ABSTRACT

This academic exercise aims at studying the development of Chinese education in the early twentieth century Singapore from 1900 -- 1920.

Structurally, the paper is divided into eight chapters. The first chapter is a brief review of literature and an introduction to the objectives of this study.

The second chapter introduces the Chinese education in the nineteenth century which provides the necessary background for our understanding of modern Chinese education in the twentieth century.

The third chapter gives an account of the establishment of the Chinese schools in the period between 1900 and 1920.

The fourth chapter discusses some important aspects of the Chinese schools in the particular period, such as school organisation, curriculum development, qualification of teachers and textbooks.

The fifth chapter discusses girls' schools, commercial schools and vocational schools during that period.

The sixth chapter focuses on the relationship between politics in China and the Singapore Chinese education.
The seventh chapter lays stress on the contribution of Chinese clans to the Singapore Chinese education.

The last chapter presents two events: The setting up of the Chinese High School and the introduction of the Examination Bill. The setting up of the Chinese High School on 21 March, 1919 symbolises unity of Chinese regardless of their dialect groups. The introduction of the Examination Bill on 31 May, 1920 indicates that the British Government's interest in controlling Chinese schools in Singapore. The two events marked a turning point in the historical development of local Chinese education.