



EDITORIAL

大公社評

中文基本功

Hong Kong must reposition itself

The National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) yesterday outlined its objective for the 12th Five-Year Plan period in developing Shanghai into an international financial centre.

Just like other industrial or regional development plans in the Mainland, the objective in developing Shanghai into an international financial hub is very detailed and comprehensive, taking into consideration of the needs and steps in short-, medium- and long-terms to provide a step-by-step, ambitious yet reliable programme.

There once was an opinion poll, asking major officials in global financial industry which place could in future likely emerge as a world-class financial centre equivalent to New York and London.

The first of Shanghai's advantages lies in that it is a financial centre chosen by the state to lead the whole nation's financial industry and market. Secondly, RMB has already become a major global currency (though it is still not a major international circulating currency).

上海建國金中心 香港宜適當定位

昨日中國發改委公布了「十二五」規劃時期上海建設國際金融中心的規劃。這個大戰略其實早有公布而非突然發出，而近年上海亦已不斷在這方面作出努力，故建設可說是早已開始，但規劃的出台將令有關工作可更具體、全面和規範地進行。



▲上海於「十二五」規劃中將建設為國際金融中心，香港應把握優勢順應國際市場及內地發展尋找自身定位

上海國際金融中心的建設規劃，一如其他中國內地的產業或區域發展規劃，都是十分具體、全面，和兼顧了長中短各期的需要與工作部署，提供了循序漸進而又積極穩妥的發展方案。

過去曾有一個調查，詢問全球金融業界主要高官：未來哪個地方可以冒出與紐約、倫敦同等的世界級金融中心，許多回答都指稱是上海。

上海的優勢首先在於是國家選定的金融中心，乃全國金融業務

Needless to say, there is still a long way for Shanghai to go before it can become a perfect international financial centre. The main shortcomings include: 1) China's financial sector still remains not fully open.

As Shanghai is driving ahead at full speed, whether Hong Kong is able to maintain its status as an international financial hub becomes an issue drawing wide attention. As a matter of fact, China, either at present or in future, needs more than one financial centres including international financial centres.

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WORDS AND USAGE

① Gear up (for sth/to do sth) (phrasal verb) - To be prepared, ready and able to do something. (為...做好準備)

Examples: 1. The hospital is gearing up to deal with new patients. 2. The party is all geared up for the forthcoming election campaign.

② As for sb/sth (idiom) - Turning to the subject of someone or something. (至於, 就...方面說)

Examples: 1. As for the mayor, he can pay for his own dinner. 2. You have a bed; as for him, he'll have to sleep on the floor.

③ (Do sth) step by step (idiom) - (Do something) gradually or slowly, one thing after another. (循序漸進)

Examples: 1. These changes need to be made step by step. 2. There are step-by-step instructions on how to build your bookcase.

④ Go to great lengths (to do sth) (idiom) - Try very hard; do whatever is necessary. (全力以赴, 不遺餘力)

Examples: 1. He is ready to go to great lengths to carry out his plan. 2. She'll go to great lengths to get promotion.

⑤ Be/run short of sth (idiom) - Not have enough of something. (缺乏, 短缺)

Examples: 1. I'm usually short of money at the end of the month. 2. They are short of food and clothes.

馬嵬的鬼讀危還是讀頹 看你是否認識漢字源流

楊貴妃死於馬嵬坡。這鬼字究竟讀危還是讀頹？童年讀唐詩，少年讀歷史，老師都教讀頹。這是指粵語授課的老師。聽粵曲，看粵劇，老一輩的藝人，清一色讀頹。

估計此人查過古代韻書和近代大辭典，查出鬼只可讀危。不錯，鬼是巍本字，讀危（巍）自然有根據。在古韻書中，鬼字不論在微韻或灰韻，都可讀危。

那位作詞家，據說博古通今，照理讀過宋代大詞人辛棄疾一首《水調歌頭》的詞吧！原詞是：

「今日復何日，黃菊為誰開？淵明謾愛重九，胸次正崔嵬。酒亦關人何事，政自不能不爾。誰遣白衣來！醉把西風扇，隨處障塵埃！為公飲，須一日，三百杯。此山高處東望，雲氣見蓬萊。翳鳳驂鸞去，落佩倒冠吾事，抱病日登臺。歸路踏明月，人影共徘徊。」

可以看到，辛詞之開、嵬、來、埃、杯、萊、臺、徊都不是齊韻而是灰韻，足以說明鬼可讀頹。

鬼在粵語讀頹，如果由辛棄疾算起，至少超過八百年。字音是「約定俗成」的。人們讀了八百年還不算正確，要在今人早已摒棄的古音才算正確嗎？說穿了：固執鬼在粵語中要讀成危的，只屬讀死書的「字典派」——由他們來「正音」，只有誤人子弟，請恕直言！ 容若



▲《楊貴妃上馬圖》

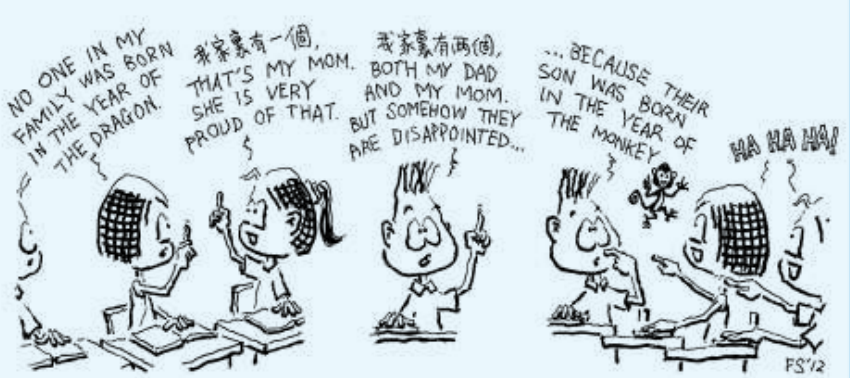
觸景立畫

龍年賀歲題詩



潘漢雄

SOHO DIARY



Something too "Chinese"

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Now that we are in the Year of the Dragon (龍年) and it is widely reported in many news media in the West. A lot of westerners thus come to know that this coming year is going to bring us a lot of babies because many Chinese like to have "dragon boys and girls".

This way of looking at a year is getting popular and one day it might become so "international" that there is no need for journalists in the West to repeat that there are twelve zodiac animals (十二生肖) and that the "Year of the Cat", for some interesting reasons, does not exist.

Once a foreign journalist told me that if she had known all these animals and the zodiac representation, her life would have been better. She said she had tried to find out the years in which

her friends were born and had matched their characters with the animals. By doing so, it enabled her to know her friends better and helped her get along with them better.

She told me all this in English, but somehow I felt she was talking to me in Cantonese. Perhaps it was because what she said was so "Chinese" and I could understand all the points even she just mentioned part of them.

Conversely, when I talk to westerners in English, perhaps sometimes they do not feel that they are listening in English because what I am talking is so "Chinese" - unless I explain everything to them really well. When I talk to my Hong Kong friends, I do not have to explain that much. Would that affect the way westerners get my message?

通識記憶體

三大元素打造上海國際金融中心

國家發改委發布的《「十二五」時期上海國際金融中心建設規劃》強調：「以建設人民幣跨境投融資中心為重點，加快提高金融國際化水平，提高國際化程度是當前和今後一段時期提高上海國際金融中心能級和影響力的關鍵。」故「人民幣」、「創新」及「國際化」無疑是上海建設國際金融中心的關鍵詞。

人民幣》》》

《規劃》全文中，「人民幣」這字眼出現達43次，很多目標和工作重點都與人民幣直接相關。

五項具體目標中三項「基本形成」都與人民幣密切相關，包括：基本形成國內外投資者共同參與、基本形成各類機構共同發展及基本形成框架。

創新》》》

「十一五」期間，上海這個國際化大都市在金融的發展上取得巨大成就。此外，金融業務創新不斷推進，跨境貿易人民幣結算、

期貨保稅交割等一批重要的創新業務有序推出，有力地提升了金融服務水平。

但同時，市場機制不完善、創新能力不強、開放度不夠仍然制約上海國際金融中心建設進程。因此，「加快提升金融創新能力」被列為「十二五」時期上海國際金融中心建設的發展目標。

國際化》》》

「不斷擴大金融對外開放，加快提升上海金融中心配置全球金融資源的能力。」這成為「十二五」時期上海國際金融中心建設必須堅持的推進方向之一。

在其發展目標的設定方面，無論是力爭到2015年基本形成國內外投資者共同參與，具備較強交易、定價、信息功能的多層次金融市場體系，還是逐步形成國際金融人才聚集地的目標，無疑都彰顯了上海作為國際金融中心更加「國際化」的元素。在「十二五」時期，上海國際金融中心建設的四個方面的主要預期指標之一即有「金融國際化程度明顯提高」。