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My experience and comments
on the education issues of Ethnic Minority Students

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During the 12 years of studying in Hong Kong, I realized that once you enroll into an EMI primary/secondary school, the level of Chinese teaching decreases. As a Non-Chinese speaker, I felt that I was considered 'hopeless' in regards of learning Chinese as the exercises or the tasks given to me were a rather facile and not up to par the standardized local Chinese.

I was born in Hong Kong and was graduated from a Chinese kindergarten. That time I was the only non-Chinese students in school and my Chinese in good. I was able to make friends with Chinese too. But in primary and secondary school, since I was admitted to schools which all students are non-Chinese, there is no chance for me to speak and practice my Chinese so my skills regressed. Also, these schools only provide a very easy and low level Chinese class and that is the reason my Chinese was not improved.

I feel I wasn't given challenging or demanding exercises or teaching to further ameliorate my Chinese skills. Teachers were given one set standard of teaching materials and exercises to teach every Non-Chinese speaking students which somehow has diminished the essence of true learning of the Chinese language. Also, I feel we are considered incapable of learning at the same setting and phase of the locals.

In spite of this, we Non-Chinese speakers are unable to finds jobs as out Chinese speaking level is not up to scratch, and are not considered a part of Hong Kong citizens. If we are given a better chance to learn Chinese during the compulsory education, we would not need to spend extra time to take course to improve our Chinese when we are working to compensate the time wasted in primary and secondary school.

I hope both Chinese and non-Chinese students will be taught the same level of Chinese, every school should have integrative environment which Chinese and non-Chinese students will be able to study with each other.