

# The foreseeable future of Macau

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No one can deny the fact that Macau is enjoying higher prestige than ever. On account of her economic prosperity, the 'Money Sharing Scheme', which enables the residents to receive somewhere around 5000 to 8000 pataca per capita, is able to be implemented every year. Moreover, more and more tourists from abroad and mainland China are interested in visiting this lovely place. While some people assume that these achievements and benefits seem superficial and cannot last long, I do believe that Macau will still have sustainable development and many amazing changes will take place.

The most striking point is the transport system. Imagine what will happen to our daily routine when we can easily reach our destination by means of the light rail transit! How convenient it would be if every part of Macau becomes easily accessible. For instance, it usually takes people around 40 minutes to go to Coloane from Literally Border Gate by bus. The travelling time will even be longer if they happen to be caught in a traffic jam. The light rail transit could, however, avoid the traffic congestion during the rush hour and take us anywhere we want within 20 minutes. The way of life supported by the planning concept called '20-minute living' would become a common phenomenon.

Since the Chinese government has granted the Macau SAR the permission to reclaim land, there would be adequate amenities available for the public such as parks, parking lots, shopping malls and so on, which would really

be a blessing to the Macau residents. Meanwhile, the gaming industry would no longer be the only source of revenue for the Macau government since sufficient resources including land would be available for a diversity of industries. Who can be confident enough to tell people that the local creative industry would not take the center stage in Macau? It would, from my point of view, attract dozens of foreign people to come and hold exhibitions here. In spite of the fact that the gaming industry would still remain an important source of government revenue, we could not ignore the positive influence brought by the diverse industries. They would be the very ones which could stabilize the development of the local culture and economy.

As a Form 6 student, I may go overseas for my studies. Never have I thought that I will settle down in another city for the rest of my life as I have been nurtured a sense of belonging to Macau. Every street can remind me of the memorable moments in the past. Come what may, I do love this city. I believe that the above mentioned is a foreseeing future, rather than a febrile imagination.

