

天 后 聖 母 神 像

海上飛翔席作舟

此畫係由  
林氏所繪



空中顯異雲能駕

TIN HAU SUNG MU  
*Ku Po or Great Grand Aunt  
Matsu*

Goddess Tin Hau Sung Mu, otherwise known as Ku-Po or Great Grand Aunt by the Lum, Lin Lim or Lam Clan, was born on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of the third month of the lunar calendar during the Sung Dynasty (960-1127 AD). She was the sixth daughter of Lun Yuen, an official of Po Tin County, Fujian Province. Ku-Po was noted for her remarkable intelligence and unselfishness. She was revered

as a young lady who was always willing to help others in need.

According to legend Ku-Po was gifted with extra-sensory powers and perception. One day while at home resting, she, in a dream envisioned her father and brother out at sea fishing in a severe storm. She willed her spiritual self to rescue her father, but before she had time to return and rescue her brother, her mother awakened her from her dream and as a result her brother was lost at sea. Her devotion to family and her bravery were known and admired throughout the village. Ku-Po, however, died at a young age, in her twenties.

After her death Ku-po (Mat-su) on numerous occasions, according to legend, appeared to seafarers during heavy storms guiding them to safety and saving many from drowning. At first, she was worshipped in the area around Po Tin County, since most of the people in that area were fishermen. Later, due to many personal history of divine revelation which saved those in peril at sea, she evolved into the patron saint of the seafarers and continues to be revered as "Goddess of the Sea". She is worshipped in Taoist temples in the coastal area of China and Southeast Asia. Evidence of her recent miracle, the sinking of the Princess Tai Ping incident, occurred in the darkness of early dawn on April 25, 2009, thirty miles south of Taiwan.

Over the centuries, she has been known under various titles. During the Sung Dynasty (960-1127 AD) she was deified LUNG WAI GODDESS for her filial piety, genius and gallantry; During the Yuan Dynasty (1280-1368) she was bestowed TIN FEE GODDESS; During the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644) she was honored as FOO CHAI GODDESS; During the Ching Dynasty (1644 - 1912) she was honored as TIN HAU GODDESS, and often referred to as Matsu in Taiwan.

The Lam, Lim, Lin, or LUM Clan members honor and respect her as KU-PO, or Great Grand Aunt.

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## 姑婆略歷

天后聖母寶誕，聯歡宴會之日，為本堂大慶紀念之辰，杯酒聯歡，共祝三多之福，霞觴慶壽，齊呼萬歲之聲，豈不甚盛。溯本堂建立會館之際，同時祀立天后聖母金身，歷年誕辰，皆有熱鬧祝典，慈雲片片，幾若別成天地，香煙繞繞，儼然步入蓬萊，題名與份，參與祀典者，逾千之眾，顧天后宋朝福建莆田縣人，林愿第六女。幼而神異，兄商於海上，遇暴風，女瞑目出海救之，年二十而卒，屢顯靈於海上，渡海者皆壽之，宋封靈惠夫人，元封天妃，明封護國，加昭孝純正英靈應孚濟聖妃，清封天后，此天后元君之史略也，而本堂祀立迄今，恰值一百三十四週年，重喜慶，止止吉祥，祝嘏維殷，稿詞以寶，紀丙午之歲，壽比南山，徵從心之年，福如東海，佇見伯叔姑孀，兄弟姊妹，諸宗親，莫不精神煥發，踴躍齊來，攘攘熙熙，同敦旅誼，踴躍濟濟，共話桑麻。

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The Lum Sai Ho Tong was established in 1889, eleven years prior to the turn of the Twentieth Century. A group of immigrants from Chungshan, Kwangtung Province, China, formed an association of individuals with the family surname of LUM, including Lam, Lim and Lin. Translated the name means "forest."

The present Lum Association was formed for the mutual welfare of members and provided a central location for members – to meet clan members and friends on weekends and other special occasions; to receive letters from and to write to the folks back home in China; and to seek help in times of need, illness or other crisis.

These immigrants left home seeking a better life and opportunities. They worked hard and sacrificed much to provide educational and economic opportunities for their children. Their hopes for the future were entrusted in their children. The Lum clan in Hawaii share as beneficiaries in this destiny – known as the "American Dream."

Benevolence, mutual self-help and assistance, filial piety, and perpetuation of family traditions and culture served the Association well during its earlier years. The hope and challenges for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century need to include service to family, friends and the community-at-large.

The Lum Association, known as SAI HO TONG, had its first clubhouse, about 1890, located on Smith Street, between Hotel and Pauahi Streets. In 1899, a founding member, Lum Say Yip, donated a parcel of land on River Street, near Kukui Street, to build the Association's own clubhouse. Construction of a two-story wood frame building was completed by the end of the year; however, an epidemic at that time delayed formal opening

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of the facility until June 1900. A half-century later, in 1953, a new clubhouse was built to replace the aging wooden building. The present site on River Street continues to serve as headquarters for LUM SAI HO TONG for over One Hundred Ten (110) years.



Historically, the origin of the Lum Clan may be traced back some 3,130 years to the waning years of the Shang (Yin) Dynasty (1766 –1122 BC). The original ancestor, PI-KAN, was one of the closest and trusted advisors who helped King Tzou administer the affairs of the country.

King Tzou was a cruel and tyrannical ruler. He issued harsh punishments and committed shocking atrocities among his subjects. There was concern, unrest and rumors of rebellion to overthrow the Yin Empire. The King's advisors tried to inform the King to change his ways to save the empire. For his efforts the King ordered Pi-kan killed and his family threatened with execution.

Following the overthrow of the Shang (Yin) Dynasty and start of the Chou Dynasty, the new sovereign Emperor Wu Wang started to win the confidence and respect of the people of the empire and of Yin in particular. Military and political prisoners deposed by Tzou were released and honors they enjoyed in the Yin court were reinstated. Pi-kan's son and heir was conferred with a high title in Emperor Wu's court and the name "LIN CHIEN" was bestowed on Pi-kan's heir.

Thus began the lineage of descendants with the surname 林 LIN, also Lam, Lim or Lum.