



2 members of the Hong Kong Constabulary

"A few of us came in 1865, brought from India by the British and given military and police duties. They were put in this area, Wanchai, around Happy Valley.



Batra Gulbir Singh, Khalsa Diwan Sikh Temple

There were many gambling shops and the Chinese were difficult to control so the Sikhs were put on duty. They were very tall and having a beard like this and turbans, the Chinese became scared of them. Very impressive they were. Six-foot Sikhs brought peace to this area. The British were happy.

"Until about 1960 their job was difficult because they were not allowed to marry. Maybe because they couldn't do the duties they had to do. However, they could keep their living expenses lower. After 1960 migration was not a problem. Even educated people like me who worked in a bank in India were transferred to Hong Kong for bank service. Some of us have our own business and are now very successful.

"We have good relations with our neighbors. Muslims are part of our staff. One thing that must improve is writing Chinese. It is very difficult. We can speak and understand it very well but we cannot write it. I was President of the Parent-Teachers Association for 12 years. We decided that our children had to learn to write Chinese. That was five years ago. Very soon everything will be okay."

Hong Kongers truly enjoy their inherited freedoms. Luck just hangs in the air in the year of The Dragon - I'm lucky  
[norman@macdonaldart.net](mailto:norman@macdonaldart.net)  
[www.macdonaldart.net](http://www.macdonaldart.net)



"Merchants from the Middle East came through Canton from Afghanistan, Turkey and Persia, the old Silk Road. Maybe a few hundred came as far as Hong Kong. In Chen Chou they were mainly merchants. They found a stone with Arabic writing carved in it. Today you can see some people there with Arab faces."

"You know, Islam is very close to Confucius. He was looking for the truth. ALL dialogue with his students was about human life. How to treat people and your parents but nothing about the Creator. If he believed that, then maybe he could have been Muslim."

"In school, boys and girls not sit together. Also very

strict about marriage. Confucius said first you marry, then live together. Like most religions I know. We have many friends from other religions. During the month of Ramadan Sikhs donate food in the evening. They also gave a prayer mat.

"Many people in the Middle East don't follow what the Qur'an says. If they did the world would be peaceful, no war. A Buddhist visited me in the conference room. He said the same thing. Where is the respect? We all come from the same source, we are all children of Adam. We are one family." ☺

Imam Uthman talked about how Confucius believed the only certainty in life was change, which is called I Ching. Before the universe and earth there was ultimate nothingness. Out of this formless chaos was born the principle of yin and yang. Like Chinese astrology, everything is in constant change between these two opposites, which are not in conflict but are complementary. The harmonious approach to life.



Uthman Yang, Imam, Qur'an and Arabic Teacher, Born in Shandong Province, China.

