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1977

"A PRACTICAL  
CANTONESE-ENGLISH  
DICTIONARY"

BY  
SIDNEY LAU

實用粵英詞典

劉錫祥編著

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## A

- a<sup>1°</sup> 丫 1 (N) *fork of a tree*. †  
 — cha<sup>1°</sup> — 叉 (N) *forked stick*. (Cl. ji<sup>1</sup>枝 or goh<sup>3</sup>個)
- a<sup>1°</sup> 𠵹 2 (FP) *expresses idea of disagreeing or contradicting*.  
 CC  
 — ma<sup>3</sup> — 嗎 (FP) *expresses idea of contradicting or disagreeing—  
 gen. used in questions*.
- a<sup>1</sup> 鴉 3 (N) *crow; raven*. † (Cl. jek<sup>3</sup>隻)  
 — pin<sup>3</sup> (yin<sup>1°</sup>) — 片(烟) (N) *Opium*. Tr. (portion: jung<sup>1°</sup>盅)
- a<sup>2</sup> 啞 4 (Adj) *dumb*. †  
 — ge<sup>3</sup> — 嘅 (Adj) *dumb*. FE  
 — yan<sup>4</sup> — 人 (N) *the dumb; dumb person*.
- a<sup>3</sup> 阿 5 (P) *used as a prefix to surnames and personal (given) names,  
 also in combination that represent a polite or friendly form of  
 address*. AP oh<sup>1</sup> see 2420.  
 — baak<sup>3</sup> — 伯 (N) *uncle (i.e. father's elder brother); polite form of  
 address to an elderly man*. FE  
 — fei<sup>1°</sup> — 飛 (N) *juvenile delinquent*. FE  
 — fuk<sup>1°</sup> (tau<sup>4</sup>) — 福(頭) (N) *dupe; fool; "sucker"; simpleton*. Sl.  
 — — tau<sup>4</sup> ngok<sup>6</sup> yue<sup>4</sup> dai<sup>2</sup> — — 頭鱷魚底 (SE) *crook who poses as a  
 simpleton*.  
 5 — goh<sup>1°</sup> — 哥 (N) *elder brother*. FE  
 — gung<sup>1</sup> — 公 (N) *grandfather; grandpa. (i.e. mother's father)* FE  
 A- Laai<sup>1°</sup> Baak<sup>3</sup> 阿刺伯 (N) *Arabia*. Tr. (Adj) *Arabian; Arabic*.  
 Tr.  
 — — — yan<sup>4</sup> — — — 人 (N) *Arab; Arabian*. Tr.  
 a- ma<sup>4</sup> 阿媽 (N) *grandmother; grandma. (i.e. father's mother)* FE

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## FOREWORD

Mr. Sidney LAU has spent many years in the Hong Kong Government teaching Cantonese and producing a series of text-books, at the Elementary, Intermediate and Advanced Level, for courses organised in the Chinese Language Section of the Government Training Division. This Cantonese to English dictionary puts the seal on a very worthwhile project which Government has been pleased to support because it fills a gap in learning Cantonese that no other institution has tried to do since the late 40s. We hope and expect that it will meet the long-awaited need for an up-to-date, practical and extensive dictionary for both students and teachers.

W. J. K. ELLIS

*Principal Assistant Secretary  
for the Civil Service (Training)*

For the sake of those who are not used to Mr. Lau's system of romanisation a table showing its relation to other systems has been included in his dictionary, and I am confident that a coming generation of Cantonese students will find in this dictionary a life-long companion and friend.

W. P. W. McVey

Mr. Sidney Lau, the compiler of this dictionary, has been teaching Cantonese to both beginner and advanced students for over thirty years. Drawing upon his long experience in teaching, he has published several Cantonese textbooks. To supplement his previous works, he has now produced this dictionary which comprises a careful selection of words, idiomatic expressions, compounds and phrases which are currently and widely used among the Cantonese-speaking community in Hong Kong. Furthermore, the inclusion of Chinese characters makes it useful to a greater range of readers. I believe this dictionary will be warmly welcomed by students and teachers alike.

D. K. Downes, B.A. (Oxon), M.A. (Oxon)

Hong Kong

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