

外籍優才紛回流 抹黑論不攻自破

HK draws more than 31,000 foreign work visa applicants, challenging claims of its decline



摘錄自8月8日香港《文匯報》：彭博報道指，近日數以千計外籍優才和白領人士，被香港的低稅制、機遇，以及新股IPO蓬勃發展所吸引回流香港發展，單計去年已有逾3.1萬外國人申請留港工作簽證，是5年前的兩倍，當中金融業的簽證去年躍升17%，為2022年以來的新高。

More than 31,000 foreigners applied for work visas to stay in Hong Kong last year, double the figure recorded five years earlier, as the city's low-tax regime, opportunities and booming initial public offering (IPO) market continue to attract foreign professionals and white-collar workers, according to Bloomberg. The number of work visas for foreign professionals in the financial sector jumped 17% last year, reaching the highest level since 2022.

來自美國、從事數字資產及文化交流的張明信 (Brandon Zatt) 昨日接受香港文匯報訪問時表示，他曾聽一些西方高層主管指香港「已完蛋」，「最後他們一次又一次錯失良機。」他指出，香港始終是一座聯通內地與世界的橋樑，機會處處，其韌性並非粉飾，而是事實。

Brandon Zatt, an American involved in digital assets and cultural exchange, told Wen Wei Po on Aug. 7 that he had heard some senior Western executives say HK was "over".

"They missed opportunities again and again," he said. Zatt said HK remained a bridge connecting the mainland with the rest of the world, with opportunities across the city. Its resilience, he stressed, was not a matter of window dressing but a fact.

入境處數據亦顯示，適合外籍專才或專業人士申請的「一般就業政策」每年獲批個案持續上升，今年上半年錄得13,640宗。外資用真金白銀投資香港，外籍專才用腳撈港，種種鐵證都狠狠地令摩根士丹利亞洲區前主席、美國經濟學者羅奇的「舊香港已玩完論」被打臉。

Data from the Immigration Department also showed that approvals under the General Employment Policy, which is available to foreign professionals and talent, have continued to rise in recent years, with 13,640 applications approved in the first half of this year. Foreign investors putting real money into HK and foreign professionals choosing to come and work in the city have provided tangible evidence challenging the "Hong Kong of old is over" narrative advanced by Stephen Roach, former chairman of Morgan Stanley

Asia and a US economist.

入境處回覆香港文匯報查詢時表示，「一般就業政策」由2021年至今年（截至6月底），獲批的申請數目分別為13,821宗、13,495宗、26,270宗、35,058宗、31,278宗及13,640宗。

In response to an inquiry from Wen Wei Po, the Immigration Department said the number of applications approved under the General Employment Policy from 2021 to June this year stood at 13,821, 13,495, 26,270, 35,058, 31,278 and 13,640 respectively.

張明信表示，自己見證香港這座城市承受的每一次衝擊，卻從未見過香港崩潰。

他強調，羅奇所謂的「舊香港」只是錯覺。這座城市從來就不是一成不變的，它始終是一座橋樑，並且會適應所連結的地形。

Zatt said he had witnessed every major shock faced by HK but had never seen the city collapse.

He said Roach's notion of "Hong Kong of old" was based on a misconception. The city had never been static, he said, but had always served as a bridge and adapted to the terrain it connected.

他指出，羅奇的第一個錯誤是，IPO復甦並非依賴的標誌，而是功能的標誌。他指出，每個成熟的金融中心都依賴一個經濟腹地。「紐約的腹地是美國，倫敦的腹地是歐洲，而香港的腹地恰好是世界第二大經濟體——中國內地，決不能把腹地理解為負擔。」

Zatt identified what he called Roach's **first mistake**: the recovery of HK's IPO market was not a sign of dependence, but a sign of its function.

Every mature financial centre, he said, depends on an economic hinterland. "New York's hinterland is the US, London's hinterland is Europe, while HK's hinterland happens to be the world's second-largest economy—the Chinese Mainland. The hinterland should never be understood as a burden."

他提到，數據講述了一個截然不同的故事。去年，香港透過106家公司首次公開募股 (IPO) 籌集了近2,750億港元的資金。這些資金來自全球，並非僅限於中國內地。去年的基石投資額達1,066億港元，瑞銀集團、簡街資本和新加坡政府投資公司 (GIC) 等巨頭都參與其中。一個「封閉式」平台絕對無法吸引來自三大洲的主權財富基金。

The data, he said, told a very different story. Last year, HK raised nearly HK\$275 billion through IPOs by 106 companies. The funds came from around the world rather than solely from the mainland. Cornerstone investments amounted to HK\$106.6 billion last

year, with major institutions including UBS, Jane Street Capital and Singapore's sovereign wealth fund GIC taking part. "A closed platform" would never be able to attract sovereign wealth funds from three continents.

張明信又指，羅奇的第二個錯誤是，香港的韌性並非「粉飾」，而是事實。張明信親身經歷這種韌性，而非從報道中讀到。他憶述，曾與一些西方高層主管同台，他們「確信」香港已經完蛋。「我親耳聆聽過他們的篤定，又親眼目睹他們一次又一次錯失良機，因為他們被外國灌輸的觀念蒙蔽了。然而那些成功的人沒有理會那些陳腔濫調，而是專注於實際情況。實際情況是，這座城市依然運作良好。」

Zatt said Roach's **second mistake** was his portrayal of HK's resilience as "window dressing". Zatt said he had experienced that resilience first-hand rather than simply reading about it in reports. He recalled appearing alongside senior Western executives who were "certain" that HK was finished.

"I heard their certainty with my own ears, and I watched with my own eyes as they missed opportunities time and again because they had been blinded by ideas fed to them from abroad," he said. "Those who succeeded ignored the clichés and focused on the facts. The facts are that this city continues to function well."

張明信指出，羅奇的第三個錯誤是，國家安全法並非背叛，而是一種保護，也反映羅奇的雙重標準，「在所有西方國家，國家安全法都被視為維護國家主權、防範外部威脅與恐怖主義的必要法律工具，但西方社會卻視香港制定國安法為非法之舉。」

Zatt said Roach's **third mistake** was to portray the National Security Law as a betrayal rather than a form of protection. He also accused Roach of applying a double standard.

"In all Western countries, national security laws are regarded as necessary legal tools to safeguard national sovereignty and guard against external threats and terrorism, yet Western societies portray HK's enactment of a national security law as illegitimate," he said.

他提到，在香港，涉及國家安全的案件僅佔刑事訴訟總數的不足0.2%。這座城市的商業法律架構才是真正關乎資本運作的關鍵所在，然而這方面依然完好無損：合約得到執行、財產權得到尊重、法院在商業事務上保持獨立。

He noted that cases involving national security accounted for less than 0.2% of all criminal pro-



●外籍優才回流香港發展。圖為外籍學生與本地生協作研究。

ceedings in HK. The city's commercial legal framework, he said, was what truly mattered to the operation of capital, and that framework remained intact: contracts were enforced, property rights were respected, and courts remained independent in commercial matters.

他認為，的確「舊香港已成過去」，新香港才得以開啟。香港過去的成功建立在如今已不再適用的模式之上：自由的經濟與全球金融緊密相連，高度依賴地產業等曾為香港帶來數十年的繁榮，但終究是有限的。

Zatt said it was true that "Hong Kong of old is gone", but that this had created an opportunity for a new HK to emerge. HK's past success was built on a model that was no longer applicable today, he said. Its free economy was closely linked to global finance and heavily reliant on sectors such as property, which had driven decades of prosperity but ultimately faced limitations.

香港從來不是懷舊的堡壘，而是未來的實驗室，這方面證據比比皆是，例如香港在國家科技轉型中扮演重要角色，其法律體系和仲裁專長賦予其塑造數字資產、管理人工智能和跨境資料領域全球規範的影響力，來自內地的專業人士和全球人才均帶來了技術和資本，這正是香港的鳳凰涅槃時刻。

HK had never been a stronghold of nostalgia, but rather a laboratory for the future. Evidence could be seen across a range of areas, including HK's important role in the country's technological transformation. Its legal system and expertise in arbitration gave it influence in shaping global rules governing digital assets, artificial intelligence and cross-boundary data. Professionals from the mainland and talent from around the world were bringing technology and capital to the city, he said, describing the development as HK's "phoenix moment". ●DotDotNews Deepline

商|心英語

開學了，課堂所學廣闊而多元，但這些知識又是否能夠学以致用呢？在學校所得的知識是人生的重中之重。可是生活在一個光速變化的年代，我們不可以停止學習，「We don't have the luxury.」本欄的主題集中在商業英文，雖然說是商業英語，但非牟利機構 (Non-Governmental Organizations) 和慈善機構 (charities) 也包含在內。

在中學和大學，我曾有個迷思：有兩個近似的詞——practical (實用或實際) 和 pragmatic (務實)。practical 用得最多，有時它也有「退而求其次」的含義。例如，購買空調時，銷售員力推一部價格較便宜但「功能欠奉」的機器，便會稱之為 practical；另一例子是家庭汽車，無須安裝天窗，因為日久天窗可能漏水，這也是 practical。

在課堂上，practical 和 pragmatic 原有「腳踏實地」的含意，但在職場卻另有一番不是滋味的感覺。例如一間小企業招聘部門經理，考慮三位應徵者：一位有三十年國際經驗的行政專才，一位是管理學博士，最後一位是只有一年類似經驗的主管。

企業多半會這樣考慮：對行政專才而言，這只是個中轉站，一旦有新工作他便會離開；博士可能理論多多，但在實際運作上貢獻不多；「The pragmatic choice」便是錄用最後那位。

其實 pragmatic 還有更悲情的一面：剛才那間中小企的股東，在面臨財務危機之際，收到一張能令公司渡過難關的銷售訂單，但其條件卻極為苛刻，經理就可能對東主說：「Be pragmatic」，即是要接受現實。凡是

當事人要接受不公平對待，或簽訂「城下之盟」時，便是 pragmatic 出場的時刻。

做交易前先做朋友

香港力推打開新市場，例如中東市場，那麼我們應如何與中東人交流呢？不諱言，香港人對中東人的一個習慣感到很不自然，有些更覺討厭——他們身上帶有很濃的氣味，又偏偏靠近你。原來中東人有個習慣，分享特選的香氣，這是一種身份表達 (personal identity)、一種款待方式 (medium for hospitality) 和一種示意 (expression)。這種分享香味的交流叫 olfaction。這個分享香味的方法，有點像交換名片，又或握手。

再說遠一點，說說東歐。有朋友到東歐旅行，看到一幅昔日蘇聯領導人勃列日涅夫和昔日東德領導人昂納克嘴對嘴吻起來的照片。

朋友覺得這個畫面十分不雅，但其實這圖是來自真實的新聞報道。這又是另一個我們不常見的習俗。雖然主流報道會正確地稱之為 socialist fraternal kiss or fraternal embrace，中文是「社會主義兄弟之吻」或「兄弟之擁」，也引經據典地追溯到東正教 (Eastern Orthodox Church) 對深交的禮儀，但對崇尚傳統文化的東歐及土耳其人而言，這是生活日常——「Business is all about relationship.」做交易前，最好先做朋友。這是講求實際的傳統習慣和商業思路。

學習也有相似之處，在進入社會前，要先打好知識基礎，跟新時代一起進步，以免到時被迫做出「退而求其次」的選擇。

●林健根 會計師

務實是「腳踏實地」還是「退求其次」？

《史記》側寫項羽戰績 勇武形象不言自明

恒|大清思

近年網絡遊戲越趨普及，不少以歷史人物為題材，於是掀起玩家對兩位著名的英雄人物——項羽和呂布，誰的戰力更勝一籌的爭論。這種爭論實屬「口水戰」，就像有人想像張飛戰岳飛誰勝誰負一樣，每一位在歷史留名的戰將，都在其生活的時空有獨特的成就，因此獨立地根據歷史記載去看他們，或許更為客觀理性。坊間一直認為項羽是千古戰神，我們不妨看看《史記》如何塑造他的勇武形象。

《史記·項羽本紀》開初便形容項羽「力能扛鼎，才氣過人」，叔父項梁不滿他讀書不成，學劍又不成，項羽反駁要學「萬人敵」，足見其不滿足於舞刀弄槍，而着眼於帶領同道闖天下的氣概。

《項羽本紀》記載他後來在鉅鹿之戰破釜沉舟，大大激勵部下士氣而最後獲勝，最能反映他掌握攻心為上的兵法要訣；在彭城之戰中，項羽以三萬精兵剿滅劉邦與諸侯盟軍五十六萬，他深知敵眾我寡之下，硬攻難有勝算，因此充分利用戰場的地理環境制勝，可見他年輕時對兵法雖然「略知其意，又不肯竟學」，但在長期跟隨叔父項梁抗秦的過程中，累積了豐富的實戰經驗。

後來在垓下、東城面對兵多將廣的劉邦軍隊，仍能屢屢突圍，足見項羽擁有的不僅是一股蠻力，更具備超凡的統率能力與戰場視野、懂得因應身處的情況隨機應變的帥才。

清人李晚芳《讀史管見》曾指「羽之神勇，千古無二」，若論項羽的勇武，當然不能繞過其個人的戰力，這方面司馬遷寫得頗為巧妙。

《項羽本紀》前半段寫項羽在項梁麾下時，並未仔細描繪他的武藝如何高強、懂得運用哪些兵器、要哪些招數，極其量只提及他學劍，更多則是從結果側寫其戰績，例如在定陶「破秦軍」、



●圖為京劇中的項羽形象。

資料圖片

鉅鹿「大破秦軍」、再破秦軍於漳南等，直至項羽自立為西楚霸王，才較多寫項羽的「對戰」場合。

「瞋目叱之」嚇退敵將

此外，「對戰」中亦少寫他與敵將「交鋒」的過程，反而重在描繪對方如何被項羽嚇退，例如劉邦派樓煩殺項羽三名部下，到項羽親自出陣，只「瞋目叱之」，便嚇得樓煩「目不敢視」、「手不敢發」、「不敢復出」；後來項羽擊退彭越，引兵返回滎陽，本來佔盡上風的「漢軍畏楚，盡走險阻」，可見在威震華夏之後，項羽根本不必出手，便以氣勢將敵人壓下去，這種筆法是沒有一筆在寫他勇猛，而其勇猛已瀰漫於場景之中。

項羽之所以是千古戰神，固然與他的個人能力有關，而《史記》以文學的筆觸刻畫其形象，則更有畫龍點睛之效。以此為例，可知認識歷史人物，除了其性格特點之外，若能洞悉史家記述的筆法，可讓整個研讀的過程更富趣味。



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