

TARGET SUPPORTS DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT

TARGET supports the President of the People's Republic of China, Mr Jiang Ze Min, in his support for a second term for the incumbent Chief Executive of the Hongkong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) of the People's Republic of China (PRC), Mr Tung Chee Hwa.

TARGET further supports the Vice Premier of the People's Republic of China, Mr Qian Qi Chen, in his support of Mr Tung Chee Hwa, the man who personifies the 8 Chinese virtues as well as all the qualities of modern Chinese leadership; the man who is the choice of all the peoples of the PRC.

And, as far as TARGET is concerned, it is fitting and proper that the Government of the PRC openly shows its preference for Mr Tung Chee Hwa to lead the HKSAR for a second 5-year term.

It is only logical that Mr Tung Chee Hwa be given a second chance to complete all those many things that he left uncompleted, during his first term in office.

To become a PRC politician – and one must remember that Mr Tung Chee Hwa is still in the learning stage of being a good Communist because, until 1997, he was a flagrant capitalist with no knowledge of politics or shoe-shining -- takes a little more than 5 years so that, while Mr Tung Chee Hwa admits his many mistakes, during his first term in office, as the leader of the HKSAR in the second term, it is unlikely that he will make the same mistakes twice.

At least, one would hope that he would not repeat all the mistakes of the past.

It is said that, in the West, elections to high office for short periods of time of 4 years to 5 years, such as the Prime Minister of England or the President of the US, more often than not leads to those in power, not having sufficient time to learn the political ropes.

On the other hand, left in office for a second term or even a third term, more often than not leads to leaders in the West, learning not only the ropes, but how to untie financial knots in ropes, allowing them to make capital out of their positions.

This is called the creation of wealth, in the words of the late President of the Republic of the Philippines, President Ferdinand Edralin Marcos.

And the late President Marcos became one of the richest of his day, during his 2 decades in office.

Oliver Cromwell (1599-1658), Lord Protector of England from 1653 to 1658, noted that the English Parliament, under King Charles I, was corrupt, with most of the members of Parliament, more interested in the accumulation of wealth for themselves than in carrying out their duties for and on behalf of the country.

He had Charles I beheaded and then ruled as a virtual dictator, himself -- just to make certain that the country was run along duly elected, Puritanical principles, which did not hold too much for the accumulation of baubles and lands for those who hold high office.

Many, if not most, newspapers in the US support political candidates and come out, openly, saying that they support this person or that political party.

For what reason should not the President of the most populous country in the world, Mr Jiang Ze Min, not be permitted to voice his preference for the leader of part of a province of his country?

The same is true of the Vice Premier of the PRC, Mr Qian Qi Chien: There is absolutely no reason that he should not be permitted to state that he supports his original choice as the leader of the HKSAR, his friend and political colleague, Mr Tung Chee Hwa.

The HKSAR Press corps appears to take the view that it is wrong for some of the most powerful men in the PRC openly to support Mr Tung Chee Hwa on the grounds that it is likely to influence the 400-member Selection Committee, the Committee that, democratically, selects the Chief Executive of the HKSAR.

But the Selection Committee comprises '*appointed*' members and '*elected*' members.

But whether '*elected*' or '*appointed*', it is assumed that all members of the Selection Committee will be loyal to the PRC Government: They all have a common goal.

So what is the HKSAR Press corps trying to allege?

It is, definitely, the job of the PRC politicians to tell the members of the Selection Committee for whom they should vote on the grounds that the PRC politicians know better than people who are placed on the Selection Committee to engineer the democratic process of selecting the Chief Executive of the HKSAR.

They are bound by honour to tell their people, living in the HKSAR, which way the political wind is blowing and what is best for them.

The idea, that members of the Selection Committee could be unduly influenced by the good opinions of the top men in the PRC, is outrageous because that would mean that there was no democracy in the HKSAR; and, that the principles of The Basic Law of the HKSAR are a sham.

The HKSAR believes in the rule of law and, as such, matters, relating to law, go before the Courts of the HKSAR.

Except, of course, when the Chief Executive of the HKSAR determines that The Standing Committee of the National People's Congress should consider over-ruling a decision of the Court of Final Appeal of the HKSAR.

But there has, so far, only been one occasion when this was found to be necessary.

The law is the law, but politics follows other laws; and, determinations in politics are not always black and white: Sometimes they are yellow and white; or, even yellow and yellow.

Water flows from a high level to a low level, as every student of science knows.

In the PRC Government, the same principles hold true in politics: The Premier (the person on the highest tier of Government) makes a pronouncement about a matter, and it is expected that his underlings – those at the lower levels -- will echo the Government's (the Premier's) opinion.

It would be quite impossible for lower levels to make determinations on behalf of the country – because they have not arrived.

And, in any case, that would amount to water, flowing upstream.

Mr Zhu Rong Ji, the Premier of the PRC Government, was the first to endorse the election of Mr Tung Chee Hwa to a second term to lead the HKSAR.

All the other PRC political minions are merely echoing their great leader's suggestions.

It is simply a case of political solidarity.

The Press corps of the HKSAR appear not to understand the situation and has been rightly accused of jumping the gun.

There is no gun in sight in the HKSAR (anyway, it is illegal to have guns in the HKSAR unless you are a member of the People's Liberation Army or a policeman).

Statue Square, Central Hongkong, is not Tiananmen Square, Beijing.

The Election Committee may or may not follow the opinions of the great leaders of the PRC Government.

Every member of this Selection Committee is free to choose.

They are free to choose, but they must choose *'the'* person.

And Confucius maintained that the devil one knows is better than the devil that one does not know.

The Government of the PRC, no doubt, will be watching to see who, on the Selection Committee, votes for whom in order to learn who is loyal to the motherland and the principles of PRC democracy and who is not loyal.

This is the first major test and TARGET wants to be among the first to pass the test: We support our leaders -- whoever they may be.

***While TARGET makes every attempt to ensure accuracy of all data published,
TARGET cannot be held responsible for any errors and/or omissions.***

-- E N D --

If readers feel that they would like to voice their opinions about that which they have read in TARGET, please feel free to e-mail your views to editor@targetnewspapers.com or targnews@hkstar.com. TARGET does not guarantee to publish readers' views, but reserves the right so to do subject to the laws of libel.