

Guangdong-HK-Macao youth cultural programme promotes exchanges

The Secretary for Home Affairs, Mr Tsang Tak-sing, encouraged young people from Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao to consolidate the invaluable experiences gained from the 2010 Guangdong-HK-Macao Youth Cultural Exchange Tour to further strengthen co-operation and explore wider scope for exchanges.

Mr Tsang witnessed around 130 young people completing this meaningful programme at the closing ceremony held in Guangzhou today (July 20). He said he was glad to know that the young participants had not only made acquaintances during the eight-day tour, but had also learned about the background and preservation of the cultures in the three places.

With the theme "Culture Links Friendship", this year's tour enriched participants' understanding of the cultures of the three places through excursions and cultural seminars.

"The 11th Greater Pearl River Delta Cultural Co-operation Meeting was held on June 25 in Macao. There were fruitful developments on exchanges of artists and information, cultural programme and library collaboration, intangible cultural heritages as well as development of the cultural and creative industry," Mr Tsang said.

"And yet, the future growth of the arts and culture in Guangzhou, Hong Kong and Macao hinges much on young people's passion and innovation. Thus, apart from forming new friendships among the participants, I hope this tour will also help broaden their horizons and lay a solid foundation for further co-operation and exchange in the arts and culture among the three places in future," he added.

The nine-day Guangdong-HK-Macao Youth Cultural Tour was co-organised by the Home Affairs Bureau of the HKSAR, the Department of Culture of Guangdong Province and the Tertiary Education Services Office of Macao SAR. During their stay in Macao, the delegation visited the Macao Museum and Macau Science Centre and explored historical sites in Taipa and Coloane.

The young people then came to Hong Kong to experience the creative and artistic culture here by visiting the Hong Kong Jockey Club Creative Arts Centre, Lingnan University and the West Kowloon Waterfront Promenade, followed by a briefing session on the West Kowloon Cultural District.

The delegation then journeyed to Guangzhou and Shenzhen in Guangdong Province as well as Changsha, Yueyang and Shaoshan in Hunan Province, visiting museums, historical and cultural spots in these places.

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