



放眼天下

695期



# 深切懷念 杜葉錫恩女士

## 中英社評

一位英國女士昨日病逝，獲得港人社會上上下下同聲哀悼，因為這位女士把她的一生都獻給了香港、獻給了市民。她就是杜葉錫恩女士。

回歸後，反對派整天侈言民主、滿口不離公義，但在葉錫恩面前，他們只能是「畫虎不成」或效顰的「東施」而已。早在上世紀六十年代，葉錫恩已經在港倡導民主、尋求公義，而且不名其利、不畏權勢，為維護小市民權益而挺身與港英殖民政府周旋。

當年的香港，街邊小販不給警察和「販管隊」「派片」（黑錢），就會被拳打腳踢、充公貨物、罰款坐牢、欲哭無淚；山邊木屋區或舊樓發生火警，消防到來，「有水（錢）有水、沒水沒水」，居民求助無門。……在這個時候，葉錫恩就會出現在這些無助的小市民面前，為他們多方奔走，還親身到政府部門舉報和向傳媒揭發公職人員貪污惡行。

在上世紀頗長一段時間，小市民有冤屈就找葉錫恩，一些「公僕」聽到葉錫恩的名字就頭痛，但因為她是「事頭婆」同鄉，不好對付，換了是中國人，恐怕早就給「掃地出門」了。

葉錫恩的不畏權勢，還可說是與英國人身份有關，但她的不求名利，就更顯出其人格的高尚了。當年，港英殖民政府不是沒有想到「封官許爵」、收為己用的；葉錫恩的畢生志願是辦學，當時她的學校只是租用大廈兩層樓作課室，亟盼能夠得到一幅地興建校舍；政府就託人「轉告」，只要她「收聲」，地皮和校舍都可以送上，但葉錫恩拒絕了。她寧願再辛苦些多方設法募捐，勤儉辦學，也不肯以勞苦大眾的利益為「籌碼」去作政治交易。

葉錫恩的敢於為民發聲，當然與她



▲政務司司長林鄭月娥（左）在本年五月三十日探望杜葉錫恩博士。圖為二人在杜太家中合照

堅毅耿直的個性有關，但更重要的是，她從歷史、文化和法治的高度看到了一個殖民政府治的虛偽和不公義。她經常在報章撰文揭露種種制度上的不公，更利用出任市政局、立法局議員的機會，從體制上指出官僚和特權是滋生貪污腐敗的根源。在她的全力推動下，香港於上世紀七十年代成立了廉政公署，從此社會上不公義的事情大幅減少，這也是全港市民至今最感念葉錫恩的地方。

葉錫恩在從事社會活動的同時，對愛國愛港力量一直是給予同情和支持的。她是一位英國人，追求的是西方式的民主和公義，但她從不掩飾對中國文化歷史的好感，對共產黨領導下新中國的發展和成就也給予公允的評價。在歷史轉折關頭，面對香港九七回歸，她慨然答允出任基本法諮詢委員會委員和「港事顧問」，為香港的平穩過渡和順

利回歸作貢獻。在北京人民大會堂的會場上，這位一頭白髮英國老太太的身影顯得特別突出，也顯得分外親切。

一九九七年七月一日，特區政府首次頒授大紫荊勳章，杜葉錫恩女士就是其中一位獲得者。本來勳章是只授予香港中國公民，但授給杜葉錫恩這位一輩子為香港、愛香港的傑出人士，還有誰會有異議、又還有誰比她更當之無愧呢？

今天，杜葉錫恩女士以百歲高齡辭世，人們在頌揚她、懷念她的同時，更深深感受到港人社會今天的一切，包括九七回歸和種種公義、民主、廉政、法治是多麼的來之不易；今天仍在鼓吹什麼「回歸不如英國人好」的極少數人，在杜葉錫恩女士這位一輩子反對殖民統治的鬥士面前更應該深切反省，學會抬起頭來做人。

2015-12-09

## Dearly cherish the memory of Mrs. Elsie Tu

A British lady passed away of illness yesterday. Whole Hong Kong society mourned in unison, because this lady had devoted her whole life to Hong Kong, to Hong Kong citizens. She was Mrs. Elsie Tu.

After Hong Kong's return to Chinese sovereignty, the opposition always **talks big** about democracy and never forgets to mention justice in talks. But before Tu, it is just a pathetic travesty. As early as in the 1960s, Tu already began to advocate democracy and seek justice in Hong Kong. Seeking neither fame nor wealth and fearing no power and influence, she stepped forward bravely to **contend with** the British-Hong Kong colonial government to safeguard the interests of ordinary people.

In Hong Kong during that time, if hawkers failed to offer bribes to the police and Hawker Control Teams (HCT), they would be beaten up and their goods confiscated, or even given fines and jailed, their sorrow being too deep for tears. When a hillside squatter area or an old building caught on fire and the fire fighters came, bribes had to be offered or there would be "no water" to extinguish the fire and the residents remain helpless... On such occasions, Tu would appear before such helpless ordinary citizens, running **hither and yon** to help them. She would even personally report corrupt deeds of civil service to the government and media.

During a quite long period of time in last century, when an ordinary citizen felt being treated unjustly, he or she would seek help from Tu. Some "civil servants" would have a headache whenever Tu's name was mentioned. But they could hardly do anything to her because she was a countrywoman of the "Lady Boss". Had a Chinese national done what she did, he or she would have long been thrown out.

That Tu feared no power and influence might be because of her British nationality, but her not seeking fame and wealth highlighted her lofty character. At that time, the British-Hong Kong colonial government did think of **buying her off** by offering her some official post or title. Tu's lifetime aspiration was to run a school. At that time her school only had classrooms on two rented floors in a building, and she really longed to have a land lot for building a school campus. The government had someone to advise her that if she stopped speaking out, she would be given a land lot plus a school campus. But she declined the offer. She preferred working hard to raise money and running school diligently and thriftily, to making a political deal with the interests of toilsome people as a bargaining chip.

That Tu dared to speak out for ordinary people surely had something to do with her upright personality with unwavering determination. But more importantly, she saw the hypocrisy and injustice of the governance by a colonial government from the altitudes of history, culture and rule of law. She had often written articles on newspapers to expose all sorts of injustice of the systems, and made use of her capacity as members of the Urban Council and Legislative Council to point out that bureaucracy and privileges were the root cause in the system for corruption. Pushed by her all-out effort, Hong Kong set up the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) in 1970s. Thereafter, unjust affairs began to reduce remarkably. For this, Hong Kong people still remember Tu with gratitude.

While engaging in social activities, Tu had also sympathised and supported nation- and Hong Kong-loving forces. She was a British and what she sought were Western-style democracy and justice. But she never hid her favourable impression about Chinese culture and history. She also gave a just appraisal of the development and achievement in the New China under the leadership of the Communist Party. At the historical turning point for Hong Kong to return to Chinese sovereignty in 1997, she agreed without hesitation to take up the posts of Basic Law Consultative Committee member and Hong Kong Affairs Adviser, making her contribution to Hong Kong's smooth transition and handover. In meeting places inside the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, an elderly white-haired British lady's figure **stuck out**, amiable and friendly in appearance.

On 1 July, 1997, the SAR Government awarded the first batch of Grand Bauhinia Medals, and Mrs. Elsie Tu was one of the medal recipients. Originally, the medals were intended to award to Hong Kong Chinese nationals only. But who would object to awarding the medal to such an outstanding person as Tu who had worked for Hong Kong and loved Hong Kong in her whole life? And who else would be more worthy of the medal than Tu?

Now Mrs. Elsie Tu passed away, aged over 100. While glorifying and remembering her, people realise even more deeply how hard won is everything in Hong Kong society today, including the return to Chinese sovereignty in 1997, all sorts of justice, democracy, clean government and the rule of law. The extremely small number of people who still advocate about "post-handover Hong Kong being not as well as under the British" must do a thorough soul-searching before such a lifetime fighter against British-colonial rule as Mrs. Elsie Tu, and learn how to conduct themselves with dignity.

09 December 2015

### WORDS AND USAGE

**Talk big** (idiom) - To brag; to boast. (說大話, 吹牛, 侈言)  
Examples: 1. I don't believe he's ever shot even a duck, but he sure talks big about hunting.  
2. He has some deep need to talk big. He can't do anything.

**Contend with sth** (phrasal verb) - To have to deal with a difficult or unpleasant situation, especially in order to achieve something. (應對, 抗衡)  
Examples: 1. We don't need a computer failure to contend with as well as all our other problems.  
2. I've got quite enough to contend with bringing up three kids.

**Hither and thither/yon** (idiom) - Here and there. (到處, 四處)  
Examples: 1. In clearer water, one encounters shoals of tiny fish, which dart hither and thither like flights of arrows.  
2. I've been wandering about, hither and yon.

**Buy sb off** (phrasal verb) - To pay someone so that they do not cause you any trouble. (收買)  
Examples: 1. They tried to buy the guard at the bank off but he told the police and the gang was arrested.  
2. I didn't get a speeding ticket because I bought off the police officer. The mobster avoided jail by buying the judge off.

**Stick out** (phrasal verb) - To be very easy to notice. (突出, 顯眼, 與眾不同)  
Examples: 1. Dye your hair orange and you'll really stick out in a small town like this.  
2. She certainly sticks out in a crowd.

## 安然啓迪

### 胡適之道

你能想像一位做過中國駐美大使、北京大學校長的泰山北斗，甘願到一間大學的一個圖書館當館長嗎？他就是美國普林斯頓大學的東亞圖書館前館長——胡適之。

清末民初的「狂儒怪傑」辜鴻銘1915年出版了《中國人的精神》一書，於歐美各地回響甚巨。一世紀以來，中外交流方興未艾。美國商人葛思德（G. M. Gest）在三、四十年代收藏了無數珍罕漢籍，在普林斯頓成立全美第二大的東亞圖書館，該校亦成為西方漢學研究的重鎮之一。

胡適先生曾言：「為學當如埃及塔，要能博大要能高。」一方面，他認為「讀一書而已，則不足以知其書」，只有博覽群書，才能觸類旁通。另一方面，他研經講史的專精態度也教人汗顏。自稱「考據癖」的他為了考究《水經注》的抄襲爭議，竟窮廿載之功。一次北大開校務會議，胡適有事要早退，但有人忽提「水經注」三字，「適之先生立即精神抖擻，眉飛色舞，口若懸河。一直到散會，他也沒有退席，而且興致極高，大有挑燈夜戰之勢」（季羨林語）。由此便不難理解胡適何以看中普林斯頓東亞圖書館的珍藏浩廣，矢志把它發展成一個保存並弘揚中華文化的獨特之所。

### 精博兩為學 畢竟一書生

依胡適先生之見，中國所急需的不是什麼「主義」、什麼「大道」——在他眼中，所有思想都可化歸為方法論（methodology），例如「科學」只是一個方法、一個態度，「民主」也只是一種生活、一種精神。作為美國思想家杜威（John Dewey）的忠實門徒，胡適高舉實驗主義的哲學，主張凡事存疑，不可視為金科玉律。「大膽地假設，小心地求證」、「有幾分證據，說幾分話」，是他膾炙人口的格言。

就時代背景而言，或許因為實驗主義把中國傳統的考據史學跟現代的實證科學聯繫起來，致使杜威的學說（較之康德、羅素諸公）於西學東漸中影響尤深。但容我指出，自然科學與歷史科學的實證方法有着本質上的分別。自然科學的數據可以主動做實驗來搜集，但史學的材料只能被動地從古籍裏勘查。自然科學的理論可以預測未來，史學的鑑古則未必足以知今——歷史不是唯物的，時勢是有思想的英雄所創造的。

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## 國情新知

### 中非關係一步一腳印

為期兩天的中非合作論壇峰會12月4日在南非約翰內斯堡舉行。論壇峰會主題是「中非攜手並進：合作共贏、共同發展」。習近平主席與92歲的非盟輪任主席、津巴布韋總統穆加貝都為開幕致辭。穆加貝的致詞排在習主席之後。當聽完習主席的講話後，穆加貝異常激動。他不依稿，脫口而出說了肺腑感受。他說：「如果當年的殖民者們有耳朵，請他們也聽聽習主席的講話。」話畢，全場沸騰，掌聲經久不息。

中非合作論壇峰會的新聞，以及《中國對非洲政策文件》的第二份文件，都不難在網上找到。本次專欄回顧兩段重要的歷史，讓大家明白上述場面來之不易。

中華人民共和國跟非洲自上世纪五六十年代便開始建交。那時是第三世界的抱團取暖，沒引起美歐大國的「關注」。中非關係引來西方大國指指點點，始於中國開始和平崛起；此時的非洲，已成為中國的貿易夥伴。在2000年前後，中非貿易直逼非洲前殖民宗主國英、法兩國。而2003年前後，西方開始對中非關係發動第一波猛攻。

2003年蘇丹西部達爾富爾（Darfur）發生戰爭。蘇丹的邊界，是十九世紀歐洲列強瓜分非洲進行殖民統治時人為劃定的；當中達爾富爾曾被劃到不同國家內。隨著達爾富爾石油、礦產資源不斷開發，部族間的資源戰日趨激烈。2003年2月，達爾富爾地區由黑人組成的反政府武裝力量佔上風，並要求自治。該區因內戰而死亡人數以萬計，也引發難民潮。以美國為首的西方傳媒指控蘇丹政府對該區進行種族清洗（當時聯合國已否認存在種族滅絕）。中國之所以被指摘，是中國堅持不干預蘇丹內政，並認為蘇丹有權維護主權領土完整。整場內戰在聯合國、非盟、尤其是中國的努力下，於2006年結束。

西方對中非關係的第二波攻擊是理論戰，提出所謂的新殖民主義。

中非貿易發展至2005年前後，中國已取代英國，成為繼法國之後的非洲第二大交易夥伴。這種態勢令歐洲人坐立不安，英國外交大臣傑克·斯特勞2006年2月訪問尼日利亞時竟然說：「中國今天在非洲所做的，多數是150年前我們在非洲做的。」不管你稱之為新殖民主義或舊殖民主義，其核心手段是壟斷一地之經濟命脈，並干擾其內政。這些殖民手段中國從無做過。

以下例子或可反映歐美大國為何要攻擊中非關係。2004年中國向安哥拉提供20億美元基建貸款，令安哥拉拒絕了國際貨幣基金組織有附帶條件的貸款安排。此事令西歐大國不快，批評中國阻礙西方對該國進行民主改造。換個角度來看，因為中國的出現，令非洲安哥拉第一次有能力拒絕西方附帶政治條件的經濟干預。總之，最為諷刺的是，當中國的出現令非洲可以另有出路的時候，歐美媒體反而走出來指摘中國對非洲進行新殖民主義。

上述兩波猛攻之後的2009年，中非貿易連法國都超越了，中國成為非洲的第一大交易夥伴國。稍為回首來時路，就會明白今天牢固的中非關係得來不易。

余非

## 快訊

### 高中應用學習獎學金頒獎禮

羅氏慈善基金與教育局合辦「高中應用學習獎學金」，藉此提高社會人士對應用學習課程的關注，及了解相關的教學情況和發展。本年度得獎的學生共有453位，當中115位學生同時獲頒「特別嘉許」的榮譽。「高中應用學習獎學金（2014-15學年）」頒獎典禮暨分享會，定於明天下午三時於拔萃男書院音樂廳舉行，邀請學界和社會人士一同見證學生的成果。

