

## 澎湖王船祭祀

澎湖人的生活與祭祀「王爺」有非常密切的關係。早年定居澎湖的先人大多認為王爺的由來是「瘟神」，為了消災祈福，地方有許多以王爺為主神的廟宇定期祭祀，主神並非王爺的廟宇也會迎請王爺入廟駐紮，即所謂的「請王」儀式，之後會舉行「迎王」活動，王爺會出巡管理的區域或互有往來的鄰里，最後在海邊以焚燒祭祀或放逐王船的方式舉行「送王」儀式，完成整個祭王活動。

早期生活困苦，王船大多採用竹篾、紙張糊製，經濟蓬勃後，木造王船才漸漸普及，但無論紙船還是木船，為了敬神，船隻都必須能夠航行，也因此製造王船的工作幾乎都是由造船師傅擔任，是非常專業且神聖的工作。

### The King Boat Sacrifice Ritual in Penghu

Offering sacrifices to “Wang Ye” has been closely associated with the life of Penghu residents. Most of the ancestors who settled in Penghu in the early years believed that the origin of Wang Ye was the “The Deity of Plague”. To eliminate disasters and pray for divine fortune, many temples in the local area worshipped Wang Ye as the Lord Deity, worshipped by residents periodically. Temples where the Lord deity was not “Wang Ye” would also invite and welcome Him to stay in the temple, which was the so-called “Inviting Wang Ye” ceremony. Afterward, the “Welcoming Wang Ye” event would be held, and He would visit the area under management or the neighbors who communicated with each other. Finally, the ceremony of “Seeing off Wang Ye” would be held at the seaside by burning sacrifices or exiling the King Boat to complete the whole activity of Sacrifice Ritual Wang Ye.

Life was harsh in the early days, and most of the King Boat were made of bamboo strips and paper paste. After the economic prosperity, wooden the King Boat has gradually become popular. But whether paper boats or wooden boats, to worship and respect the Wang Ye, these boats must be able to sail. Almost all the manufacturing work of the King Boat has been performed by shipbuilding masters, which has been a professional and sacred mission.