



### **Aiya: Faster than Chop Suey**

'Sweet & Sour' became an iconic Chinese dish in English-speaking countries. Unlike other popular food favourites such as Chow Mein, Dim Sum and Bok Choy, the dish needed to be translated.

'Aiya' as an expression is frequently noticed to be used by non-Chinese speakers over casino gaming tables in cities where the Chinese clientele were prominent in numbers [Australia, Canada, USA].

Whereas earlier usage was a form of 'diplomatic' gesture- probably its utterance began as 'caricature' mimickry but evolved to become an apt way of reacting to mild to acute disappointment in game outcomes- in some circles regarded as an excellent substitute for other less elegant four-letter words.