



EDITORIAL

大公社評

中文基本功

Xi's speech is morale-stimulating and inspiring

Vice President Xi Jinping, who is also a member of the Standing Committee of the Politburo, yesterday met the Beijing-visiting delegation from the Hong Kong Federation of Guangdong Hakka Associations. Xi briefed them about the nation's present political and economic situation and the strategic goal of turning the country into a socialist cultural power through deepening restructuring of the cultural system.

Through visiting the Mainland and meeting with national leaders, it is very helpful and beneficial for Hong Kong's social organisations and personages from various sectors to gain a better understanding of the national circumstances and strengthen their confidence in 「one country two systems」. For example, Vice President Xi this time pointed out that, facing up to a changeable international situation this year, the correct policy decisions made by the Central Government had ensured the economy to grow stably with a relatively high speed and effectively kept inflation in check. As a result, agricultural production and peasants' incomes had increased. All such marked a good beginning for the 12th Five Year Plan (for Social and Economic Development in 2011 - 2015).

Members of the delegation from Hong Kong felt more deeply moved that, like all other national leaders, Xi Jinping once again emphatically and sincerely expressed his care, expectation and support for compatriots in the Hong Kong SAR. Vice President Xi pointed out, seeking development, seeking stability and seeking harmony remained the main-stream public opinion in Hong Kong. As long as all sectors in Hong Kong society concentrated on getting their jobs done in a down-to-earth matter and in accordance with President Hu Jintao's general requirement of 「concentrating on economic development, practically and effectively improving people's livelihood, gradually and orderly advancing democracy, and accommodating and helping each other to promote harmony」, Hong Kong was bound to overcome current difficulties and challenges and brace itself up for greater and a more beautiful future.

As suggested by the title of Chief Executive Donald Tsang Yam-kuen's last Policy Address - From Strength to Strength, Hong Kong society right now is in a critical moment of taking over from past achievement and setting a new course for future. Our externally-oriented economy is threatened by unstable factors in international market. Calls in society to curb prices of consumer goods and housing grow increasingly louder. Politically, there will be elections one after another, including the election for 18 District Councils this coming Sunday. At such a moment, one can really get some better understanding and new inspiration by brushing up on speeches and requirements on Hong Kong made by President Hu Jintao and other national leaders.

What is inspiring in the first place is that seeking stability, seeking harmony and seeking development at least has already become a common aspiration and consensus of more and more citizens, even if this has yet to become a goal unanimously adopted by the whole of society. Such a situation is not so easily won. In the early days after Hong Kong's return to the Motherland, a majority of citizens still took a wait-and-see attitude. The influence of more than a century's colonial rule would not disappear overnight. The SAR Government needed time to practise and gain experience in running Hong Kong. So at one time, there had been all kinds of appeals and controversies in society. People had felt quite

disturbed and perplexed.

Nevertheless, "As distance tests the strength of a horse, so time reveals the true heart of a person." A series of policies and measures launched by the Central Government to stabilize and help Hong Kong, out of its sincere care and support, have eventually convinced Hong Kong society and won its understanding. Now, seeking stability, seeking harmony and seeking development increasingly becomes the heartfelt wish and mainstream public opinion in Hong Kong society.

On the other hand, "The tree prefers calm but the wind will not die away." International anti-China, anti-communist forces, which never give up its plot to make use of Hong Kong to create trouble for China, and some local opposition politicians have once and again stirred up political turmoil in Hong Kong under the banner of "democracy and human rights", impeding the governance of the SAR Government while blaming the Central Government exercising its constitutional rights as "intervention". Nevertheless, "Lies are lies which can never bury the truth." Today, who really works for Hong Kong constructively and who makes trouble to ruin Hong Kong, an increasingly clear demarcation has been formed in people's minds. The recently exposed scandal about Apple Daily boss Jimmy Lai Chee-ying engaging in "Black Gold Politics" to make trouble for Hong Kong has shocked the vast majority of citizens. They will from now on keep their eyes open. So who is a human being and who is a ghost now carry on its face and is apparent to the eye. In the run-up to the district council election on Sunday, the opposition camp is in an utter chaos, making mournful cries. By contrast, Vice President Xi Jinping's speech yesterday sounds even more morale-stimulating and inspiring (for majority citizens).

03 November 2011

WORDS AND USAGE

- 1 Brief sb about/on sth (phrasal verb) - To tell someone a summary with the essential details about something. (簡要介紹情況)
Examples: 1. Before the meeting, let me brief you on what to expect. 2. We need to brief the president about the latest event.
2 Keep/hold sb/sth in check (idiom) - To control or restrain someone or something. (抑制, 約束)
Examples: 1. We must keep our spending in check. 2. I was so angry I could hardly hold myself in check.
3 Down-to-earth (adj.) - Practical, realistic and sensible. (務實的, 腳踏實地的)
Examples: 1. One must work in a down-to-earth way. 2. My grandfather was a very down-to-earth man.
4 Take over from sb/sth (phrasal verb) - To start doing something that has been done by others before. (承繼, 取代)
Examples: 1. In less than 20 years, some analysts predict, Chinese will take over from English as the most commonly used language on the World Wide Web. 2. When do you take over from the former chairman?
5 Brush up (on sth) (phrasal verb) - review something one has already learned. (複習, 重溫)
Examples: 1. Before I go to Paris, I must brush up on my French. 2. He wants to brush up his knowledge of electronics.

所謂臨時約法對袁世凱不公平 是要求國法符合袁家私人利益

看亞洲電視的《百年共和》，發現論史者各說各話，而且水準參差。有的口沫橫飛，其實欠缺歷史常識，欠缺法律常識，以抄襲陳腔濫調為能事。例如十月十八日一輯，有評史者竟說臨時約法針對袁世凱，對袁不公平，就是一個惡例。

臨時約法，全名是《中華民國臨時約法》，中華民國元年（一九一二年）三月十一日在南京公布，共分七章，分別是總綱、人民、參議院、臨時大總統副總統、國務員、附則。所謂「針對袁世凱」，當指第十六條：「中華民國立法權，以參議院行之。」看來，那位講者認為，身為大總統，應有立法權。當時大總統是袁世凱，而立法權竟在參議院，故認為「針對」袁氏，對袁「不公平」。說得不客氣，這個講者，既欠缺法律常識，又欠缺歷史常識。

原來，世界上民主國家，立法權都在國會，國會有兩院（參議院和眾議院）和一院（只有參議院）兩種制度。國會立法後，總

統簽署，公布施行。因為總統既有行政權，又有簽署立法之權，這已經夠了。真正的民主制，總統不能有立法權，看看現在的美國和法國，就會明白，當時的臨時約法符合世界上民主立法的原則。

可是，辛亥革命時的袁世凱，要大權獨攬，要參議員成為他的政治工具，他不擁有立法權，就是對他「不公平」。可見亞視那位講者，是站在袁世凱的私人立場說話，不知國法為全民而設，以為有損私人利益就是對那人「不公平」。

就算《中華民國臨時約法》是針對袁世凱，則議員們有先見之明。君不見，後來袁不是廢除《中華民國臨時約法》，終於改中華民國為中華帝國，自己做了「洪憲皇帝」嗎！

亞視那位講者如果不是連法律常識、歷史常識都欠缺，那就是盲從英國政府自辛亥以來到近年一貫的「褒袁貶孫」立場，處處為袁世凱講話了。 容若

觸景立畫



一寸光陰一寸金

看了電影《潛逃時空》，最深刻的一句話是：一天可以做很多事情。

呀翔

習近平講話振奮人心鼓舞士氣

中共中央政治局常委、國家副主席習近平，昨日在京會見了香港廣東客屬社團聯合總會訪京團全體成員，向他們介紹了當前國家的政治經濟形勢，以及十七屆六中全會剛通過的深化文化體制改革、建設社會主義文化強國的戰略目標。

對本港社團和各界人士來說，到內地參觀訪問，並且獲得中央領導人的會見，對進一步了解國情、增強「一國兩制」信心，可說大有幫助和裨益。就如此次習近平副主席在會見中談到，今年以來，面對風雲變幻的國際形勢，中央正確決策，保持了經濟平穩較快發展，遏制了物價上漲的勢頭，確保了農業增產和農民收入增加，「十二五」規劃有了良好的開局。這些講話，對訪京團成員來說，是深有同感和為之精神振奮的。

而更令訪京團成員感動的是，如同所有中央領導人一樣，習近平在會見中再一次語重心長地表達了對香港特區同胞的關懷、期許和支持。習副主席指出：求發展、求穩定、求和諧仍然是當前香港的主流民意所向，香港各界只要按照胡錦濤主席提出的「集中精力發展經濟、切實有效改進民生、循序漸進推行民主、包容共濟促進和諧」的總體要求，腳踏實地做好工作，香港就一定能夠克服當前的困難和挑戰，迎來更大發展和更美好的明天。

眼前的港人社會，正如特首曾蔭權最後一份施政報告題目所說，正進入一個「承前啟後、繼往開來」的關鍵時刻，外向型經濟面對國際市場不穩定因素的威脅，社會上要求平抑物價樓價的呼聲強烈，政治上連串選舉接踵而至，包括本星期日就要到來的全港十



▲習近平副主席再次勉勵港人要腳踏實地共建和諧社會

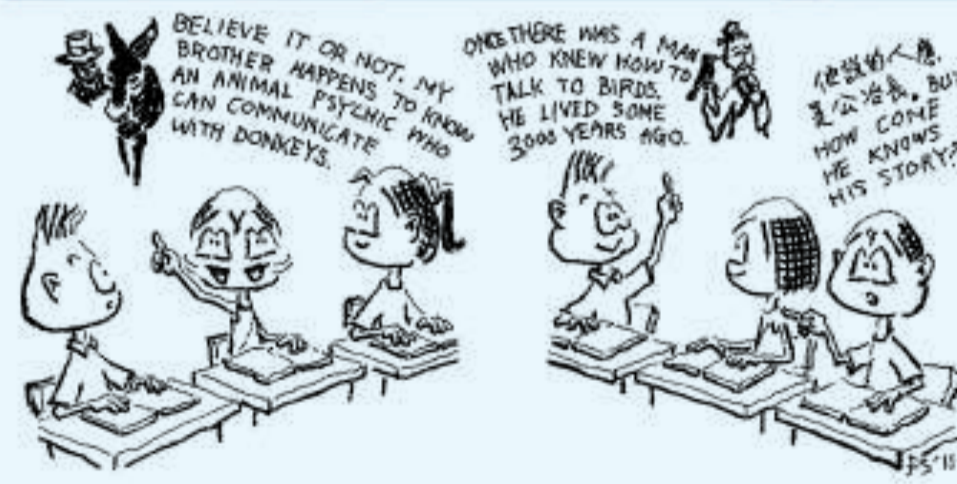
八區區議會選舉投票，此時此刻，重溫中央和胡錦濤主席對港的有關講話和要求，的確令人有更深刻的感受和體會。

而首先值得高興的是，求穩定、求和諧、求發展，在港即使尚未成為全社會一致奉行的圭臬，最少也已經成為越來越多市民的共同願望和共識。這一局面的得來，殊不容易。回歸之初，大多數市民對「一國兩制」仍心存觀望，百年殖民管治的影響不可能且夕間消失於無形，特區政府施政亦需要摸索路子和積累經驗，一時間，社會上各種訴求不斷、爭議不絕，市民頗感困擾和苦惱。

然而，「路遙知馬力，日久見人心」，在事實面前，中央一系列穩港政策和挺港措施，特別是對香港同胞發自內心的關懷和支持，終於贏得了港人社會的理解和服膺，求穩定、求和諧、求發展也日益成為港人社會的心聲和主流民意。

而另一方面，「樹欲靜而風不息」，從不放棄「以港亂中」政治圖謀的國際反華反共勢力和本地一些反對派政客，打着民主、人權的旗號，一再在港掀起政治風浪，衝擊特區政府的管治，把中央的憲制權責指為「干預」。然而「假的終究是假的」，今天，誰為港建港、誰亂港害港，在市民心目中已經有了一條越來越清晰的界線，近日爆出的「蘋果日報」老闆黎智英「黑金政治」亂港的醜聞，廣大民衆震驚之餘更擦亮了眼睛，誰是人、誰是「鬼」，已一目了然、無所遁形。面對周日的區議會選舉，反對派已亂作一團、一片哀鳴矣，而習近平副主席昨日的會見講話，則顯得更為振奮人心和鼓舞士氣了。 2011/11/03 大公報社評

SOHO DIARY



Little Stories

Hark Yeung (yeung@harkyeung.com)

My friends always ask me what I am writing. I tell them I am writing little stories I come across.

When I was in Norwich in the UK, I stayed in a hotel about ten minutes' walk from the place of a charity organisation (慈善組織) for rescued donkeys and ponies. There, animals were sold at auction. If nobody bought them, they would not be given a chance to live.

During the two months I stayed in Norwich, I went there to watch the donkeys. One day I met the founder of the charity. She said that George, one of the rescued donkeys, did not let anyone go near him. At the end she consulted an animal psychic who could communicate with animals. It was said that the donkey told the psychic his own story. After that, he allowed only the founder, not even her husband and son, to approach him.

She let me see George and I told him: "I am working on a book about Norwich. If you want me to write about you, come."

The donkey walked to me and let me touch him. The founder was surprised. Later I wrote a poem about George in my book Why do People in Norwich Look Young? A few years before I met George, I rescued a kitten on a narrow lane near my studio in Hong Kong.

The street musicians playing near the open market in Norwich were also included in my poems. In Hong Kong, the biggest open market in Central is about to be removed. It is close to the Alley of a Hundred Children (百子里), the place where the anti-Qing revolutionaries gave talks to enlighten the public more than a century ago. There are no street musicians but there are a lot of visitors. I also wrote about this place in my book.

通識記憶體

習近平籲港人團結創未來

全力搞經濟 循序推民主

11月2日中共中央政治局常委、國家副主席習近平在人民大會堂會見以梁亮勝為團長的香港廣東客屬社團聯合總會訪京團全體成員時表示，求發展、求穩定、求和諧仍是當前香港主流民意所向，香港經濟有望繼續保持向好態勢，市民對未來的信心逐步增強。這樣的局面來之不易，香港社會各界應倍加珍惜和共同維護。香港各界只要按照胡錦濤主席提出的「集中精力發展經濟、切實有效改善民生、循序漸進推行民主、包容共濟促進和諧」的總體要求，腳踏實地做好工作，香港就一定能夠克服當前困難和挑戰，迎來更大發展和更加美好的未來。

中央高層 15次訪港

主管港澳事務的國家副主席習近平，對香港社會、政治、經濟均相當了解。過去他擔任福建省、浙江省主要領導期間，曾多次到訪香港，廣泛接觸香港各界人士、十分熟悉香港情況。2005年1月，時任浙江省委書記的習近平，親率650人的代表團訪港，成功舉辦「浙江周」，推進兩地服務業的對接和合作。該活動共簽約153個項目。2008年主管港澳事務的國家副主席習近平，上任數月，就造訪香港，會見香港各界人士，鼓勵香港辦好奧運會馬術比賽，不負國家所託。3天裡出席20個活動，並先後探訪位於紅荔道和何文田村的兩戶居民，深入了解民生和民衆訴求。香港回歸14年來，中共中央政治局常委多次會見香港各界團體及人士、並15次蒞臨香江，彰顯中南海對這顆東方之珠的關愛與牽掛。