

# Protecting Family and Clanship

## Explanation of Typologies of Chinese Architecture

保家衛族

### 解釋中國建築的類型

Preface: Vernacular dwelling is only one of many types of Chinese architectures, yet most represents the fundamental culture of Chinese people.

引言：民間住宅是中國建築的眾多類形之一，卻最能代表中國人民的基本文化。

1 Palaces and Official Buildings 宮殿及官府建築

2 Religious and Ritual Architecture 宗教及禮祀建築

3 Landscapes and Gardens 園林

4 Tombs and Graves 陵墓

5 Grottos (with Sculptures and Paintings)

石窟(及其中雕刻或壁畫)

6 Civil Engineering (Bridges, City Walls, Dams, Canals)

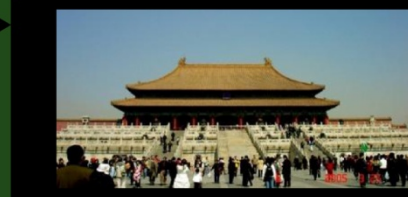
土木工程(包括橋梁、城牆、堤壩、運河)

7 City Planning 城市設計

8 Ancient Relics 古蹟遺址

9 Building Decorations, Craftworks, and

Artifacts 建築裝飾、建築工藝品、及附屬文物



Hall of Everlasting Peace 太和殿



Yuangang Grotto, Shanxi  
山西雲崗石窟



Terra Cotta Soldiers  
兵馬俑

10 Vernacular Architecture: Villages / Townships,  
Vernacular Ancestral Halls, Temples, Habitats, Houses and Gardens

民居: 民間鄉鎮、民間祠堂/寺廟及附屬建築、平民居所/院宅及園林

11\* Modern and Near-modern Architecture 現代及近現代建築

12\* Memorial and Revolution Associated Architecture 紀念性和有關革命建築

"Chinese Dwellings are more than buildings sheltering humans from the harshness of natural forces. They are indeed humanized space, structured to express and shape family organization and guide the web of social and ethical norms, beliefs and values that are distinctly Chinese."

Ronald Knapp, "China's Old Dwellings"

「中國民宅不僅是人類躲避天然災害的場所，其實更是一種人文空間。中國民居的構造可以表達及營造家庭團體，並引導正統社會道德及中國人所獨有的信仰和價值。」

那仲良，《中國老民居》



Water Township in Shaoxing 紹興水鄉



Fujian Tulou 福建土樓



# Peoples and Cultures

## Chinese Culture decided by Paddy Rice

# 水稻決定中華 族羣文化

Stepped fields in Shaaxi 陝西梯田



Stepped fields in Guangxi 廣西梯田



Level fields in Kaiping 開平平原稻田



The unity of Chinese is driven by natural forces. ... Confucius already clearly noted that the destiny of China would be a huge agricultural system, thus the best way to form such a grass root system is to promulgate clan unity, meaning that everyone's role was already determined by the position in the family, whereas the question of what other rights one enjoy, will be decided by the social system."

Ray Huang, "Grand History of China", 1993

「中國的團結出於自然力量的驅使。...孔子已看清中國命運上注定必然為一個龐大的農村組織，要在農民大眾之中構成基層組織，無過於提倡家族團結，...亦即家人親疏之分責成各人安分守己，至於各人尚有何種權利，也只能由這社會體制而定。」

黃仁宇：《中國大歷史》，1993年



Wu-yi Range  
武夷山脈

Fujian 福建

Guangdong 廣東省

Lesson: Most aspects of Chinese culture, including beliefs, customs, architectures, and family structure, are caused by the traditional paddy rice production.

教訓：中國文化的多數方面，包括信仰、習俗、建築及家庭架構，均由傳統水稻生產形成。



# Peoples and Cultures

## Peoples of Chinese Cultural Groups

中華民系 族羣

族羣文化



Han 漢

Manchurian 滿

Mongolian 蒙

Uighurs 回

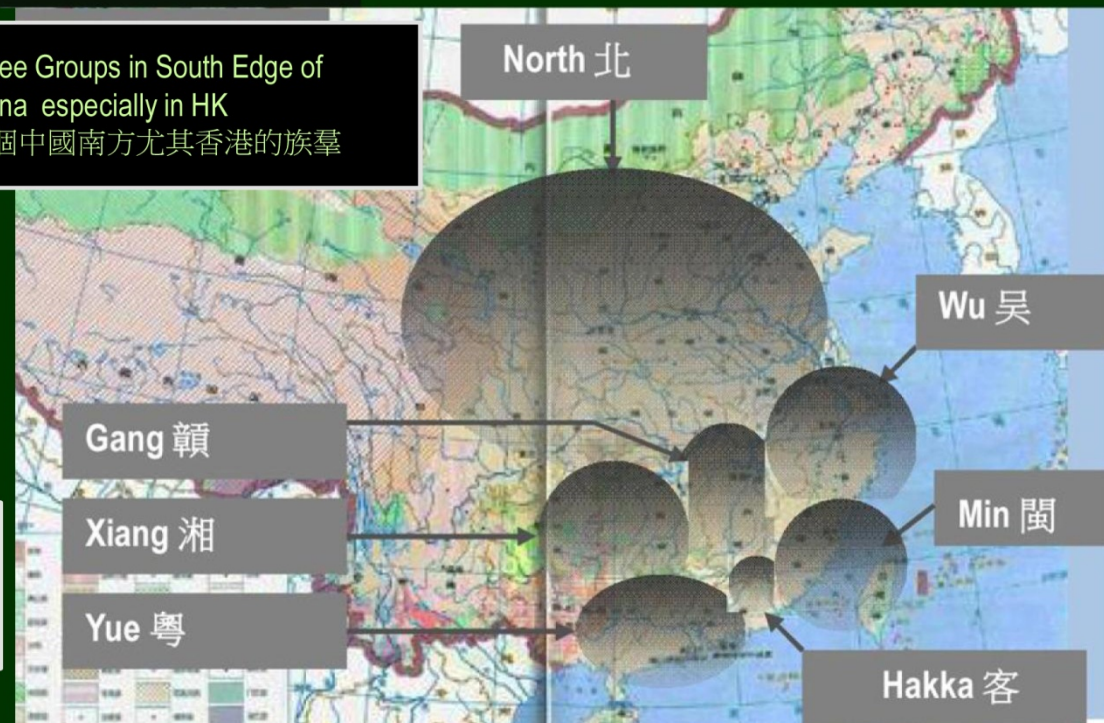
Tibetan 藏

Chinese people consists of 5 Main Tribes 民族:  
Apart from minority tribes 少數民族, most are  
Han, Manchurian, Mongolian, Moslem, Tibetan,  
漢滿蒙回藏.

Han Tribes divide into  
7 Main Cultural Clans 民系,  
Characterized by 7 Main Dialects 方言:

- 1 North 北,
- 2 Wu 吳 (Yangtze River Region:  
Provinces of Chekiang 浙江, Kiangsu  
江蘇, Anhei 安徽),
- 3 Xiang 湘 (Wunan 湖南),
- 4 Gang 贛 (Jiangxi 江西),
- 5 Yue 粵 (Guangdong 廣東),
- 6 Min 閩 (Fujian 福建 + Chaozhou 潮州),
- 7 Hakka 客家

Three Groups in South Edge of  
China especially in HK  
三個中國南方尤其香港的族羣





# Peoples and Cultures

Peoples of Chinese Cultural Groups

中華民系 族羣

族羣文化

## Origin of the Hakka Clan 客家民系始源 (37 M)

- a) 3<sup>rd</sup> C: Major warfare of Jin Dynasty: Massive migration of clans from Yellow River regions to Yangtze River regions  
晉末戰亂大族由黃河遷至長江
- b) 10<sup>th</sup> C: Fall of Tang Dynasty: Clans move further to South Jiangxi and North Fujian 唐末大族再遷至贛南 / 閩北
- c) 12<sup>th</sup> C: Fall of Song Dynasty: Clans cross the ranges to North Guangdong and West Fujian;  
宋末大族再越五嶺至粵北 / 閩西

Hakka Dialect consolidates in 12<sup>th</sup> C  
客家方言在12世紀成型

- e) 17<sup>th</sup> C & 18<sup>th</sup> C: 明 / 清  
Further moved to Sichuan / Guangxi / HK / Macao / Taiwan  
再遷至四川 / 廣西 / 港 / 澳 / 台

(Theory of Five Major Migrations from Prof Lou Xian-lin  
羅香琳教授之五次大遷徙論)



Historic formation of the three Cultural Groups in S China and HK.  
三個中國南方及香港的民系族羣的歷史形成。

## Origin of the Min Clan 閩民系始源 (56 M)

- a) Pre-history: Local Min-Yue tribe. 遠史閩越族
- b) 1<sup>st</sup> C BC: Qin Empire fell, Min-Yue local Kingdom set up.  
公元前1世紀秦亡則閩越國立
- c) 7<sup>th</sup> C: Grand Tang: Expanded sea trade, population increased, Confucius culture expanded, famous administrators arrived.  
唐代海貿發展、人口增長、儒風漸盛、名仕南來  
End of Tang, local warlords dominate, set up Fujian local administration 唐末地方割據，立福建節度使

Min (include Chaozhou) Dialect  
Took shape in 11<sup>th</sup> C  
閩系(包括潮系)方言在11世紀成型

- d) 10<sup>th</sup> C: Fall of Tang: Local Min Kingdom encouraged local economy  
唐亡，閩國促進地區經濟
- e) 11<sup>th</sup> C: Song 宋: Capital in Hangzhou, thereafter China economy focused in South  
宋首都都在杭州，從此中國經濟南移



## Origin of the Yue 粵 Clan (40 M)

- a) Pre-history: Local South-Yue tribes  
遠史南越族
- a) 2<sup>nd</sup> C BC: Qin Emperor conquered Yue, forced north peasants move in  
秦始皇征粵，令北方民眾遷入
- c) 1<sup>st</sup> C BC: Han dynasty made peace with local Yue Kingdom, hence Han culture proliferate.  
漢說服南越國，漢文化傳揚
- e) 7<sup>th</sup> C: Tang Dynasty: Open up Mei Gateway across South Range, becomes major trading center of Sea Silk Road. 唐開開南嶺梅關，成海上絲路要點

Yue Dialect originates in Han Dynasty, consolidates in Tang Dynasty (10<sup>th</sup> C)  
粵方言源於漢，成於唐(10世紀)



# Peoples and Cultures

## Peoples of Chinese Cultural Groups

中華民系 族羣

族羣文化

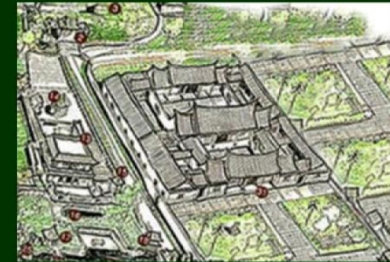


Hakka Village in May County  
梅縣客家圍屋

Fujian Tulou 福建土樓



Route of Historic  
Mass Immigration  
歷史集體移民路線

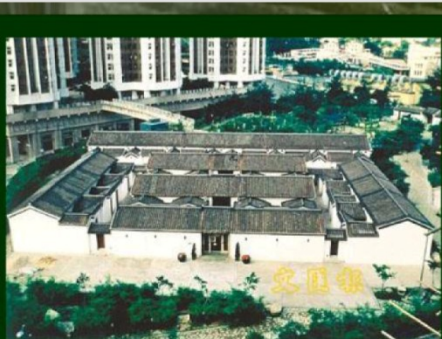


Taiwan Lin Mansion  
台灣林本源園邸

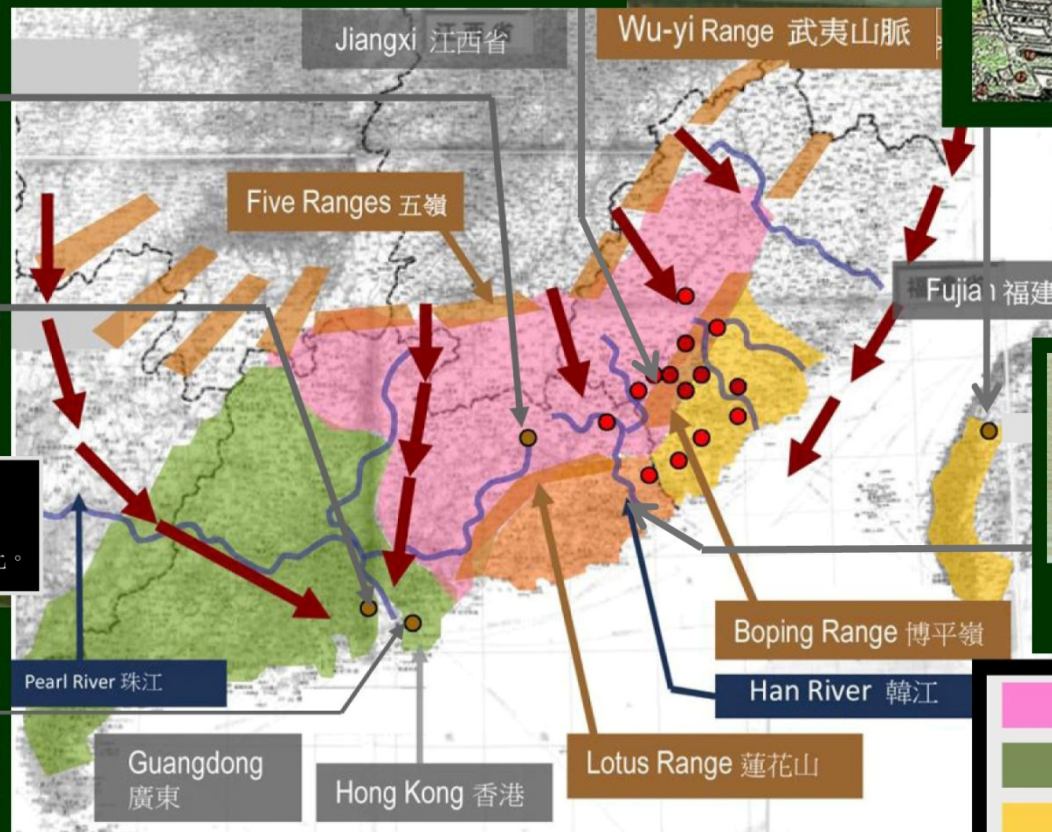


Qiangang Village in Conghua  
從化市錢崗村

Different groups settle in different regions  
and develop different cultures.  
不同族羣在不同地域落戶而發展出不同文化。



Three Row House of Hakka, Tsuen Wan, HK  
香港荃灣客家三棟屋村



Chaozhou Mansion  
潮州大厝

- Hakka 客家 (37 M)
- Yue 粵 (40 M)
- Min-nan 閩南
- Chao 潮



# Protecting Family and Clan

## Periods and Places of Clanship Conflict

# 保家衛族

## 族羣爭鬥之時與地

### 農業基建 Agricultural Infrastructure

Ancient River Dam at Yu-liang Village, An-hei 安徽漁梁霸



「並非全嶺南都是肥沃土地，... 做法是建造水排...及水壩。通常工程越大，越要許多組織如戶、鄉及區的合力興建及管理。」

(麥克：《虎、稻、絲及土》，1998)

“Not all of Lingnan was alleviated delta, ... common method was to construct a river gate pi, .... And so dikes were built. ... The larger a project became, the more cooperation of various groups: families (hu), villages (xiang), or districts (du), was required to construct and managed”.

Robert Marks, “Tigers, Rice, Silk, and Silt”, 1998

Conclusion: Growth of large clans in Chinese society, especially in villages of Guangdong / Hakka / Fujian / Chaozhou region, in late Qing dynasty, is caused by competition of opportunities within the feudal system and resources of agricultural environment.

結論：清末中國社會中，尤其是在廣府/福建/客家/潮州地域鄉村中，大族的增長，是因為封建制度裏的機會及農業環境中資源的施競爭。

### 宗族爭鬥與吞併 Clan Struggle and engulfment

「宗族通過這一過程迅速在廣州府的民間發展起來，出現了勢力龐大的豪族，可以挑起械鬥、欺壓弱小，甚至可以與地方政府相抗衡。...因為宗族和祠堂的存在，家族的成員獲得了利用祖先開立的戶籍而購置土地、參加科舉、等級納稅等方面的權利，...一些強大的宗族吞併了弱小的宗族，珠江三角洲的單姓社區就是在這過程中出現的。」



馮江，《祖先之翼—明清廣州府的開墾、聚族而居與宗族祠堂的演變》2010

“Clans developed rapidly in the Guangzhou Prefecture through this process, thus powerful clans appeared, able to ignite armed struggles, suppress weaker groups, and even contest the government. .... , some large clans engulf smaller ones, thus forming Mono-Surname communities in the Pearl River Delta region.”

Feng Jiang, “In the Name of Forefathers: Traditional Kinship-based Settlements And Ancestral Halls in the Canton Prefecture in Ming and Qing Dynasties”, 2011

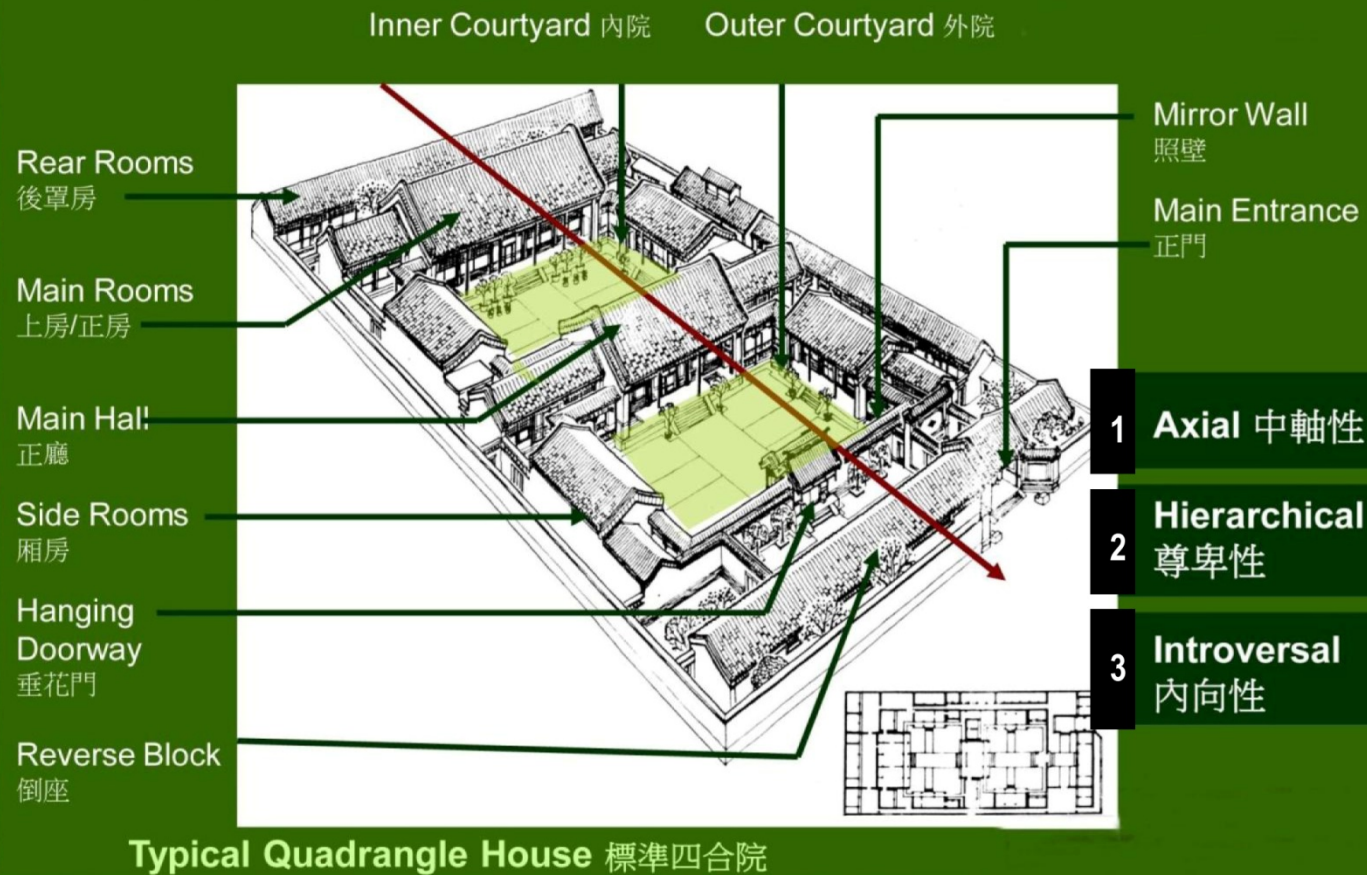


# Protective Settlement Architecture

## Typical House Form of Han Chinese

# 防禦式聚族建築

## 漢族 中華民居典型



Three main characteristics of a layout of a Chinese house cited by Prof Ronald Knapp

那仲良教授歸納中國家宅佈局的三大特色

Analysis: The Beijing Quadrangle Courtyard House represents the matured house form of at final phase of Chinese feudal society. It most clearly illustrates all three characteristics of the Chinese house form cited by Ronald Knapp. To understand Chinese houses, and Chinese vernacular culture, one must start with analyzing the Beijing Quadrangle House.

分析：北京四合院代表最終中華封建社會的成熟居所形態。它最清楚顯示那仲良所指出的中國民居的三種特色。要了解中國民居，或中國民間文化，必須先分析北京四合院。



# Protective Settlement Architecture

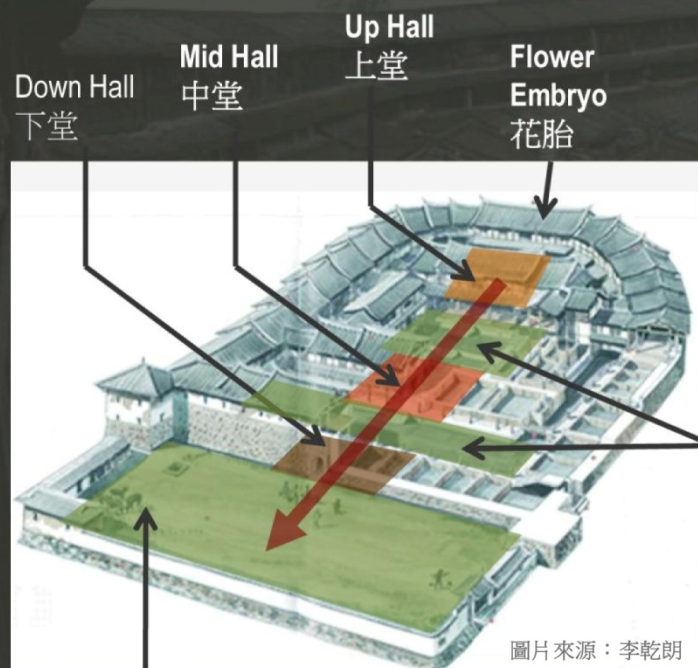
Typical House Form of Hakka & Min-nan Groups

客閩 族 中華民居典型

防禦式聚族建築

**Analysis:** Hakka people and Min-nan (including Chaozhou) people build their traditional collective dwellings along the ideals of a feudal house, similar to the Beijing Quadrangle House, and thus has the three characteristics: Axial, hierarchical, and introversal.

分析：客家人及閩南人(包括潮州人)以類似北京人四合院的理想封建住宅形態營造他自了們的傳統聚居式建築，因此擁有中軸性、尊卑性、內向性三大特徵。



圖片來源：李乾朗

Yong-ding County An-jin Castle 永定安貞堡

Outer Courtyard 外埕

Hakka Wall House 客家圍龍屋

1 Axial 中軸性

2 Hierarchical 尊卑性

3 Introversal 內向性

Inner Courtyard 內埕

Transverse Block 倒座

Functions of three main halls 三主廳之功能

Ancestral Hall 祠堂

Communal Hall 正廳

Entrance Hall 入門



圖片來源：李乾朗

Taiwan Lin Mansion 台灣林本源園邸

Outer Courtyard 外埕

Min-nan Mansion 閩南大厝

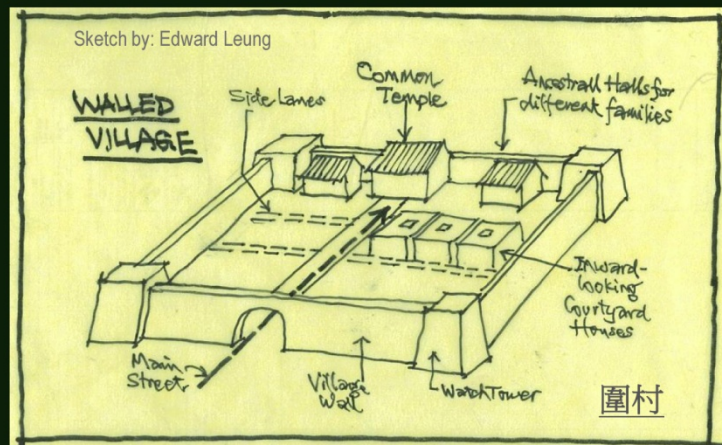


# Protecting Family and Clanship

## Walled Villages and Walled Houses of Protective Collective Dwellings

保家衛族

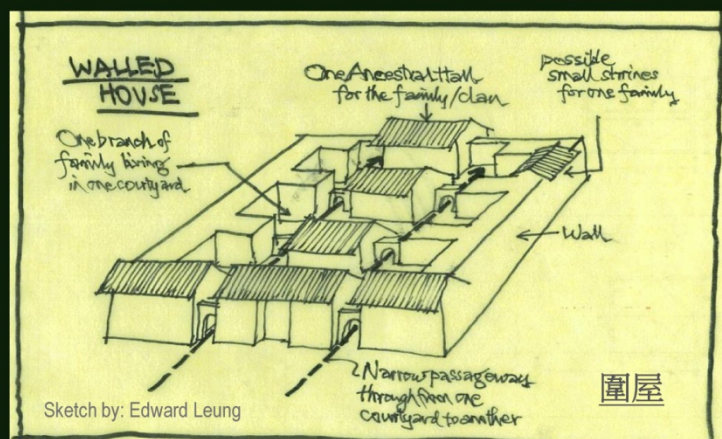
防衛式聚居 族羣圍村與圍屋



Nagan Tsin Wai Walled Village 衙前圍村

Photo Source: [uraedu.proj.hkedcity.net](http://uraedu.proj.hkedcity.net)

Explanation: Walled Village is formed by families desiring to live within a common defensive compound. Thus it is made up of independent houses. It has a common temple and a central common street. Each clan will have its own ancestral hall. It has no common courtyards. But Walled House belongs to one single large family. Hence it has only one ancestral hall. All rooms face common courtyards. All aisle pass through common courtyards and communal rooms.



Tsang Mansion in Shatin 沙田曾大屋

Photo Source: [www.occities.org/hk](http://www.occities.org/hk)

解釋：圍村由眾多希望在防性禦聚居羣體中共處之家庭形成。因此由獨立居宅組成，有共用廟宇及共用中軸街。每方築族有自己祠堂。並無共用庭院。個的但圍屋則由單一大眾家庭擁有。因此祇有一座祠堂，所有房間面向共用庭院，所有走廊穿過共用庭院或共用廳堂。

Caution: Wall Village and Wall House are often confused, but are in fact two very different types of architectures.

注意：圍村與圍屋經常被混淆，其實是兩種十分不同類型的建築。

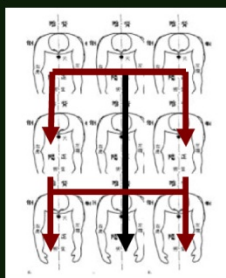
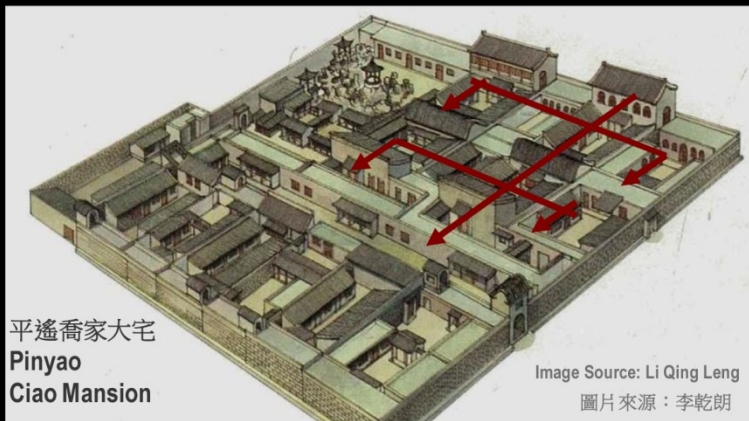


# Protecting Family and Clanship

保家衛族

## North China Mansions in Parallel Form

北方出字型大宅



Shaaxi Mi-zi Earth Castle 陝西米脂縣塬堡

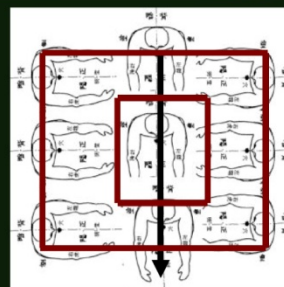
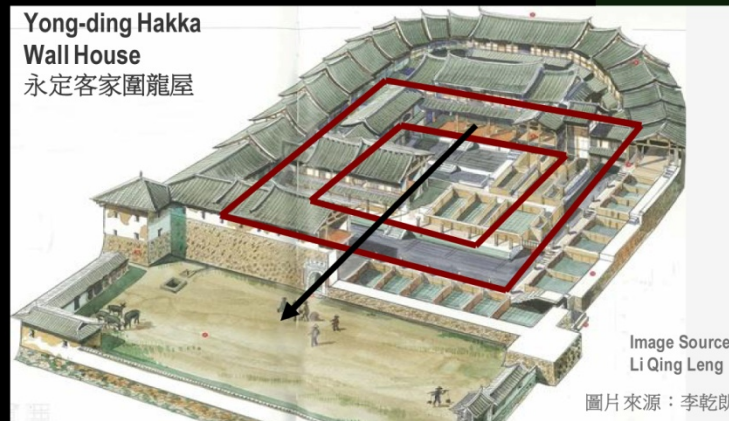
「中國古代的大家族組織形態，...到唐末五代便逐漸瓦解了，...等到明清兩代，...大家庭生活再次興盛，...人們便將小型合院簡單地重複、擴大，成為單元重複式的大型民居。」《從厝式民居現象探析》，肖旻，2003

"The organization of large families in ancient China, ... collapse at end of Tang Dynasty, ... when Ming / Qing comes, as large families revived, ... people simply duplicate / expand their small quadrangle houses, into single repetitive large dwellings".

Xiao Wen, "Study of Multiple Block Vernacular Houses", 2003.

## Hakka / Min Clans Concentric Houses

客閩回字型聚居



Dung-huang Grotto 98 敦煌 98窟

「閩粵邊緣區的從居式民居，保持了唐代大型民居的向心圍式的合院組織形式，是(因為)... 唐代大家族的遷移，... 為了安全、生產的需要，一直保持聚族而居的生活方式。」《從厝式民居現象探析》，肖旻，2003

"The multiple-bank houses of Guangdong / Fujian boarder retains the concentric courtyard form, (because)... as the large families migrated in Tang Dynasty, ... they retained the collective dwelling lifestyle for the sake of security and production."

Xiao Wen, "Study of Multiple Block Vernacular Houses", 2003.

Conclusion: The Concentric Collective House Form of the Hakka / Min-nan / Chaozhou Cultural Groups is inherited from an ancient Chinese custom already vanished from N China, and are thus invaluable architectural heritage.

結論：客閩潮民系之回字形聚居式民宅形態承傳自早已在華北地域消失了的遠古中華習俗，因此是珍貴的建築遺產。