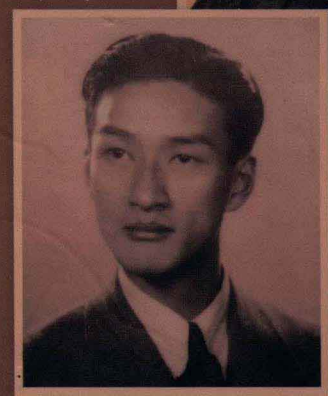


# 高風世承

廣州許氏家族



## VIRTUOUS HERITAGE

### XU FAMILY OF GUANGZHOU

Mandarins, Revolutionaries, Educators and Scientists



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THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG  
CENTENARY  
香港大學百周年



# 高風世承 廣州許氏家族

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XU FAMILY OF GUANGZHOU

Mandarins, Revolutionaries, Educators and Scientists

## 展覽工作小組

丁新豹 黃燕芳 許建勳 許子皓 董志強

作者：丁新豹 黃燕芳 許建勳

設計：陳麗香

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## Exhibition Production Team

Joseph S P TING Anita Y F WONG Humphrey K F HUI Danny T H HUI Anthony C K TUNG

Authors: Joseph S P TING Anita Y F WONG Humphrey K F HUI

Design: Rosanne CHAN

Production: CA Design

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# 前言

香港大學美術博物館 總監  
楊春棠

文人在中國古代社會是最有前途的，因為“學而優則仕”；有了學問，便容易考取功名；做了官，不只得到優厚俸祿，還實際上權力和名望雙收。所以父母均望子成龍，學業非凡，好踏上青雲大道。

這種傳統觀念無不令人對官場趨之若鶩。因此，中國政壇雖出現不少賢臣名將，但在社會上卻少見了科學家、工程學家等專業人才。這觀念對中國發展顯然是利弊參半。

入了官門，自然光大門楣，提升了整個家族的社會地位。廣州許地許氏家族繼承這千百年的歷史傳統，他們的出色成就給予我們很好例證，反映這樣的中國傳統所存在的真正價值。

許家從潮州移至廣州，於十九世紀崛起，人才輩出。在清廷裏，執行重要官務，政績斐然。他們先承接傳統，然後突破傳統，就是不再墨守顯赫仕途，不求個人利益，而為國家提倡改革，為整體中華民族尋找新路。

清廷倒台後，許家的力量超越了政治舞台，還投放在教育事業，讓人才去培養人才，將許家那種求學致知的精神延續下去。

許家的故事令人感動。這些記錄不只是一個家族的歷史，而是為廣州、香港以至中國的發展，補充了一份重要篇章。

我們十分感謝丁新豹博士為展覽做了很多艱辛工作。許家族人及不少朋友和機構提供多方協助，我們均深切致謝。



# Foreword

YEUNG Chun-tong

Director

University Museum and Art Gallery

The University of Hong Kong

Ancient China's literati class had the brightest futures; as an old Chinese saying goes: "when a scholar can readily cope with his studies, he can take dedicated office." As scholars, it was easy for them to pass the official examinations and, hence, gain office. Once you became an official, you would not only receive a good salary, but also gain the double benefits of having authority and renown. That is why Chinese parents, without exception, longed for their sons "to become dragons": to be outstanding scholars, and, consequently, to ascend the path of high officialdom.

This traditional perspective has inevitably led people to seek for a place in official circles. As a result, China's political system has produced many able officials and military personnel, but comparatively few talented scientists, engineers, or other professionals. In China, this perspective has obviously had its advantages and disadvantages.

Once a person became an official, it would naturally elevated his whole family's status. The Xu clan of Guangzhou city's Gaodi Street has carried on this timeless historical tradition. The outstanding achievements of its members are a classic example demonstrating the true value of this type of Chinese tradition.

The Xu family from Chaozhou migrated to Guangzhou, rising to prominence in the nineteenth century as a family of great talents. Within the Qing court, they carried out official duties and led outstanding careers. The Xu family devoted themselves to the nation, encouraging reform and forging a new path for all the Chinese people. While preserving the old tradition, they made a breakthrough by establishing illustrious official careers without the pursuit of personal gains.

Following the downfall of the Qing, the influence of the Xu family extended beyond the political stage to include the education sector, where their talents were able to nurture other gifted learners. In this way, the Xu family's pursuit of learning has continued till today.

The story of the Xu family is a very moving one. In recording their family history, this is not only the history of a single family; but also an important chapter in the story of the development of Guangzhou, Hong Kong, and China.

We are grateful to Dr Joseph Ting for his very hard work towards this exhibition. We also wish to express our deep appreciation to the Xu family clan, and to the many friends and institutions that have supported this exhibition in various ways.

# 序言

許建勳

**源**自廣東潮州的許氏家族，歷代在廣州許地繁衍生息。最初自潮州移居羊城的許永名，其子拜庭以販鹽起家，致富後設立私塾，廣聘名師指導子弟，其中許祥光更成為許家第一位進士。他的八個兒子同時中舉，創造了廣州“八子登科”的傳奇，從此許家子弟繼承了這些長輩的高風，世代為家國盡忠。作為許氏家族第六代成員，我實在與有榮焉。

首先我謹代表廣州許氏家族全人，衷心感謝丁新豹博士提議並策劃這個展覽，悉心撰寫中文文稿，令我們獲益良多。博物館總監楊春棠先生鼎力支持，提供展覽場館，令展覽能順利進行；館長黃燕芳女士協調多方面的研究、借展、圖冊編輯和展品陳列工作；潘榮健先生費心為部份展品拍攝精美圖片，均是功不可沒。一向以來，我與雅緻設計有限公司合作無間，亦十分欣賞他們這次的專業服務，特別是陳麗香女士獨特的書籍設計，以及陳巧圓女士出色的統籌工作。對於數間博物館和多所國際檔案機構的通力合作，慨予外借展品、安排攝影和授以版權，我們特表謝忱。

許家成員方面，侄兒子皓一直與我並肩作戰，熱心參與和投入整個策展過程，是展覽成功的關鍵人物。侄女慧蘭統籌收藏在臺灣的檔案事宜，把有關許氏族人的歷史記錄安排製作複製品。家族成員中的紹鋒、黃悅伉儷及分散各地的族人，均提供了不少寶貴資料和珍貴文物。不得不提的是不厭其煩、修正潤飾所有古老照片的董志強先生，他的大量義務工作，令圖冊生色不少。文心公關顧問有限公司的總裁黃白露小姐及其同事孫桂華小姐，也是義務協助展覽推廣工作，謹此一併致謝。



The Xu Family originally from Chaozhou, Guangdong province has prospered in Xudi in the City of Guangzhou for six generations. Xu Yongming, originally migrated from Chaozhou, his son Baiting, the family patriarch established fortune at an opportune time from the salt business. Once wealthy, he was able to recruit learned teachers to educate his descendents, culminating to the success of having eight sons reached *juren* status. One of his sons, Xiangguang was the first to attain the official *jinshi* qualification, with several grandsons also achieving similar status. From then onwards, members of each generation have played a role in charting the Chinese nation's destiny. As a member of the sixth generation, I reflect now on their past glories.

On behalf of my fellow clansmen, I would first like to extend our deepest gratitude to Dr Joseph Ting who initiated this exhibition, and volunteered to be our Guest Curator. We have not only benefited from his professional expertise but are grateful for the complete Chinese text with his thorough research. Of course, we must heartily thank the Museum's Director, Mr Yeung Chun-tong for hosting the exhibition in his Gallery, as well as his guidance in shepherding our project into realization. We must also thank the Museum's Curator, Ms Anita Wong, for her dedicated research, and work in coordinating loan of exhibits and editing the catalogue, in addition to installing the exhibition; and the Museum's photographer, Mr Ricky Poon, who meticulously produced some of the fine illustrations in this publication. As in my other projects with CA Design, we were provided with their highly competent services in the production of this catalogue. I would like to express our sincerest thanks to Ms Rosanne Chan for her innovative design, and to Ms Eunice Chan for her efficient project coordination. Last but not least, our deepest gratitude goes to various museums and international archival organizations for their valuable collaboration, photography of loans and for granting of rights of reproduction.

From the Xu family team, the exhibition in its present form would not have been possible without the competent and dedicated work in all aspects of the preparation by my nephew, Mr Danny Hui of seventh generation. My niece, Ms Hsu Wai Nan of eighth generation, oversaw coordination with archival sources in Taiwan, and enabled us to obtain replicas on various historical records related to our family. The family members, such as Xu Shaofeng, Huang Yue and others worldwide supplied us with vital information and artefacts. It will be remiss not to mention Mr Anthony Tung, a technical expert who upgraded the old photographs to printing quality, as well as acting as our official photographer when needed. Anthony was so taken by our family's history that he volunteered his services completely. Similarly, we are very fortunate to have been offered free public relations by Ms Mianco Wong and associate Ms Nicole Suen of Mention PR Consultants Limited; we would otherwise definitely not have been able to publicize our exhibition widely to the media.



## 廣州高第街許氏源流 — 從潮州到廣州

丁新豹

從十九世紀初葉至二十世紀中後期，中國經歷了亙古未有之巨變：從鴉片戰爭、太平天國、英法聯軍之役、中法戰爭、中日甲午戰爭、義和團以至八國聯軍，大清皇朝飽受內憂外患的困擾和打擊，終於土崩瓦解，辛亥革命爆發，民國成立。在南北對峙、軍閥混戰十多年後，最後由蔣介石領導下的國民黨北伐成功，中國復歸統一；未幾國共分裂，在八年抗戰砲火甫平息之際，全面內戰迅即爆發，國民黨敗走台灣，共產黨在毛澤東領導下取得江山。在其後的三十年，大陸的政治鬥爭不絕如縷，終於在文化大革命做成傳統秩序全面崩潰後，才結束了亂局，國家走上開放道路，人民生活才穩定下來。在這一百年光景裏，中國從封建帝制一變為共和政體，再變成共產政權；影響所及，國家的經濟、社會和文化也產生了天翻地覆的變化。廣州的許氏家族正是在這個大時代崛起，一代一代的許家子弟，見證著百年來的每一個歷史片段，其享有廣州第一家族之美譽，殊非偶然。

許家原籍廣東澄海，在未移居廣州前，早已在潮汕地區繁衍了逾千年，人才輩出，為當地望族。其中宋駙馬許珏更為潮州前八賢之一，但許家踏上歷史舞台，卻從許拜庭父親許永名在乾隆中葉定居廣州才拉開序幕。

許拜庭以販鹽起家，從學徒到自立門戶、獨當一面。嘉慶年間，沿海盜賊橫行，對海上貿易造成打擊。拜庭招船募勇，出洋剿捕，終迫使惡名昭著的張保歸降，首獲封誥。道光年間，他又請弛洋米稅於粵督阮元，再立功勳。拜庭深悉要建立家族之基業歷久不衰，求學仕進是不二法門，由是設立書塾，廣聘名師。可知許氏子弟科名鼎盛，官祿興隆，基礎實由拜庭所奠立。

廣州許氏崛起為羊城望族，第二代的祥光居功至偉。他是許家第一位進士，也是家族中“學而優則仕”的開先河者。但祥光能確立許家在廣州的地位，主要憑藉他以地方仕紳的身份，積極投入抗英運動，從而取得官府的器重及民眾的認同。道光末葉的廣州，正處於中英交鋒的風眼，反英情緒高漲。祥光既捐巨資興築九龍城寨，更領導廣州民眾反對英人入廣州城，乃成為名實相符的地方領袖。

在十九世紀中葉，太平天國蹂躪大半壁江山，對清王朝的經濟造成沉重打擊，而人民流離失所，苦不堪言；另一方面，清室在二次鴉片戰爭，圓明園被焚後痛定思痛，有鑑於兵器船艦不如人，乃推行洋務運動，開礦產、修鐵路、設兵工廠，務求達致富國強兵之鵠的；到了十九世紀末葉，部份開明官員提出改革改制，戊戌百日維新事件，以慈禧為首的當權派大力抵制告終。廣州許家的第三、四代正是在這個環境下



許氏家族遠祖宋代駙馬許珏畫像  
一九九零年代在潮州澄海溝南鄉  
許家祠堂拍攝照片

Portrait of Xu Jue  
Taken in the 1990s at the Xu  
Family Shrine, Gounan, Chenghai,  
Chaozhou



許祥光捐資興築的九龍城寨  
Kowloon Walled City constructed with a large  
donation by Xu Xiangguang





一八九八年的九龍城寨及龍津橋，新界租借後，龍津橋成為城寨對外唯一通道  
Following New Territories lease, view of Kowloon Walled City and Lung Chun Bridge which was the only access

躍上政治舞台：許應鏞多年在江西、浙江、江蘇一帶當官，就安頓流民、恢復江南飽受摧殘的經濟作了大量工作，受到民眾愛戴懷念；應鏞在維新之初上萬言書，痛陳時弊，得尚書翁同龢賞識，獲光緒帝召見，並委以籌辦蘆漢鐵路之責；應駱曾調任多職，位高權重，他站在慈禧一邊，抗拒改革，但晚年當閩浙總督任內，參與李鴻章、劉坤一等提出的東南互保，保證了福建、浙江的安定，更推行洋務，建樹不少。

許家的第四代炳字輩成員，憑藉先祖遺蔭及科舉登上仕途時，正值國家多事之秋。清王朝經甲午之敗、義和團、八國聯軍之蹂躪，經已奄奄一息，國勢岌岌可危，相對於顯赫的父祖輩，炳字輩的許家成員大部分為四、五品的地方官員，他們在踏上仕途高峰前，大清王朝經已土崩瓦解，故炳字輩許家成員，在清亡後有逃港避亂的，如秉璋；也

有寓居上海作遺老的，如炳璈；而較有建樹的如炳榛，曾出任領事，多次赴外國考察，見證了晚清的發展實業。可是，腐朽的清王朝已病入膏肓，回天乏術。然而最弔詭的是，導致清覆亡的直接原因是新軍叛變（起義），而其中有多名更是廣州許家的第五代成員。

廣州許家自第二代祥光起，藉科名踏上仕途的不知凡幾，從而成為羊城首屈一指的書香門第。但第五代崇字輩成員，在步入成年前科舉制度已廢除，傳統仕進方式已此路不通。其中許崇智父母早亡，崇灝、崇年、濟亦自少投靠親戚，成長後均選擇了投筆從戎，加入新軍，許崇智及許崇灝分別在福建和江蘇參與了推翻清王朝的戰鬥，建立功勳，並追隨孫中山先生，參與了民國成立後的二次革命、護法戰爭、北伐、征討陳炯明諸戰役等，其中崇智曾一度是孫中山最信賴的軍事將領，獲委為建國粵軍總司令、廣東省省長，其兄弟崇灝、崇濟、崇年均於軍中位居要職，加上任廣東教育廳廳長的崇清，許家又恢復了應字輩時代的輝煌歲月，甚至尤有過之。

許家的第五代既有國民黨黨員，也有最終壯烈犧牲的共產黨員許卓，見證了聯俄容共、廣州暴動、百色起義、國民黨圍剿戰爭的歷史，並成為許家唯一一位紅色革命烈士。同輩的廣平，是五四運動的學生領袖，後來更成為一代文壇泰斗魯迅的妻子，是活躍的婦女界領袖。

許家第六代錫字輩成員，大多出生於一九一零至二零年代。他們成長的時代，正是中國處於戰亂之世，受到五四追求賽先生思潮之薰陶，懷著科技救國的崇高理想。其中從事科技研究，卓然有成的計有曾負笈美國進修航空機械、一九四九年後擔任過航空總工程師，現代中國航空事業奠基人的錫纘；同樣畢業於上海交通大學，曾任中國航空總工程師的火箭導彈基地設計師錫振；畢業於美國密歇根大學，回國後長期從事於有機化學及有機光化學教研工作，被評為中國科學院傑出貢獻教師的慧君；其夫婿是中國原子彈、氫彈研製專家，中國科學院院士、中國工程院院長朱光亞；這些人均在不同科技領域上各領風騷，為國家的科技事業作出貢獻，也為廣州許家爭光。

另一方面，自辛亥革命後，中國戰亂頻仍，許家子弟不少舉家移居香港，如應駱的孫輩，均任教於上庠，如伯眉執教於香港大學物理系，慧嫻則任職於化學系，均卓有所成，桃李滿門；其後輩更設立獎學金，樂育菁莪，造福學子。許家後代，現仍有不少定居香港，也有部分移居台灣或海外，或從商、或行醫，在法律、會計、投資、娛樂等不同行業大展所長，反而留居廣州許地的已寥寥可數；而今天的許地除祠堂已成為文物得以保存外，周邊環境已面目全非。但許家歷代的故事，仍成為廣州人津津樂道的話題。實際上，它已成為廣州人集體回憶的一部分。



家族是社會的組成部分，國家則是由無數家族所組成。故古人有修身、齊家，然後治國、平天下的說法。在歷史的長河中，不同的時代有不同的家族崛起，各領風騷數十年，以至百年。所謂四世三公，是那個時代的政治和社會環境所做成。可是，無數曾顯赫一時的名門望族，因無法適應時代的改變，而在歷史洪流中被淘汰。

廣州許氏家族最難能可貴之處，是他們並非崛起於承平之世：從第一代落籍番禺的許拜庭算起，歷光、應、炳、崇、錫共六世，即從十九世紀初至二十世紀晚期，正是中國近現代天翻地覆的時代；無論在政治、經濟、社會、文化各方面，皆經歷了前所未有的巨變。廣州許氏從一介商人發跡，其第二、三、四代循“學而優則仕”踏上青雲路；至第五代生逢亂世，選擇投筆從戎，成為手執槍杆的武夫；第六代則以科技報國；皆順應了時代發展的需要，與時並進，故能在亂世中，歷久不衰。



許拜庭在潮州溝南鄉的祖父母惟遠公畫像

Portraits of Xu Baiting's grand parents of Gounan, Chaozhou



許氏家族中，既有忠於清室的應字輩、炳字輩子弟，也有推翻滿清、建立民國的崇字輩成員，更有潛伏於國民黨之內的共產黨員：先有許卓，後有錫瓚；抗英的領袖祥光；也有簽字把新界租借予英國的應騏；有建議改革的，也有強烈反對改革的；有教育界的泰山北斗，也有激進的學運先鋒；同一代中有執槍杆的，也有搖筆杆的。這種多元性，也許正是許家能經得起時代考驗的原因之一。歷代許家成員的性格、經歷、事功、政治取向各有不同，但他們都具有一種鍥而不捨、堅持到底的精神，這在多代的許家子孫的身上均有所體現。其中祥光的抗英、應鏘的愛民如子、應鏘的廉潔、應騏的反對康梁、炳琦的忠貞不二（忠於清室）、許卓的壯烈犧牲、廣平對傳統的叛逆等等，無不體現了這種許家精神。

二百年過去了，廣州許家的發源地——許地，經過多年的荒廢和改建，已變得面目全非，破落不堪；目前只有許拜庭的祠堂，尚屹立於高第街的中央，作為廣州許氏一族的歷史信物。許家至今已發展至第十代，共有十一宅、幾百房人；除少數居於廣州外，大多定居香港、京、滬、江、浙，以及散居海外。他們組織了廣州許地許氏宗親會，作為維繫各地許家成員的紐帶，承傳家族的傳統；而廣州許地許氏的傳奇，將永遠成為廣州歷史重要的一部分。



一九四零年代，潮州溝南後鄉全景  
Rear view of Gounan, Chaozhou in the 1940s



十七世孫許祥光及十八世孫許應騏考獲功名後在潮州溝南鄉許氏祠堂前豎立的夾馬石

Stone steles erected by Xu Xiangguang of 17<sup>th</sup> generation and Xu Yingkui of 18<sup>th</sup> generation in front of the Xu Family Ancestral Shrine, Gounan, Chazhou



## The Path of the Xu Family of Gaodi Street – From Chaozhou to Guangzhou

Joseph S P Ting

For the period between early nineteenth to mid-twentieth century, China had gone through an unprecedented suppression of the Opium War, Taiping Rebellion, Franco-Chinese war, Sino-Japanese War, Boxer Uprising right up to the Eight-Power Allied Invasion. With this external and internal distress, the Qing Empire was on the verge of collapse prompting the eruption of the 1911 revolution. Followed by over one decade of North-South Confrontation and tangled warfare among the warlords, it was not until the Nationalists led by Chiang Kai Shek (1887–1975) succeeded in the Northern Expedition that China was finally unified. No sooner, the coexistence between the Nationalists and the Communists broke down and war between the factions broke out right after eight-year War of Resistance against Japan. The episode ended with the Nationalists retreated to Taiwan enabling Mao Zedong (1893–1976) to gain ruling power of the country.

In the succeeding three decades, political strife prevailed within the Communist party. It was not until the crush of the Cultural Revolution that had completely dislodged the society tradition and order before reconciliation was restored. In the past century, China had suffered drastic disorder in national economy, society life and conventional culture through transition from the imperial feudal system to a republic and then a communist state. The Xu family at Gaodi Street in Guangzhou emerged during this period as a distinguished family. As such, consecutive phases of each political transformation have been witnessed by generation after generation in succession.

Origin of the family was from Chenghai of Guangdong province before moving to Guangzhou. The family had passed through a long history of over thousand years in the Chaozhou/Swatow region. Among the celebrated members in the clan, one by the name of Xu Jue stood out prominently not only as one of the eight scholars but became the imperial consort in the Song dynasty. However, it was during the Qianlong period that Xu Yongming settled in Guangzhou who lowered the first curtain of this illustrious family.



九龍城寨的衙門

The yamen in Kowloon Walled City

The patriarch of the family Baiting (1772–1846) made his wealth through salt business. He ascended to be the owner himself after going through the ladder from being an apprentice. It was at a time of pirate hazard during the Jiaqing period (1796–1820) and by his efforts the notorious Zhang Bao (1786–1822) was subdued and safety for salt transportation was restored. On this achievement, the Imperial Court bestowed an award on him in return. He scored another commendation for petitioning



to Ruan Yuan (1764–1849), the Guangdong Governor, the suspension of rice tax levy. To maintain the ever-lasting status of the family, he was conscious of education to embark on the path of obtaining court appointments and recruited competent teachers to educate descendents in the family in-house school. Undoubtedly, he should be given the credit of building a foundation of producing a number of high court officials.

Xu Xiangguang (1799–1854) was the first one of the family to attain the *jinshi* qualification as well as the pioneer for entering into politics by way of education. He made contribution towards the movement against the British aggression in the late Daoguang period (1821–1850) which commanded the consensus of both government and people and thus became the celebrated local leader. Moreover, in the heat of anti-British sentiments, he made a large donation to construct a garrison town at the Kowloon city blocking the entry of the British.

By the middle of the nineteenth century, the Qing Court was confronting disturbance from the Taiping rebels which dealt a heavy blow on the nation's economy. The scenario was on one side having her population suffered uncertainty, and the other was the defeats in the second Opium Wars nursing the painful aftermath of the burning of Yuanmingyuan, the old Summer Palace. Awaken by the comparative weakness of her armed forces, the Court advocated learning from the Western powers, exploring mineral reserves, constructing railways and arsenals to boost the both military strength and enrich the country economy. It was at the end of the century when the staunch support of Empress Dowager waned and the emergence of the open-minded official promoting reform policies that the third and fourth generations of the Xu Family entered the stage of the political arena.

The elder Xu Yingrong (1820–1891) was accorded respect by his subjects for rendering them tender loving care over his many years of governorship in the region of Jiangxi, Zhejiang and Jiangsu. He was instrumental in reviving the economy and the livelihood of the community there. For cousin Yingqiang (1837–1898), his liberal ideals prompted him to write a lengthy proposal for political changes that caught the attention of Weng Tonghe (1830–1904) and recommended Emperor Guangxu to grant him an audience. This resulted in his appointment to oversee the construction of the Lugouqiao-Hankou Railway. On the other hand, the conservative Yingkui (1832–1905) was on the side of Empress Dowager opposing changes. He joined the South-East Mutual Defence proposed by Li Hongzhang (1823–1901) and Liu Kunyi (1830–1902) and maintained peace and stability in his final appointment as Governor-General of Fujian and Zhejiang. At the same time, he pushed for foreign trade to enhance the local economy.

Although members of the fourth generation rode along the political path of their fathers, but after going through the defeat of the Sino-Japanese War, Boxer Uprising and the humiliating thrash of the eight-power alliance, the country was on the verge of collapse. As such, they were not able to advance to higher than the fourth and fifth ranking status before the Empire came to an end. Prior to that, one prominent member by the name Bingzhen (late 19<sup>th</sup>–early 20<sup>th</sup> century) was dispatched overseas on study tours and had overseen the industrialisation in the country. The ironical phase of the Xu family was that a number of contemporaries converted their heritage and enlisted in the New Army against the imperialists which eventually caused the collapse of the dynasty. As a result, members left the country for safe haven. Among them, Bingzhang (late 19<sup>th</sup>–early 20<sup>th</sup> century) moved to Hong Kong while veteran Bing'ao (late 19<sup>th</sup>–early 20<sup>th</sup> century) retired in Shanghai.