



中國工商銀行(亞洲)
ICBC (Asia)



Industrial and Commercial Bank of China and Leisure and Cultural Services Department Extend “The Development of Banks in Shanghai and Hong Kong” Exhibition Until 26 May

20 March 2008, Hong Kong – The exhibition of “The Development of Banks in Shanghai and Hong Kong”, presented by the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China Limited (ICBC) and the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, displays over 500 artefacts of Shanghai and Hong Kong banking industries. It attracted 88,000 visitors as at 19 March. The exhibition will be extended until May 26, which enables more people to learn about the development of the two financial centres.

The organizers held an inter-school quiz competition on “The Development of Banks in Shanghai and Hong Kong” exhibition in early March. It was well received by the secondary schools and a total of 55 teams from junior and senior divisions participated in the contest. Mr. Stanley Wong, Director and Deputy General Manager of ICBC (Asia), said the participants’ enthusiasm about the competition demonstrated their strong interest and knowledge in the exhibition.

Mr. Wong also stated that the financial industries of Shanghai and Hong Kong have been in collaboration from long time ago. The rapid development of Mainland and the internationalization of its market allow Hong Kong to act as the financing platform. In 2006, the concurrent listing of ICBC in both Shanghai and Hong Kong raised over RMB¥170 billion, which is the highest amount of funds raised in the IPO. In 2006 and 2007, the Mainland corporations raised over HK\$410 billion from the Hong Kong stock market, which ranks the seventh in terms of market capitalization among all stock markets. It is expected that Hong Kong will keep on assisting the Mainland corporations’ listing and financing activities to get into the overseas markets.

The Chief Curator of the Museum of History, Ms. Esa Leung Kit-ling, said the extension of the exhibition period would not be made possible without the support rendered by the ICBC and the Shanghai Bank Museum.

Ms. Leung said: “The content of the exhibition is rich and splendid. Most of the exhibits are on loan from the Shanghai Bank Museum, local banks and private collectors. This is the rare opportunity that the Shanghai Bank Museum arranged for showing the cream of its collection in Hong Kong. Some of the artefacts on loan from local banks and private collectors are not usually shown for public viewing so people should not miss this exhibition before it closes.”

“Most of the visitors would agree that this is a fun-filled exhibition. For example, the reconstruction of a Shanghai native bank vividly depicts the operation of a typical native bank, its scale and the natures of its business. Other artifacts range from an old bookkeeping machine with functions of calculation and memory storage and a banknote binder with lever mechanics to modern banking facilities like the first set of Visa Cash Cards issued in Hong Kong and a prop of ATM machine tailored-made for interactive games. They fully reflect the process of banking modernisation from manual tasking to computerisation.”

“Saving boxes and deposit books of different eras as well as banknotes and share certificates issued in different periods would, of course, be in the collective memories of many people.”

“After the Opium War in 1842, Shanghai and Hong Kong soon became the pioneers of China’s modernisation. Today, the two cities are the most advanced financial centres in the nation. The exhibition gives the public, especially the young generation, a deeper understanding of this part of history,” Ms Leung said.

The exhibition is divided into six sections to trace the history of the banking industry in the two cities from the development of early native banks, the arrival of foreign-funded banks, the birth of Chinese-funded banks, and the financial industry in the two cities during the Sino-Japanese War, to the development of the banking industry around 1949 and during the period under China’s economic reforms.

To enhance visitors’ understanding of the exhibition, public guided tours and audio guide services will be provided at the exhibition. A series of lectures has also been organised. For details please visit the museum’s website. An illustrative catalogue has also been produced for the occasion and is available at the museum’s gift shop.

Located at 100 Chatham Road South, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon, the Museum of History opens from 10am to 6pm from Monday to Saturday and from 10am to 7pm on Sundays and public holidays. It is closed on Tuesdays (except public holidays). Admission is \$10 with half-price

concession available for senior citizens aged 60 and above, full-time students and people with disabilities. Admission is free on Wednesdays.

For details, please call 2724 9042.

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ICBC (Asia)

ICBC (Asia) is a full licensed bank incorporated in Hong Kong with its shares listed on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong (Stock Code: 349). It has 41 branches, 8 “Elite Club” Wealth Management Centres, 5 dedicated commercial business centers and an Investment Service Centre in Hong Kong. It is principally engaged in banking, financial and other financial related services with focus on retail banking, commercial banking as well as corporate banking business. ICBC (Asia) is now the flagship of Hong Kong banking business of Industrial and Commercial Bank of China Limited, the largest commercial bank in the Mainland China (in terms of total assets). On 6 June 2007, ICBC (Asia) was assigned A2/Prime-1 long-term/short-term deposit ratings and C–Bank Financial Strength Rating (BFSR) by Moody’s Investors Service.