

However, diverse experts say that the authorities, acting only in this way, will not be able to eliminate the essence and origins of the problem. Until men in India radically change their attitude to women, this situation will not change for the better.

M. Kravtsova

THE HISTORIC FACTOR IN THE EMERGENCE OF HONG KONG ENGLISH

The historical past of Hong Kong as a major colony of Great Britain affected all aspects of life in this urban megalopolis of the People's Republic of China.

Great Britain in the course of its colonial expansion in the 19th century took over control of Hong Kong after the Opium Wars making English the official language in the colony, only at the end of the 20th century was returned to the People's Republic of China. The official status of English in the colony could not but affect the status of English in the former colony. Here the Chinese administration continued to support and respect the established status of English.

Today, English remains the main language of the business environment and is overwhelmingly used in the megalopolis. Messages and announcements, signs and menus are bilingual. And since taxi drivers, sellers, tourism workers, police and passers-by have sufficient knowledge of this language, tourists usually do not experience communication difficulties in this exotic Asian region.

The vast diversity of cultures and the exotic character of Hong Kong bears its influence in the manifold life of Hong Kong by its complex history. Most common residents use Chinese in everyday speech, but you can also hear a mixture of several languages, especially regarding English.

Hong Kong English has major features which enable the users to maintain communication with the local population. So, [tr] turns into [tʃ], and the word tree sounds like chee, and [ð] becomes [t], which makes it sound like [tou]. Another inconvenient feature of Hong Kong pronunciation is the stunning of the final consonants.

In Hong Kong people would say "jetso" meaning an economic offer or simply a discount. The British would use "discount" or "special offer". "Pitch" here means "field" – in ordinary English one could say field. What is "sit" for British people is "chok" for Hongkongers.

The simplicity with which foreign and indigenous languages coexist in Hong Kong reflects a significant level of tolerance in the region, where, along with Buddhist, Sikh and Taoist buildings, you can find mosques, Christian

churches and synagogues. In addition, the historical and cultural heritage of former times, together with constantly evolving living conditions, formed a multinational culture in the region – a unique combination of ancient traditions and advanced technologies.

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THE US VANISHING CITIES AS A SIGNIFICANT INDICATOR OF THE GLOBAL CRISIS

The modern world is full of constant and unpredictable changes. The greenhouse effect, the global warming, the glaciers and the sea ice melting, the mutation of genofond, the viruses' creation and its subsequent mutation, disappearing species of flora and fauna are a short list of the reasons having the greatest impact on human beings' everyday activity. There have long been mysterious disappearances and inexplicable vanishings throughout history. Nowadays a lot of cities have a tendency to disappear (the USA is not an exception). You might have heard about ghost-cities such as Jerome, Arizona; Centralia, Pennsylvania; Gary, Indiana; Kennecott, Alaska; Bodie, California etc.

There are several reasons for such a problem:

- climate change (sea level, natural disasters, global warming);
- urbanization (because of gold rush, treasures of the soil, financial crisis);
- technical and scientific progress;

The United States is a world leader in many areas. This state controls the international financial system and is one of the leaders in technology. If the US falls apart, the crisis will affect the entire world, affect all countries of the planet, and millions of people will suffer. The problem of “disappearing cities” is significant not only for the US, but also for the world as a whole. The US has a dominant position in the world economy, but if big states like California, Hawaii/... disappear, the United States will definitely fall into decline.

In general, solutions of these problems demand conventions and controversies. The global reasons of climate change can't be solved without interference of the whole world. Scientists are working on ways to get ready for natural disasters. One of the solutions for vanished and vanishing cities is developing dark and doom tourism by drawing attention to them. The overflown cities in future can be listed as spectacular hotspots for fans of doom tourism.

Urbanization problem demands political and economical interference with an accurate strategy of “towns and cities” elaboration, including technical and scientific comforts. Being aware of these problems people may occupy abandoned or small populated/low residential cities and help them to flourish again. There is a great amount of buildings either for working or for living. For example, big companies such as Apple, Microsoft, Epam, NASA, Amazon, General Motors, Phillips 66 etc. may open their branches there.