



EDITORIAL

大公社評

Trouble-making media jeopardizes press freedom

In Hong Kong society, if there are some things that are popularly supported and least questioned by citizens, then the freedom of the press is definitely one of them.

Therefore, it is hard to understand why Democratic Party lawmaker Emily Lau Wai-hing would raise a motion in support of press freedom at the Legislative Council yesterday accusing the government of restricting media news coverage and hurting the freedom of the press, and why several opposition lawmakers would give their support to her motion.

One of the reasons cited by Emily Lau and the opposition lawmakers for the need to "safeguard" press freedom is that, when very important persons visit Hong Kong, journalists are not arranged to cover their activities closely.

What Emily Lau said is a fact. But it does not lead to the conclusion that Hong Kong has lost or will lose its freedom of the press, which therefore needs them to "safeguard".

This is indeed the truth. In recent years, when national leaders came to Hong Kong, they would often visit some households, normally middle-class ones or those residing in Home Ownership Scheme (HOS) flats.

Under such a circumstance when news coverage cannot be arranged, the Information Services Department's provision of video shots, news texts and photos exactly helps the media to cover the event for their readers.

Since Hong Kong's return to the Motherland, the freedom of the press has

increased instead of reduced. The media's influence on society, including its supervision on the administration of the SAR Government, has not weakened but strengthened or even been manipulated by some people.

More importantly, when some individuals talk about the freedom of the press, what they really want is not the freedom of news coverage. What they really want is the freedom of anti-China and trouble-making political propaganda.

The freedom of the press is never something abstract or isolated. In 1950s, the Ta Kung Pao daily, which Secretary Tsang Tak-sing used to work for, was once accused of "instigation" for reporting a visit of a delegation from the Mainland to victims of a fire disaster in Shek Kip Mei.

24 November 2011

WORDS AND USAGE

- 1 Without question (idiom) - Without any doubt; absolutely. (毫無疑問)
2 A far cry from sth (idiom) - Very different from something. (相距甚遠, 大不相同)
3 Subscribe to sth (phrasal verb) - To agree with an opinion, a theory, etc. (贊成; 同意)
4 Be up to sb (idiom) - Be someone's right to decide; be someone's responsibility or duty. (由某人決定, 是某人的責任)
5 Easier said than done (idiom) - It is easier to suggest doing something than actually to do it. (說的比做的容易)

亂港傳媒破壞新聞自由

在港人社會, 如果說有什麼是市民普遍認同和最少質疑的, 新聞自由肯定是其中之一。「量」的方面, 七百萬人口最少有十四份收費報紙、五份免費報紙和多種雜誌, 還有多家電視台和電台, 內容上立場取向各異。



▲2008年國家副主席習近平(左)訪港時也有安排家訪。近年國家領導人訪港的採訪安排常遭歪曲為妨礙新聞自由

因此, 民主黨議員劉慧卿昨日在立法會提出「捍衛新聞自由」的動議, 多名反對派議員附和, 指責政府限制傳媒採訪、損害新聞自由, 就是令人感到十分費解和不能苟同的, 和客觀事實及市民認知有很大的距離。

劉慧卿及其他反對派議員提出要「捍衛」的理據之一, 是政要訪港時, 傳媒記者未被安排近距離拍攝, 而由政府新聞處統一發出照片和文稿所取代。

劉慧卿所言是事實, 但並不代表本港的新聞自由已經或將會不保, 需要由他們來「捍衛」。正如民政事務局長曾德成在回應時所指出, 國家領導人或外國政要訪港, 必須同時兼顧到新聞工作和有關保安工作的需要, 而場地條件往往有限制, 因此只能根據實際情況作出安排。

事實確是如此。近年國家領導人訪港, 多有探訪民居之舉, 而所訪多是居屋住戶或一般中產家庭, 光是領導人和必要的陪同人員已經把幾百呎的斗室擠滿, 如果還要讓幾十位記者連同攝影機、照相機全部擠進去, 可能屋主連領導人的面孔也未必看得見, 更遑論什麼親切交談了。

在此種無法安排的情況下, 由政府新聞處負責提供基本的影片、稿件和照片, 正是為了協助傳媒工作, 向讀者有所交代, 又怎

能夠反過來說成是對新聞自由的限制呢? 難道新聞處什麼也不做、完全不提供, 反而是對新聞自由的支持? 而且, 新聞處所提供的文字影像素材, 用與不用、多用還是少用, 決定權完全在媒體本身, 新聞處沒有任何權力、那怕是一絲一毫的權力可以要求傳媒必須採用, 「取代」之說又從何談起?

回歸以來, 本港的新聞自由是只有增加、沒有減少, 媒體的社會影響力、包括對特區政府施政的輿論監督作用, 也是只有加強、沒有削弱, 甚至被一些人所濫用了。眼前, 「黑金教主」黎智英和他的《蘋果日報》、《爽報》以及周刊在鼓吹嫖妓、色情、賭博方面的自由還少嗎? 阻撓特區政府依法施政、挑動社會階層對立、充當遊行指揮部的自由還少嗎?

更重要的是, 一些人口中所謂的新聞自由, 要的並不是真正的新聞採訪報道自由, 而是抗中亂港的政治宣傳。黎智英不僅利用其名下多份報刊大肆歪曲、造謠亂港, 還因此獲得主子賞識, 情報官員進駐、「大水喉」滾滾來, 那怕報紙年年蝕本, 幾百萬、成千萬的「經費」還是源源不斷送到公民黨、民主黨、社民連、陳日君和陳方安生的手上。如此「新聞自由」, 也可謂古今中外罕見矣!

新聞自由從來不是抽象或孤立的, 曾德成局長曾工作過的《大公報》, 五十年代就因報內地慰問團來港看望石硤天大火災民而被控以「煽動」罪名, 港英殖民政府當年的新聞自由, 不是「說的比唱的還動聽」嗎? 今天特區的新聞工作者, 的確有必要認真回顧一下歷史, 更好珍惜和善用今天來之不易的新聞自由。

2011/11/24 大公報社評

中文基本功

所謂粵語正音兩大亂源 盲從字典和普通話硬譯

十一月十一日晚上十一時許, 有人打電話來告知, 剛才無綫電視報告新聞, 將「彌敦道」讀成「眉敦道」; 又曾把「大陽桿菌」讀成「大腸桿菌」, 究竟是怎麼搞的? 我告訴他: 這就是所謂粵語正音製造粵音混亂的兩個病例。

所謂粵語正音, 無綫電視自然不是始作俑者。記得七十年代, 香港電台正音人士教人將「時間」讀成「時艱」, 遭到該電視台的主持人嘲笑。所謂粵語正音, 也正是麥理浩任港督時期加緊營造「本土意識」的產物, 目的是否定粵語長期以來的實際讀音, 搞另一套, 造成所謂「香港粵語」同「廣州粵語」對立。那些正音大師, 拿黃錫凌的《粵音韻彙》做藍本, 照其兩個原則: 那是依據(實則盲從)《康熙字典》標準定音和依照國語(那時已改稱普通話)硬譯。就以「彌敦道」改讀「眉敦道」和「大陽桿菌」改讀「大腸桿菌」為例, 前者是依照《康熙字典》所標古音改變粵語實際讀音, 後者是

依照普通話(桿字在普通話讀上聲)改讀(使粵語的桿字也讀上聲)。

最常見的例子, 如糾正改讀九正, 擴大改讀確大, 都是依照《康熙字典》所標的古音改變粵語的實際讀音。但此兩例改得非驢非馬, 是改得最壞的兩個惡例。原來, 糾字依從古音讀矯, 可憐正音人士選擇了《大明正韻》糾字讀九而罔顧吞棗。不知《大明正韻》以「九」字讀「矯」音者乃操客贛方言的人, 這些方言「九」「矯」同音, 但粵語「九」「矯」不同音。正音人士不知自己有錯, 亂「正」一番, 「奸」心做壞事。「擴」字依古音該讀「廓」, 但粵語人士讀「廓」發音不易, 「畫虎不成反類狗」, 竟讀出「確」音來。他們的讀法不斷被人指出, 可是他們擇惡固執, 寧可錯到底! 所以這兩個錯音, 電視電台今天天天讀錯。他們視聽(觀)眾如無物!

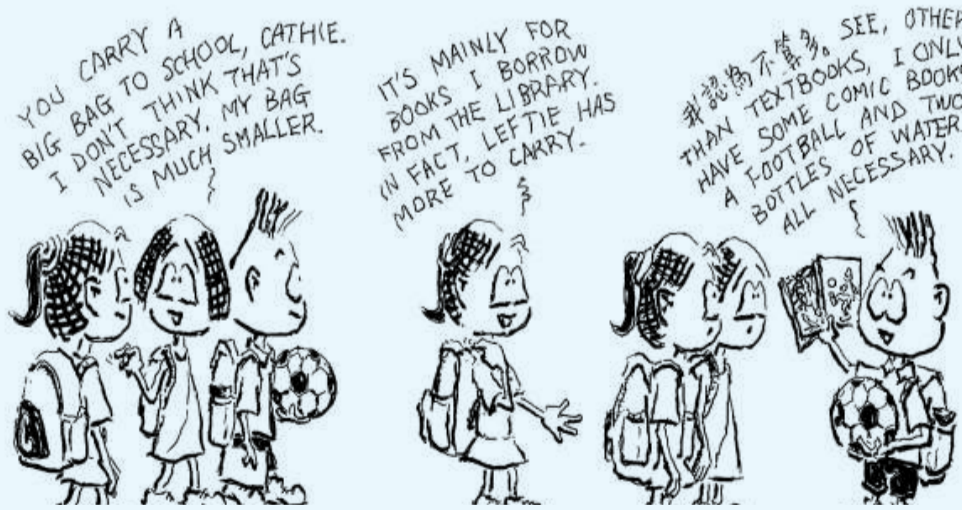
粵語就是粵語, 強割「廣州」與「香港」, 無非是政治污染的產物! 容若

觸景立畫



拔萃男書院附屬小學四年級 徐易東

SOHO DIARY



A Tea Chat

Hark Yeung (yeung@harkyeung.com)

I had breakfast at a Hong Kong style tea café this morning. Several women sitting next to my table were talking about their kids. They started the conversation probably long before I went into the café.

"How can a student learn without taking extra lessons? Now their teachers no longer tell them how to get to know the questions. How can a student give a good answer if that student doesn't understand the question?" One of them said.

Instead of going further into this point, she began to talk about how much a private tutor charge per hour and how heavy the student's school bags are.

"Yes, the school bag is really heavy," said

another one. "I carry it for my son, of course. The problem is that my son still has to carry it in school. I don't know how he manages to do it. It is just unreasonably heavy."

"I once tried to tidy it up for him and took out some of the books. Then, he got into trouble," she went on. "His teacher sent me a note saying that my son had forgotten to bring a certain textbook to school. That was a textbook used last term. I didn't understand why the teacher was using it again. Finally I found out what had happened. Instead of following the original order of the chapters, the teacher taught with two textbooks at the same time, rearranging the order of lessons. But... why did the teacher do so?"

通識記憶體

壹傳媒長期敵視港府兼煽動示威 屢抹黑愛國愛港人士》》》》

以製衣公司起家的黎智英, 旗下壹傳媒集團向以出位、出格令人側目。該集團刊物雖標榜民主, 但總以非我族類方式針對認同中央、支持特區政府施政的愛國愛港人士和團體, 又好以聳人聽聞手法醜化、抹黑其厭惡的對象, 又會大事煽動示威遊行。

壹傳媒旗下報刊(主要是香港蘋果日報和壹週刊)有濃厚的崇英(倫敦)反中(北京)色彩, 奉「小政府、大市場」為神明, 抗拒政府任何形式的規管, 又慣於與特區施政唱反調。回歸以來港府實施的母語教學政策, 備受該集團報刊圍攻, 當政府準備推行英中「上落車」機制時, 蘋果日報的大字標題是「英中大屠殺」, 令人嘩然。

基本法是香港實施一國兩制、港人治港和高度自治的法律根

據, 包括為廿三條(維護國家安全)立法乃特區政府應有責任, 但2003年前後, 政府就廿三條立法公開諮詢時, 蘋果和壹週刊就大造輿論, 利用部分港人恐共心理, 揚言廿三條立法將剝奪港人自由權利。在當年7月1日回歸6周年紀念日當天, 蘋果日報配合反對派發起大遊行, 以報紙印成海報, 鼓動人們反對「老懷董」。翌日, 蘋果日報以十餘個版面報道大遊行。其後, 每年7月1日的遊行前後, 《蘋果日報》與《壹週刊》都賣力地鼓吹, 鼓動人們倒董建華、倒曾蔭權。

黎智英當反對派「金主」》》》》

除了政治上敵視、抗拒中央和特區政府, 壹傳媒集團報刊屢次捏造新聞、侵犯社會人士私隱, 違反新聞道德。今年9月創刊的免費報《爽報》更大肆販賣色情資訊, 連續十多次被評為「不雅」刊物, 但該集團依然故我, 黎智英甚至當起反對派的「黑金金主」。