



Photo Exhibition **“Macau, a success story”**

Art Gallery, Goa State Library, Patto, Panjim, GOA

20 February 2016, 17:30

Organized by the Lusophone Society of Goa, in collaboration with the International Institute of Macau

- Presentation by a delegate of IIM

Dear President of the Lusophone Society of GOA,

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

Before I begin my presentation, on behalf of the International Institute of Macau and his president, Dr. Jorge Rangel, I would like to express my gratitude for the support given by the Lusophone Society of Goa, especially Dr. Aurobindo Xavier, with all the collaboration here in Goa. It's a pleasure to be here. I would also like to congratulate the beautiful work done here in the Second Lusophone Festival, which definitely elevates and promotes Lusophone culture in Goa, as well as improving the relations between Goa and the Portuguese speaking regions and countries, especially in the establishment with projects related to the Portuguese language and Lusophone culture in different areas. I would like to thank each person here, with interest in this exhibition, which for sure will bring another perspective and knowledge of Macau, currently a Special Administrative Region of China.

International Institute of Macau:

The International Institute of Macau is a Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO), with portuguese matrix and a universalist scope, and began its activity in June 1999 by organizing the "Tribute Conference to Luís de Camões - Universal Poet" for the World Poet Organization. IIM has its strategy focused on the international promotion of the cultural, social and economic identity of Macau, with the purpose of giving a significant contribution to the development of Macau S.A.R. Our main mission is to serve the continuity of an identity, our services are executed under the Macau SAR's constitutional act "one country, two systems", being mainly inspired in the cult and practice of the diversity and differentiation factors, which opens itself to the world and to the communities of the Macanese diaspora spread by the five continents; to the countries and institutions of the great Portuguese speaking universe; to the region of Asia-Pacific where Macau is inserted geopolitically; To Europe, with whom it shares a past and heritage.

IIM has its own headquarters in Macau and a delegation in Lisbon, inside the Palácio da Independência, with the capacity to provide the best conditions for events and diverse activities, namely colloquiums, seminars, book launches, conferences, lectures, video-conferences, courses, classes and workshops. All of which contribute to the cultural elevation, supporting and welcoming the mass population of the Macau's secondary and superior education institutions, researchers, associations and collectivities.

The promotion of the above initiatives, which contribute to reveal the cultural roots, the community and the patrimonial values of Macau are mainly made through the publications of books, magazines, newsletters, IT materials and multimedia. IIM has recently launched a new website and an IIM ONLINE BOOKSHOP, a platform to promote our recent and old publications, books essentially written in Portuguese, English and Chinese, with different collections and monographies. It is IIM's pleasure to promote once again Macau, here in GOA.

What is Macau?



Founded by the Portuguese in the Sixteenth Century, near a small fishermen's village, Macau was the first European commercial outpost in the Far East. Following an agreement between China and Portugal, Macau became one of two China's Special Administrative Regions on the 20th December 1999.

The agreement states that Macau shall benefit from a high level of autonomy in all matters, except defense and foreign affairs, until 2050.

Macau's Special Administrative Region is directed by a Chief Executive, responsible before the People's Central Government and elected for a term of five years, by an electoral committee, composed by 300 Macanese personalities.

Macau, has a population of 544 thousand people, and is located in the South of China, in the Pearl River Delta, about 60 km away from Hong Kong and 80 km from Guangzhou. It has a total area of 29,2 square kilometers, the numbers are gradually increasing every year.

As a touristic destination, Macau has received nearly 22 million tourists in 2009, mostly from Hong Kong, Mainland China and Taiwan.

According to the official numbers, the gambling profits were around 120 383 million patacas (15 047 million dollars). Macau has 33 casinos that belong to the Sociedade de Jogos de Macau, Las Vegas Sands, Melco/PBL, Wynn Resorts, Galaxy and MGM.

The Macanese traditional industries, namely clothing and textile, have been losing its importance in the territory's economic context.

Macau's exportations continue to target mostly the United States of America and European Union markets.

In July 2005, UNESCO decided to consider the historic center of Macau as a World Heritage Site.

The exhibition:



Regarding the exhibition itself, it was an initiative of the International Institute of Macau, with the support of the Macau Foundation, with its objective being the promotion of the 15 years of the Macau Special Administrative Region.

The exhibition shows around 50 photos, they seek to portray various aspects of Macau, from heritage to physical development and people to festivities.

As showed in this slide, it also has the collaboration of the Macanese institutions of the diaspora, this photo exhibition was shown before in San Francisco, Toronto, Lisbon, Oakland, Santos, Rio de Janeiro and Recife. During these different exhibitions, the photos were launched in a book, "Macau Festivals and Festivities, in May 2015, with the coordination of Mr. Gonalo C3sar de S3, Director of the MacauLink, which is an illustrated guide, with multiples festivities and festivals integrated in the cultural annual calendar of Macau SAR. Together with the book launch, two videos by S3rgio Perez, Silvie Lai and James Jacinto, video directors, were showed portraying Macau, one with an air visualization, filmed by a Drone. Let the pictures speak by themselves, I will now show the videos for your appreciation.

Finalizing with some words, *"This multicultural city must be seen in all its aspects in order to understand how Macau, in 15 years, suffers a deep transformation without, however, losing its roots"*.

Through these words and images, whether photos or videos, Macau still preserves the roots from the past, which has been well protected, continuing to transmit Macau's singularity in the Far East, without letting go of the Portuguese presence. This transmits out through the people, festivities.

Thank you very much!

- ▶ **IIM WEBSITE | www.iimacau.org.mo**
- ▶ **IIM BOOKSHOP | www.iimacau.org.mo/bookshop**
- ▶ **FACEBOOK PAGE | iimacau.org.mo**