

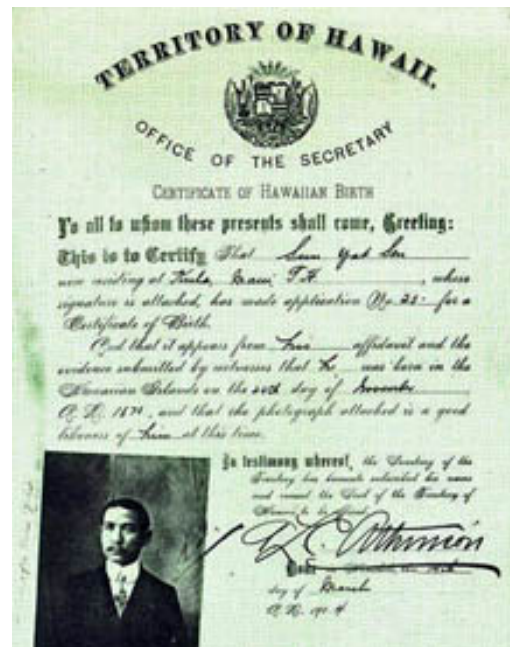
## Dr. Sun Yat-sen and Hawaii



**Dr. Sun Yat-sen, Founding Father of modern China, the Republic of China, had roots in Hawaii.**

Sun Yat-sen was born in 1866 in the village of Cuiheng, city of Guangzhou (Canton), in the province of Guangdong, China. Later, he would call Waimano, in Ewa, on the island of Oahu his birthplace. Curiously he also had a Hawaiian Birth Certificate, therefore making him an American citizen.

Nevertheless, it all started when Sun Mei, Dr. Sun's older brother, came to Hawaii in 1871. Sun Mei became a successful farmer, merchant and rancher on the islands of Maui and Oahu and in 1879, arranged for his brother to join him. Sun Yat-sen came to Hawaii and was 13 years old at the time. He went to school at Iolani, graduated, and even spent a semester at Punahou before returning back to China. There he studied medicine and became a doctor. But



medicine was not his passion, Dr. Sun wanted to be a revolutionist. Dr. Sun returned to Hawaii in 1894 and founded his first revolutionary society, Hsing Chung Hui. Dr. Sun saw that China was weak, losing wars to foreign powers. Dr. Sun wanted to save China and make it strong and powerful. To do so, he needed to overthrow the Manchu dynasty and start a republic for the people. Funded mainly by overseas Chinese, especially in Hawaii, Dr. Sun organized several armed uprisings. It was a struggle but finally on October 10, 1911, starting with the uprising at Wuchang, Dr. Sun's vision became a reality with the overthrow of the last Emperor and the Ch'ing (Manchu) dynasty, ending over 4,000 years of imperial rule. In commemoration, October 10 is now celebrated in China as Double 10 Day.