



EDITORIAL

大公社評

中文基本功

Shame on Albert Ho for advocating "casting blank votes"

In 10 days' time, voting of the fourth-term chief executive of the SAR will take place. Citizens are now beginning to focus attention on the 1,200 members of the Election Committee to see how they would exercise their right and responsibility to cast their votes for "one country two systems" by electing a chief executive who can lead Hong Kong society to continue moving forward.

The Registration and Electoral Office yesterday sent out polling notices and related information to all 1,200 Election Committee members, including a name badge for each member, a location map of the main polling station in the Grand Hall on third floor of Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, Wan Chai, and the central counting station in Halls F and G on the fifth floor. The first round of voting will begin at 9.00 am. If everything goes smoothly, the results will be out before noon.

This is indeed an inspiring and exciting moment. In a flash, 15 years have already passed since Hong Kong's return to the Motherland. The SAR will have its fourth-term chief executive and government. Taking over from the past and setting a new course for the future, the two chief executives in three terms of office in past 15 years, Tung Chee-hwa and Donald Tsang Yam-kuen, have led Hong Kong people through those extraordinary days, turning "one country two systems", "Hong Kong people running Hong Kong" with a high-degree of autonomy into a reality from a promise on paper.

The achievements are before everyone's eyes and praised by the world. In this regard, the 400 and then 800 members of the previous election committees had made their contributions. They had strictly observed their duties to justly and unselfishly choose the most ideal persons as the chief executives. However, what merits concern right now with regard to the chief executive election is that the opposition camp and some trouble-making media outlets are making use of certain negative news about the two pro-establishment candidates to deliberately advocate "casting blank votes", claiming that these two persons are not worthy of any vote of confidence. Their plot must be frustrated. The election already costs the public \$42 million. In the event of an electoral deadlock, a re-election would have to be held, with more public funds being spent. But, more importantly, the dignity of such a major constitutional affair as the election of a chief executive would inevitably be hurt. And this would make it more difficult for the chief executive and the SAR Government to perform their roles. Moreover, to ensure the election is carried out in accordance with the law and successfully reach a timely result, the 1,200 Election Committee members must shoulder their unshirkable responsibility. But in this regard, the role and responsibility of the three candidates contesting for the post are also very important.

A northern Chinese saying has it that "one advocates what one tries to sell". Once one has made up his mind to run the race and legally becomes a chief executive candidate, one should carry oneself well, fully aware that he is now a chief executive candidate and as such must be responsible for his words and deeds in regard to the election. Otherwise, if one does not sell what one advocates but, instead, deliberately strikes up a discordant note and make ironic or cynical

remarks, it would be a strange and disgusting thing. Right now before our eyes, there stands such a "trouble-making" person: Candidate No 2 Albert Ho Chun-yan. Having taken a high-profile position to stand for election, he is now calling on Election Committee members to cast "blank votes". Doesn't this show a split personality?

As a matter of fact, this Albert Ho, when announcing he would run for the chief executive election, has never uttered any proper words in keeping with his stature as, firstly, one who intended to run the election for chief executive and then an officially confirmed candidate. At first he condemned the election as a "small-circle election", and now calls for "casting blank votes". One can hardly see where he has kept his integrity, morality and chastity. In particular, as an aspiring chief executive while also calling for blank votes, he not only shows disrespect for the dignity of the election, but also insults the wisdom and dignity of the 1,200 Election Committee members. Those 180-plus Election Committee members who had nominated Albert Ho during the nomination period, should now open their eyes, "repent and be saved". Not only that, they should also not cast their votes for Albert Ho or to cast blank votes; instead they should, after careful consideration, cast their votes for one of the other two candidates so that the election will succeed. They must avoid becoming worse than useless, or being ashamed afterwards for dereliction of duty as Election Committee members. Needless to say, the other two candidates must always remember their capacity and duties. In the run-up to the polling day, they should compete with their policy platforms, ideals and capabilities. At the same time, they should make all effort to appeal to every Election Committee member, including those who support them or their common opponent, to cast their sacred votes, so as to jointly prevent "casting blank votes" or an "electoral deadlock" from happening. 14 March 2012

WORDS AND USAGE

- 1 Move forward (phrasal verb) - To move towards the future. (向前發展)
Examples: 1. The company must keep moving forward. 2. We really need to get past it and move forward.
2 Send out (phrasal verb) - To send something to a lot of different people. (分發, 發出)
Examples: 1. Have we sent letters out to all the applicants? 2. She had sent out well over 400 invitations that afternoon.
3 In a flash (idiom) - Very quickly; suddenly. (瞬間, 片刻)
Examples: 1. I'll be back in a flash. 2. This liquid will clean your floor in a flash.
4 In the event of sth (idiom) - if something happens. (萬一, 倘若)
Examples: 1. In the event of his late arrival, please call me. 2. The parade will be cancelled in the event of rain.
5 Strike up (phrasal verb) - To begin to sing or play a piece of music. (開始演奏)
Examples: 1. The orchestra struck up the National Anthem. 2. We could hear the band striking up the bridal march.

公然辱罵中國人有奴才基因是接受港英奴化教育的結果

三月三日中午,無綫電視《城市論壇》節目,談會特首的問題。當台下有人主張對會寬恕時,台上一名講者竟謂「中國人有奴才基因」,意謂今天中國人有奴才思想,是祖宗遺傳下來。不知台上其他三名講者和台下數以百計的聽眾有何感想?但見毫無反應,大概思想都麻木了!

此人是誰?據港台主持人介紹(及字幕顯示),那是一個公務員團體的主席。我認識香港公務員不在少數,老中青都有,如此辱罵祖宗的,我是第一次「開眼界」。事後有朋友打電話來,認為此人必是「聽得喬台的《光明頂》多,鸚鵡學舌……」有人則比較細心分析,看其年歲及職稱,看出他在港英時期已當公務員,那個時代的公務員必然接受英式奴化教育。這種教育產生兩種結果:一種是受教育時已有政治覺悟,對抗侵略具免疫力;另一種是,受教育時未有政治覺悟,對抗侵略不具免疫力;其特點是產生民族自卑感(還有階級自卑感),一切是洋人的優秀,華人的差劣,連中文也不如英文之易學、好學,覺得英國人高貴,中國人低賤(在洋上司面前,不敢有獨立主張),不知不覺就怪起自己的祖宗來,「中國人有奴才基因」的話脫口而出,有這一條線索。

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稍動腦筋,也該明白,做不做奴才,不是與生俱來而是後天性的;換句話說,不是生物性的,而是社會性的。拿生物學名詞硬套在社會學範疇上,是「張冠李戴」。主席先生還可能不愛讀中史,甚至有「中史無用論」的潛意識,因而無可能知道自己祖先的「四大發明」如何推動世界前進,更不會知道漢、唐、宋、元時期中國科技是領先世界的,只是明、清時才落後於西方,看不見祖宗的好處,又常聽說祖宗的壞處,「數典忘祖」,乃至「漢人學得胡兒語,走向城頭罵漢人」,也就難怪了。 容若

觸景立畫

龍的圖案組合



耀中國際學校小學部 5年級 林慧欣

候選人竟鼓吹投「白票」何俊仁可恥

還有十天時間,便是第四屆特區行政長官選舉的投票日期;此刻全港市民的注意力已集中到一千二百名選委身上,就等着看他們如何行使權責,為香港、為市民、為「一國兩制」投下一票、投好一票,選出一位能領導香港社會繼續前進的特首。

昨天,選舉事務處已向一千二百名選委發出了「投票通知」及相關資料,包括選委名牌、灣仔會議展覽中心三樓大會堂投票站位置及五樓展覽廳點票站位置。投票由上午九時開始,如進行順利,中午前就會有結果。

這確實是一個振奮人心的時刻。一見眼間,香港已經回歸祖國十五年,特首和特區政府將進入第四屆。承前啓後、繼往開來,十五年來,三屆共兩位特首:董建華和曾蔭權,帶領港人走過了不平凡的日子,「一國兩制」、「港人治港」、高度自治從「紙上的東西」變成了現實,成績是有目共睹、舉世讚譽的。這裡面,首先有前後四百位、八百位選委的一份功勞,是他們克盡職責、大公無私、選賢與能,把最理想的人選送到了特首的崗位上。然而,值得關注的是,眼前的特首選舉,反對派和亂港傳媒利用圍繞兩位建制派候選人的一些負面新聞,刻意掀起了一股投「白票」的惡浪,指兩人皆「不值得」投以信任一票,云云。這當然是絕不能任其得逞的。不要說選舉經費高達四千二百萬,一旦「流選」、推倒重來,公帑開支大增,更重要的是,特首選舉這一標誌性憲制大事的尊嚴勢必受損,今後特首和特區政府的施政也將倍添困難。而在確保選舉依法有效進行、如期順利得出結果這一大前提下,一千二百名選委固然重任在肩、不能推卸,三位候選人的角色和



▲ 1200名選委有責任代表港人從梁振英、何俊仁及唐英年3名候選人中,選出一位能領導香港社會繼續前進的新任特首

行政長官候選人 CHIEF EXECUTIVE CANDIDATES

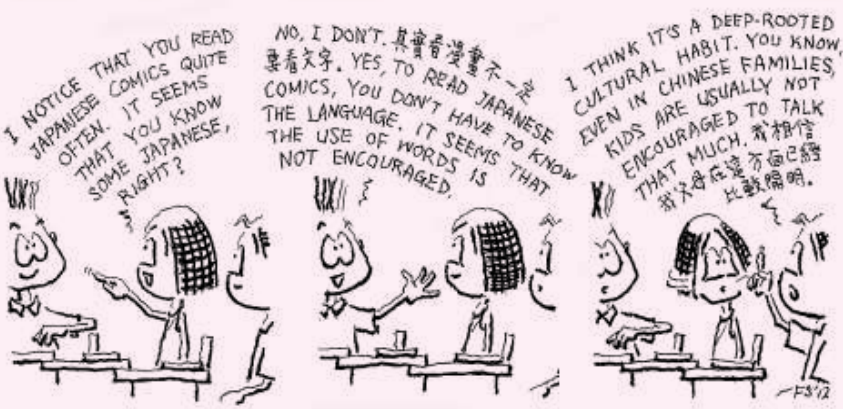
職責同樣十分重要。

正如北方俗話中說的「實什麼便吹喝什麼」,既然參選、既已依法成為特首候選人,就要知道自己究竟在所幹何事、就要知道自己已經和「特首」二字扯上了關係、就要知道自己的一言一行都必須要對選舉負責;否則,實什麼不吹喝什麼,反而在那裡大唱反調,大講反話、怪話,那倒是奇聞怪事、令人不齒了。而眼前偏偏就有這麼一位「倒米壽星」:二號候選人何俊仁,一邊高調張揚參選,一邊卻大叫投「白票」,這不是已跡近「人格分裂」了麼?

事實是,這名何俊仁,自宣布參選以來,從沒有說過一句與其特首參選人、特首候選人身份相適應的「人話」,先是罵「小圈子選舉」,後又鼓吹投「白票」,實在令人不知道其人的誠信、品德和操守到底在哪裡?特別是身為候選人而帶頭鼓吹投「白票」,不僅是對選舉尊嚴的褻瀆,更是对一千二百名選委智慧和尊嚴的侮辱。在提名期給了何俊仁提名票的一百八十多名選委,理應帶眼識人、「回頭是岸」,不僅不要給何俊仁投票、不要投「白票」,還要在慎重思考之後將選票投予自己認為適合的另兩位候選人中之一,令選舉得以成功舉行,切勿「成事不足、敗事有餘」,愧對自己的選委美名和責任。當然,另兩位建制派候選人,同樣也要時刻牢記自己的身份和責任,在餘下時間集中精力比政綱、比理念、比能力,還要大力呼籲所有選委、不管是己方或是對手的支持者,屆時都要投下神聖一票,共同防止「白票」和「流選」的出現。

2012/03/14 大公報社評

SOHO DIARY



Foreign Languages in Japan (2)

Hark Yeung (yeung@harkyeung.com)

The words written in English by the young Japanese woman running out from the hotel were quite well written. They told me her feelings and what she thought about Japan. Looking at the piece of paper, I wondered why she had not said that to me while I was staying in the hotel. She had been there all the time. But by then, she was very quiet. She just watched when I was talking and laughing with other people.

After reading the piece of paper I looked at her and found that she was looking at me with a very friendly smile. Yet she said nothing. Then I understood. She had difficulty to express herself with spoken words. So she chose to write. Perhaps she had tried to write those words several times before putting the final version on that piece of paper. It's possible that speaking to strangers was not what she felt comfortable to do.

The fact that she chose to tell me her feelings when I was leaving made me happy. After all, I was someone whom she felt she wanted to communicate with, though in a non-usual way. But I also felt sad because I was leaving and we would not have the chance to talk to each other any more. I hoped she would struggle to express herself and speak directly to me before I left. However, she said nothing.

Before meeting her, I had taught a young Japanese student. Her parents were then working in Hong Kong and they wanted her to speak better English. I found the problem with her was that she did not like to speak at all. I noticed that when her mother was talking to her in Japanese, she just answered with body language. It also appeared to me that her mother approved and was even in favour of her way of communication.

通識記憶體

《香港基本法》第46條規定,香港每5年由具有廣泛代表性的選舉委員會選出新一任行政長官;回歸至今已成功選出三屆兩位特首。2007年12月,全國人大常委會以全票通過《全國人民代表大會常務委員會關於香港特別行政區2012年行政長官和立法會產生辦法及普選問題的決定》,明確了2017年可「普選」行政長官。今屆成為香港最後一次特首「間接選舉」,然而,它同時也成為香港史上最「風雲變幻」的一次特首選舉。

董、曾皆高票獲選

與今屆相比,前三屆特首選舉可謂「風平浪靜」。1996年董建華以80%的選票高票擊敗其他兩位競爭對手,成為香港特別行政區

候選人獲逾600選委票即當選

首位行政長官;2002年,他在無競爭對手的情況下自動連任。2005年,董建華辭職,行政長官補選於7月舉行,曾蔭權獲得796名委員中的674個提名,成為唯一候選人而自動當選。2007年,他又以649票擊敗只得123票的梁家傑而連任。

今屆三位特首候選人中,唐梁兩方新聞不斷;另一位候選人何俊仁雖沒有負面新聞,但他攻擊建制派的兩位候選人的熱情似乎蓋過其自身為香港施政的熱情。此外,建制派雙「英」也掀起口水戰,相互攻擊。

此等亂局,有希望於本月25日完結。屆時,其中一位候選人須取得過半的選委票,即逾600票有效票方為勝出;但如果沒有候選人能取得逾半票數,就要等到5月重選。