

李鴻章與香港

李鴻章與香港頗有淵源。1898年6月，英國向清廷租借九龍半島界限街以北的新界地區，為期99年。雙方為此訂立的《展拓香港界址專條》，便是由李鴻章代表清廷簽署，他的簽名就這樣烙在香港的歷史文獻裡。1900年，李鴻章先後兩度踏足香港。1月，李鴻章乘船南下廣州出任兩廣總督，途經香港，與總督卜力及議政局成員會面，商討鴉片管制、打擊海盜、九龍寨城管治權等問題；同年7月，李鴻章被召回京，由廣州前往天津期間乘船途經香港，再次與總督卜力會面，商討保障在廣州的外國人的安全問題。可惜李鴻章在同年11月病逝，這兩次訪港成為其一生中最後的外訪。

Li Hongzhang and Hong Kong

Li Hongzhang had a close relationship with Hong Kong. In June 1898, the Qing court leased the New Territories to the north of Boundary Street in Kowloon Peninsula to Britain for 99 years. Li Hongzhang was the representative of the Qing court who signed *the Convention Between Great Britain and China Respecting an Extension of Hong Kong Territory*. His signature was then sealed in the historical archives of Hong Kong. He subsequently visited Hong Kong twice in 1900. In January, Li travelled to Guangzhou by boat via Hong Kong to take office as the Viceroy of Guangdong and Guangxi. He met with Hong Kong governor Sir Henry Blake and members of the Executive Council to discuss opium control, the clampdown on pirates and the governance of the Kowloon Walled City among other matters. In July of the same year, Li was summoned to Beijing. He passed by Hong Kong while travelling from Guangzhou to Tianjin by boat, and met with Governor Blake once again to discuss how the safety of foreigners in Guangzhou could be ensured. In November of the same year, Li passed away. The two trips he made to Hong Kong before returning to Beijing turned out to be his last foreign visits.



光緒廿六年七月李鴻章與總督卜力在香港會面

1900年7月李鴻章與總督卜力在香港會面

Li Hongzhang met with Governor Blake in Hong Kong in July 1900