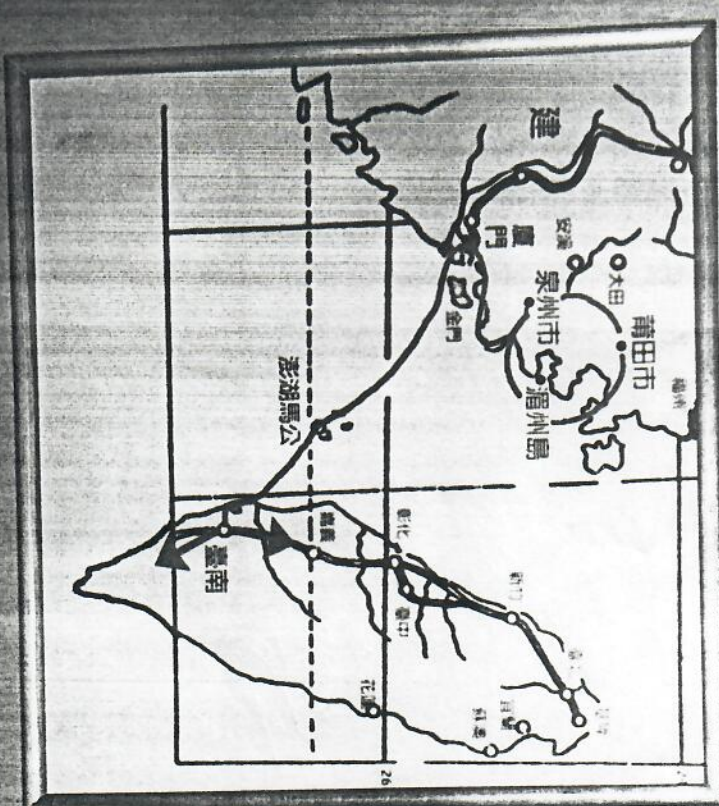


The Road of Mazu Religious to Taiwan

Mazu was the most respectful navigation god in the south part of Mainland China. Mazu religious spread to Penghu with the arrival of the immigrants from the South of Min (Fujian) province at the end of Ming Dynasty, later on, spread to Tainan and, then, the other parts of Taiwan. Mazu had gradually converted into a patron saint to the people.

Sitow futures?

金元已發矣
聖紀推光



媽祖信線 仰渡臺路圖

「媽祖」是中國大陸長江以南各地，最受崇祀的航海神。約於明末隨閩南移民傳入澎湖，繼而由臺灣府城向南北傳播，而擴及全臺，並且逐漸轉型為臺、澎漢人的居家守護神。



Dear George:

I will summarize the content of those papers for you.

A. Cover page:

Can you recognize the turtle in the picture? The turtle was in the oldest in Peng-Hu which we saw it on Feb. this year. And there is a bridge in the middle of the picture.

Content: 乞龜(p.160-161)

During the Lantern Festival (is the 15 days after the Chinese New Year), they have the "pray for turtles" customs in Taiwan. The turtle was seen to be the symbol of "Long-Life" since lone time ago. The folk favorite to make "Red Turtle" for increasing "Gold Luck" in cerebration. The temples make many red turtles or flour turtles to provide the piety people for praying during the Lantern Festival. It means to increase the life longer.

There are many kinds of turtles, such as flour turtles, thin noodle turtle (one kind of noodle in Chinese), peanut candy turtle, cake turtle (made by eggs), rice package turtle, coin turtle, gold turtle and so on..... The numbers are very huge and attract many people to look. The Lantern Festival Turtles become one of the most custom in Taiwan.

The are many different ways to pray of turtle. Some temples prepare hundreds of turtles. If you throw the moon-like woods and get one side up, one side down, you can pick one turtle home and eat it with all your family. Some temples only have one big turtle and not little one, one can take it home if he throw and win the most times of woods. And sometimes, they have both depend on the people need. If you take the turtle this year, you should return twice weight turtle back to the temple, this is why we can see the turtles weight more than 600 kg. It can see that this custom is very important to people in Taiwan.

Pictures in the papers (a-c):

- a. The very famous golden turtles at the temple of Shan-Shui in Ma-Kung, Peng-Hu and the turtles also can walk. This is the temple which we ate the dinner at the temple, wait for lone time to see the biggest turtle on that day.
- b. In the night of the Lantern Festival, it will attract many people to see the big turtle. The is the oldest temple which has Ma-Tsu in there.
- c. Ocean and Turtles consist the only particular scene at the Lantern Festival in Peng-Hu.

B. MA-TSU

Cover page:

1. The picture of Ma-Tsu.
2. The sculpture of Ma-Tsu.

The words from the Tai-Nan City Mayor.

The holy mother--Ma-Tsu--is the guarding goddess for all the fisherman and sailor on the south of China. Lone time ago, the immigrants cross the ocean to Taiwan almost depend on Ma-Tsu to protect them for safe. To thank for the protection from the Ma-Tsu, those immigrants built the temple for her. After developing more than three hundreds years, Ma-Tsu have the most number of temples, most people to believe her.

C. Picture of Ma-Tsu

I think this picture is too dark to see it clear. But I think it's a good picture.

D. The picture of Ma-Tsu.

Content:

二、台灣媽祖信仰由來

The reasons why people believe Ma-Tsu in Taiwan.

There are many temples of Ma-Tsu in Taiwan, most of their sculpture of Ma-Tsu which had many years history was came with those immigrants and separated the spirit from the source of Ma-Tsu in Mainland China (I will introduce the story on next section). And the others temples was separated from the older temples again. Why this situation happen? In those old days, peoples will pray the Ma-Tsu for protection or safe before they get in or get down the ships. You can't take the main sculpture with your trip, so you must take the little sculpture which separated from the main one besides you. That you will feel safe when you travel to others places. If you can't take one of the sculpture with you, somebody will take the little bag which put the ash in the stove front the sculpture (remember that little bag, you have two, one for yourself and one for your wife) or a saint label (there are some words on the paper and it will protect you keep away from dangerous things) to replace the sculpture. They have the same function to protect people.

picture a: People take the " ^{incense}香, hsiang"(I don't know this word in English) in their hands and pray sincerely.

E. The temple of Ma-Tsu (also called "Tien-Hou Kung" in Chinese words)

This picture will show the outside appearance of the temple.

The following are the story of Ma-Tsu herself.

Ma-Tsu, really name is "Mo Lin" (The Mo in Chinese means silent because when she was born, she didn't cry) which was born in the province of Fu-Chien, located in the south of mainland China. She was born in the 960, died in the 987, only 28 years old. She was a very clear girls since she was a child. She was taught by the god when she was 16 years old. She care and help the people in the community, especially the disaster in the ocean. When she was 28 years old, she died because she want to save the people in the ocean. There are many legends about her, like she can save people in the disaster in the ocean, beat the monster and demon, heal and treat people, decrease the flooding, pray for rain and so on....

After she died, people built the temple to memorize her meritorious records at the land which she was born. They call her " the daughter of the god" and hope their spirit will keep on protecting people. When people met some troubles, they go to the temple and pray. According to some people said, they get help after every time they pray. So the daughter of the god became the "goddess".

According the records in 1995, there are more than five thousands of temples of Ma-Tsu and more than 200 millions people who believe her in the whole worlds.

P.S. The next paragraph is my thought about the relationship between the Ma-Tsu and the sea turtles.

I think only people in Peng-Hu will believe both Ma-Tsu and sea turtles because they have many turtles appeared in Peng-Hu since long time ago. In some Chinese legends, people believe turtle can protect people, especially in the ocean. Some stories said turtle can take people on it's back and drive them to the safe place. I think it's the same with the function of Ma-Tsu. They both can safe people in the ocean and protect their life.

P.S. After you received the documents,
please e-mail to me.

Sincerely,

Amy Wang

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協和台灣叢刊 42

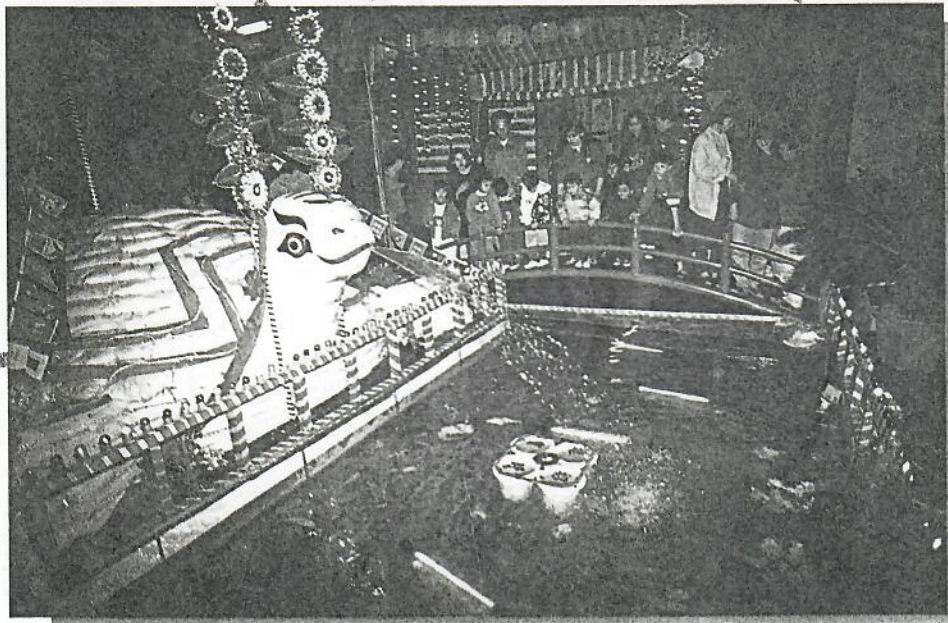
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Ma-Tsu

Peng-Hu



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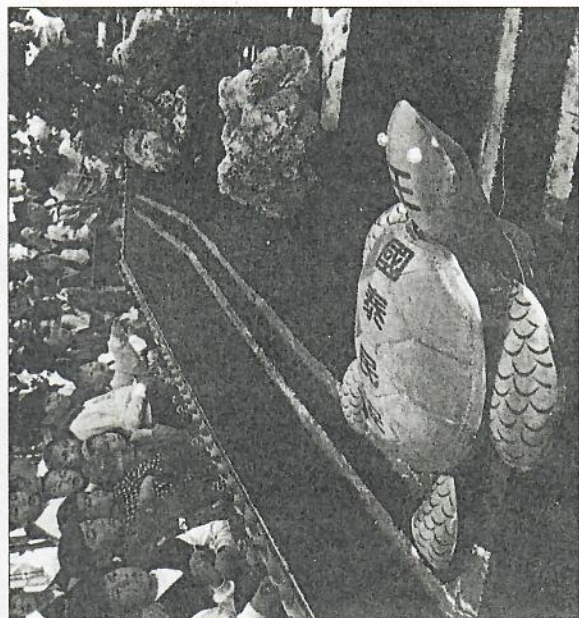
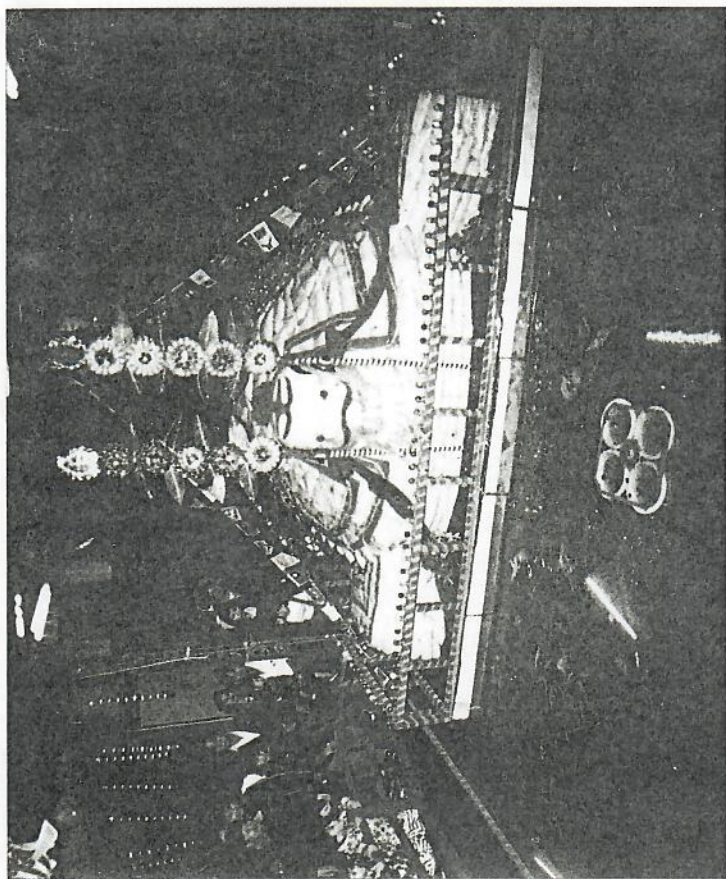
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原出版



▲澎湖縣公山水北極殿著名的黃金龜，鑾轎走路。
▲元宵之夜，吸引許多觀眾前來看大龜。

乞龜

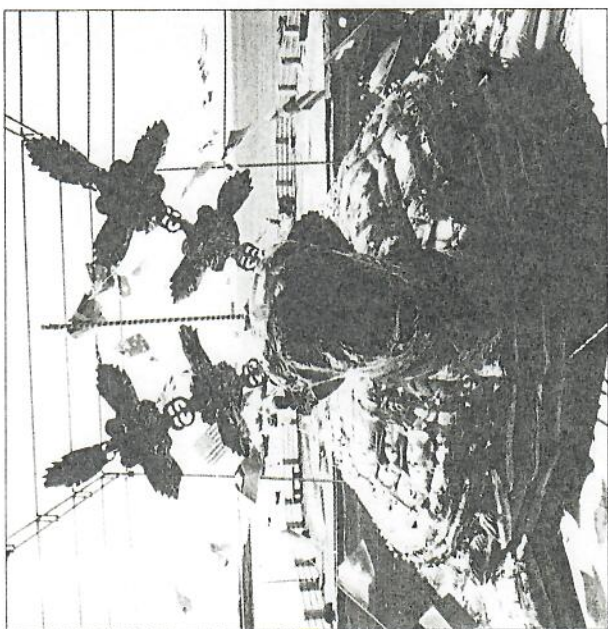
元宵期間，台地更盛行乞龜之俗。龜古來就被視為長壽的象徵，民間素喜於喜慶之時製作紅龜以增吉祥，寺廟於元宵時節，製作許多紅龜或麵龜供善男信女們乞求，意為善男信女添福壽之意。

龜的種類繁多，有麵粉製的麵龜、麵線製的麵線龜、花生糖製的花生龜、用蛋蒸成的蛋糕龜、用米包蒸成的米包龜、用金錢糖成的金錢龜以及黃金打造而成的黃金龜……，數量相當龐大，每每總吸引無數的善信們流連穿梭，熱鬧非凡，元宵龜會早成台地重要的民俗之一。

乞龜的方式不一，有些廟備龜數百，只要得一聖筊者便可帶一隻回家與家人共食；有些廟僅有巨龜而無小龜，由聖筊最多者獲得；也有些廟兩者皆有，完全視善信的需要而定。乞得壽龜者自有還龜的義務，且必須加倍奉還，因

歲時慶典

此有些地方的巨龜已達千斤以上，可見善信對此俗的重視。至於那些賴皮不還者，寺廟則將他們的姓名以及所乞得的龜大小，公告於寺廟的牆壁上，民間俗稱為「龜上壁」。



●大海和米龜，構成澎湖最獨特的元宵盛景。

B(7)

媽祖

(Ma - Tsu)



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中華民國八十六年七月



開基天后宮崇禎媽祖像

B

From the Tai-Nan City Mayor

市長序

天上聖母媽祖是華南漁民及所有航海者之守護神，早年渡海來臺的移民，心靈上幾乎都是仰賴媽祖神威之庇佑，平安登陸後，展開披荆斬棘，筚路藍縷以啓山林的墾拓生涯。爲了酬謝神恩，並求墾拓或航海能夠順利，移民登陸後即建祠廟奉祀媽祖。經過三百多年的發展，媽祖已成爲臺灣地區廟宇最多、信徒最廣、香火最盛的單一神明（王爺信仰則多以五府王爺、三府王爺組成）。僅就本市之轄區而言，目前有辦理寺廟登記之媽祖廟，即有十七座之多。

本市十七座媽祖廟，揆其創建之由，有民建，有官建，也有官民合建；論其創建位置，最早的三座媽祖廟：開基天后宮位於德慶溪口，開臺天后宮位在安平渡口，鹿耳門天后宮就在鹿耳門海口，都是位於移民初步踏上的海岸線上。其後興建的大天后宮、溫陵媽廟、金安宮、銀同祖廟、朝興宮等，則已逐漸往人口集中的市街地區設置。至於鎮安宮、萬安宮、文靈宮乃至南區鹽埕天后宮皆是興建在昔日台南城外，做爲鄉村地區移民聚落的信仰中心，即俗稱的地方角頭廟宇，有明顯的祭祀圈。朝南宮、泰明宮則是光復以後，基於市民的信仰需求，由私人神壇發展而成。我們從這十七座廟宇創建的地點之移動，便可看出台南市開墾、發展的脈絡。

台南市不但是文化古都，更是早期的政治中心，古老的媽祖廟與這塊土地一起見證了三百多年來的歷史；眼見它潮起潮落，眼見它滄海桑田：看到明鄭開疆闢地，看到施琅樓船東來；看到太陽旗下血染安平，也看到盟軍空襲聲後青天白日滿地紅旗幟飄揚。歷史在變，媽祖廟本身也在變，不但建築物本身因爲年久傾圮經過修葺，外貌會發生變遷，甚至於連廟址也會因爲天然的原因或人爲的因素而發生變遷。前者例如鹿耳門古媽祖廟即因同治年間之水患而被沖毀，今之鹿耳門天后宮、鹿耳門聖母廟乃是別址新建；後者例如鹽埕天后宮，日治時期爲興建小學而被迫遷移。綜計本市十七座媽祖廟中，竟有十座曾經經歷過一次甚至一次以上的遷移。

現

代

眼

一者媽祖

幾百年來，
媽祖的香火延續、發燒於臺海兩岸，
有關媽祖一生的傳說故事，
本書為你做最詳細的解說。
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D.

大甲媽祖進香

陳庚全題

