## **Guangzhou Summer Internship Report**

Name: Cheung Suet Ying, Shirley Institution: Guangzhou Municipal Institute of Cultural Heritage and Archaeology Duration: 17<sup>th</sup> July – 11<sup>th</sup> August 2023

Thanks to the Department of Anthropology, The Chinese University of Hong Kong and Professor Lam for offering me this precious chance to work as an intern at the Cultural Relics Protection Department of Guangzhou Municipal Institute of Cultural Heritage and Archaeology. During the whole internship period, I learned a lot about the renovation and conservation of cultural relics.

When I first arrived, I was led by my teacher to get a basic understanding of the operation of the department and later participated in some of the work. I was mainly responsible for editing and organizing the cultural relics in the internship. In the first week, I took comprehensive photographs of the relics, including the front and back

sides, with labels and scales, to facilitate the identification and classification in the future. Later, I sorted photos of these cultural relics according to different ages and unearthed tombs so as to organize them into computer folders, including bronze mirrors from the Three Kingdoms and even the Song, Yuan, Ming and Qing Dynasties. After completing the inventory, another intern and I assisted in the handover process of cultural relics for external docking and transferred the restored cultural relics to the later exhibition.



Afterward, I learned to write restoration plans for cultural relics unearthed at Tiger Ridge Site in Zengcheng District and to draw disease maps of all kinds of bronze wares. As shown in the picture a relic is suffered from mineralization, fracture and surface induration. After understanding the tomb environment and observing the photos of artifacts, my job is to identify the diseases of cultural relics and express them in pictorial form. Then, propose possible solutions in the restoration plan by



referring to previously completed plans, for instance, broken objects need to be pasted, and incomplete objects need to be properly supplemented with materials. These tasks have given me a better understanding of archaeological administration.

In addition to the text work on the computer, I had the opportunity to inspect an archaeological site in Guangzhou with the archaeological team of the department.

This is my first time observing real tombs. Teachers exchange information about the excavation as well as they welcomed our questions and were also willing to explain in detail. I am also impressed by discovering the cautious digging process of the villagers in the hot weather.



Through this internship experience, I deeply realized I still have a lot to learn. Due to past epidemics and the influence of various objective factors, I concentrate more on classroom learning and theoretical knowledge, with fewer opportunities to go out for field work or field trip learning. This internship allowed me to come into contact with jobs and job content that I had never been exposed to before and to a brand-new learning environment. Here I could have face-to-face contact with artifacts that used to be viewed only through layers of glass in museums. This is very interesting and meaningful to me. Moreover, I acquired many new skills during this period, especially using PS and CAD software for depicting the disease maps mentioned above. The things and experience I gained here are also helpful for my future career planning.

Lastly, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the teachers and colleagues for providing support and help to me during my internship. It is undoubtedly an unforgettable and remarkable experience for me.