

Limited Racial Inclusion, 1921-1925 (5)

初步種族多元化, 1921-1925 (5)

The first associate Japanese Troop, 1925

第一個日本童子軍團

In January 1925, fifteen troops, including the Sea Scout Troop, the Scottish Troop, a newly-formed Japanese Troop, and six Wolf Cub Packs paraded at the Hongkong Volunteers' Parade ground, in the presence of Stubbs. The Japanese Troop was composed mostly of very young and small boys who were, nonetheless, "very good" and took to the event "inordinately seriously," according to an eyewitness report by the *Hongkong Daily Press*. This Japanese Troop never appeared in the formal list of Hong Kong troops of the local Boy Scouts Association during these years, and was only an "associate" troop, likely the first such troop in the colony, which was presumably registered with its own parent association in Japan. The need for a troop for the Japanese children in Hong Kong should not come as a surprise. As disclosed in *Hong Kong: Report on the Census of the Colony for 1921*, Japanese formed the third largest non-Chinese population in Hong Kong, after the British and the Portuguese. There were close to 1,600 Japanese, and around seventy-five boys between the ages of five and fifteen, though most of them younger, as the older ones, like their British counterparts, were usually sent home for further schooling (Figure 12).



Figure 12, Japanese Scoutmasters displaying their Judo skills at a Hong Kong Scout rally, with some Japanese Wolf Cubs/Boy Scouts in the background on the right, 1920s.

本港日本童子軍領袖於大會操時表演柔道，右側有幾個日本童子軍或小狼隊成員。

Absence of Chinese Wolf Cub Pack, mid-1920s

無華人小狼隊

Despite the growing penetration among the Chinese of the Scout Troops, the Cub section had remained reserved for ethnic British and Eurasians during the mid-1920s. Tracking the development of Wolf Cub Packs is sometimes difficult as they were often referred to by names only, and when they were referred to by number, they would use either the numbers of their Scout Troop or their own unique numbers, making it rather confusing. During Prince of Wales' visit in April 1922, there were three Packs, the Wanchai Wesleyan and the Murray Packs for ethnic British boys, and the Roving 5th Pack for Eurasians. Only two Packs had competed in the first Ashen Totem Pole of 1923, and the Roving 5th won. However, soon after, no less than six Packs were started. One was the 6th (Taikoo) Pack, under Cubmaster J. P. Foulds. Another was the Peak Pack, re-started in an informal meeting in January 1924, with Miss Miller as the Cubmaster, and the Peak School as the sponsor. Yet another was the St. Andrew's Church Pack. By 1925, five of the six Packs had ethnic British (including one Scottish) boys, and one had Eurasian boys. There was no Chinese Wolf Cub Pack.

Contemporary photographic evidence indicates that some Chinese Boy Scouts were rather young and probably should have been Wolf Cubs. Another possible reason for the lack of Chinese

Wolf Cubs may be the fact that the junior section was inspired largely by stories in Rudyard Kipling's *The Jungle Book*, very popular among most young English boys of the time, but yet to be translated into Chinese and, therefore, not known among most young Chinese boys of Wolf Cub age.

Departure of Stubbs, 1925

司徒拔總領袖離港

By 1925, the association had acquired a small government building on the Hong Kong Island for use as the headquarters. This facility, though not big, did have four rooms, each with its own verandah, a small annex, and additional space in the basement. By this time, it was generally known that Stubbs would be leaving, and probably would have left already if not for the troubling colony-wide strike. Whatever his shortcomings as a governor, Stubbs had been a consistent supporter of Scouting who, as Waldegrave put it, "has... done all he could...when approached." In October, Stubbs opened the new headquarters just before his departure to become the Governor of Jamaica, and was presented a silver figure of a Chinese Scout, to which "every Scout had contributed," a fitting souvenir as he was the Chief Scout who had introduced Scouting to the Chinese boys in Hong Kong (Figure 13). A full list of the troops and packs present would provide a useful recap of the progress in the Stubbs years:

Type	Troops (+ Packs)
<i>British</i>	St. Andrew's (+ Pack), Wesleyan, Murray (+ Pack), Taikoo Scottish (+ Pack), Kowloon Scottish, (+ Peak Pack) (5 Troops + 4 Packs)
<i>Mixed</i>	St. Joseph's, Sea Scouts, Roving 5th (Eurasian, + Pack) (3 Troops + 1 Pack)
<i>Chinese</i>	Kadoorie, Saiyingpun, 1st to 3rd South China, St. Paul's, Ying Wa, 1st to 3rd Taikoo Chinese, Yaumati, Caine Road (12 Troops)

Table 2: Scout Troops and Cub Packs by Ethnic Background, October 1925



Figure 13, Hong Kong Boy Scouts attending the opening ceremony of the association headquarters on the Island in 1925.

本港童子軍列隊參加1925年的總部開幕典禮。

(Part 5 of 5)

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