

Museum Visit 4

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As a Korean American immigrant in New York City, I was interested in learning about the history and culture of Chinese Americans in the United States. The Museum of the Chinese in America, located in Chinatown, was founded in 1980 by a group of Chinese Americans who wanted to preserve their community's history and traditions. I was curious to see how this museum reflected the experiences of Chinese Americans, who like me, had come to the United States as immigrants.

One exhibit that particularly resonated with me at the Museum of the Chinese in America was "Journeys," which traced the experiences of Chinese immigrants to the United States over the past two centuries. The exhibit highlighted the many challenges and obstacles that Chinese immigrants faced, including discrimination, poverty, and language barriers. As a Korean American immigrant myself, I could relate to these struggles and appreciated how the exhibit humanized the experiences of Chinese immigrants in the United States.

While some of the staff at the museum were Chinese American, I noticed that there was also a diverse group of individuals from different backgrounds and ethnicities. As a Korean American, I appreciated that the museum was able to include perspectives beyond just the Chinese American community. Despite their different backgrounds, all of the staff members were passionate and knowledgeable about the museum's mission, and they were able to provide valuable insights and context for the exhibits.

One thing that I learned during my visit to the Museum of the Chinese in America was the extent of the discrimination and prejudice that Chinese immigrants faced in the United States.

I was aware that Korean immigrants had also faced similar challenges when they came to the United States. For example, in the early 1990s, there were protests against Korean-owned businesses in African American neighborhoods in Los Angeles, which were fueled by tensions between different racial and ethnic groups. This led to violence and destruction of Korean-owned businesses, and many Korean Americans felt that they were unfairly targeted and discriminated against.