前、驅逐出境之事、最大者有二、其一為黃送、時在一九一三年、警察在顧問部提議時、到會之顧問員

黃送被逐消息、倒逃匿於坦、及余回仰時、驅逐出境之命令、發出已數日、黃送求見余、請加援助、余乃往見各顧問員、及彼時之警察司打德羅頓君等、諸君均不肯將案再加審察、後余聘請律師仁瓦撈氏起草請願書、並請華僑中之素有名望者簽名、然後呈上前任之巡撫夏末阿當遜、巡撫吊案卷檢閱、加以審察之後、乃將驅逐出境命令取消、其二林開外之案、此事發生、距今僅兩年、時顧問員仍然協助警察所提議者、依據可靠及薄弱之證據、以為其走私私物者、而欲加以驅逐出境、幸彼為得有勢力之親友加以援助、始得命令之取消、鄙人以此大多數顧問員曾有失職、鄙人在顧問部時、確知該顧問員對於警察所提議之案、未嘗將其報告閱讀、或查察將被逐出境者何人、便加以讚成、此不過舉數件而言之、於此相似之案、實不止此、故此問題所有之關係、有加以考慮之必要、而今公民大會之開、即為此耳、

下列諸君為一九二四公一月一號起、被推舉之顧問員、其任期為一年、

(一) 陳清韻 (二) 李阿林 (三) 李選養 (四) 楊榮 (五) 陳金在 (六) 楊昭園 (七) 曾祖概 (八) 陳培 (九) 楊茂松 (十) 李選禮 (十一) 康明章 (十二) 丘生聯 (十三) 蘇芙蓉 (未完)

△ 英 國 ▽

### 仰光公民大會情形

祖父楊昭固于 1924 年被委任华人参事局代表。同他一同加入的还有植德堂的另一名董事楊荣联，和当时已是立法议员的李遐养和曾祖概，以及后来当上立法议员的康明章。

闽籍 Hokkien	曾祖概 Chan Chor Khine
闽籍 Hokkien	邱生联 Khoo Seng Byan
闽籍 Hokkien	康明章 Kong Beng Chong
闽籍 Hokkien	陈清韵 Tan Cheng Oon
闽籍 Hokkien	陈金在 Tan Kin Chye
闽籍 Hokkien	楊昭固 Yeo Cheow Kow
闽籍 Hokkien	楊荣联 Yeo Eng Byan
闽籍 Hokkien	楊茂松 Yeo Moh Seong
粤籍 Cantonese	陈培 Chan Phoay
粤籍 Cantonese	李阿林 Li Ah Lam
粤籍 Cantonese	李遐礼 Li Ah Lye
粤籍 Cantonese	李遐养 Li Ah Yain
粤籍 Cantonese	苏芙蓉 So Poo Young

1924 年仰光华人参事局代表

【\*】早在 1877 年，清政府就设立了新加坡领事馆。

【\*\*】是 1926 年的报纸，记者却大篇幅引述十多年前的事情，文末才刊载当前的现任参事局代表名单。不过文中也透露了这个机构的另一个称呼--“仰光华人警察顾问团”，相信其一重要任务便是缓冲警民矛盾。1931 年仰光发生反华暴动时，警察局便让曾祖概骑上马背同警察一起巡视华人区，安抚华侨。

### Chinese Advisory Boards

In 1869, the British colonial government in Singapore began to bring established Chinese leaders as unofficial members into the new Legislative Council formed two years ago. Following the successful dissolution of the secret societies, in January 1890 the government further set up the Chinese Advisory Board, to help coordinate Chinese social rituals, ceremonies, welfare and other relevant legislative matters. The Board made twelve appointments with 5 from the Hokkien communities, 4 Teochiew, 2 Cantonese, and 1 Hailam. Among the first appointed were Tan Jiak Kim and Seah Lian Seah.

The Penang Chinese Advisory Board was set up in March the same year. The Board consisted of twelve members, representing 4 major dialect groups. Koh Boo Ann represented the Teochiew.

What did the specific matters these Advisory Boards deal with in those years? Song Ong Siang's book reported several, including the following.

- (1) In 1895, the Board protested against the decision of the colonial government regarding the huge amount of the Military Contribution demanded;
- (2) In 1903, the Board argued for better accommodation for the quarantined coolies;
- (3) In 1908, the Board was entrusted to supervise the work of the removal of graves from the Cantonese burial grounds in Tanjong Pagar.

In Penang in August 1890, Koh Boo Ann asked the Government to exempt Chinese Coolies from paying postage on letters they were receiving from home.

Comparatively, Rangoon Chinese were not given the same level of attention until much later. This is because in Colonial Burma, Chinese had always been outnumbered by Indians. In 1885, Burma even became a province of British rule in India, and the colonial government did not attach importance to the local problems in the Chinese community. It was only after the revolutionary ferment poured in at the turn of the 20th Century and after the Qing government hastily set up a consulate in 1909 [\*], that the colonial government set up the Chinese Advisory Board patterned after the Singapore and Penang boards. Rangoon Chinese were mainly either Hokkien or Cantonese and therefore the Board members were only appointed from leaders of these two dialect groups.

From a report in the Nanyang Siang Pau in February 1926 [\*\*], it appears that during the period of intense strife among political parties in early Republic of China, the Rangoon Chinese Advisory Board was busy mediating lawsuits arising from the colonial government's expulsion of "undesirable characters" in order to weaken their influence in Burma.

Grandfather Yeo Cheow Kaw was appointed a member of the Advisory Board in Rangoon in 1924. He was joined by Lee Ai Yain and Chan Chor Khine who were then already in the Legislative Council, and Kong Beng Chong, who was elected into the Legislative Council soon after.

[\*] The Qing government established a consulate in Singapore in 1877, more than 20 years earlier.

[\*\*] In the 1926 newspaper, the reporter was quoted at great length happenings a decade ago, before publishing the current list of representatives of the incumbent Advisory Board. Noted incidentally was an earlier reference to the Board revealing its advisory roles to the Rangoon police. During the anti-Chinese demonstration in 1931, Chan Chor Khine rode on horse-back along with the police on streets in Chinatown to appease the people.

仰索

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