



## The Betty Letters

*My Dear Grandchild,*

*By all accounts, it appears that Mr Donald Tsang Yam Kuen, the Chief Executive of Hongkong, is turning out to be something of a tyrant. The pressure of work, I expect, is causing him to be a little cross and out of sorts, these days. I suppose, also, being a devout Catholic has something to do with his present demeanor because Catholicism demands obedience, you know. But what happened to that virtue, known as humility? Where has that attribute gone in the leader of this territory, belonging to China? After all, the Chief Executive is only a temporary caretaker of Hongkong – if truth be known – one who can lose his job at a moment's notice should it be determined that he has fallen out of favour with the high muck-a-mucks in the Capital City of China, Beijing. If he upsets too many people in Hongkong, especially those people with clout in Beijing, he could find himself unemployed, it seems to me. Last week, the Chief Executive attacked what he has determined to be his enemies, namely, the so-called democrats of Hongkong. I wonder as to the reasons that he would deign to do such a thing. I recall the First Chief Executive of Hongkong, Mr Tung Chee Hwa, who, also, attacked certain members of the democratic camp at Legislative Council Meetings, calling some of them 'shallow' people, with 'shallow' questions, pouring out of 'shallow' minds. I can't say that I always disagreed with Mr Tung Chee Hwa, but, again, one must ask the question: For what reason did he deign to attack his opponents? It was, I think, only after he had been completely bamboozled by the enormity of his position and the tasks at hand that he took out his frustration on certain Legislative Councillors, especially those who did not support his proposals for this or that. And look what happened to him: Today, he is unemployed! I wonder whether or not Mr Donald Tsang Yam Kuen is going the same way as his predecessor? According to the Chief Executive, some people in Hongkong want to undermine the Hongkong Government's authority and popularity. Oh! I did not know that the Hongkong Government was popular! As for undermining the Hongkong Government's authority, how in the world is that possible? Is he bonkers? Look, the way that I see the situation is that a society is forced to have a police force in order to make certain that the law is followed for the benefit of all. But that does not mean that one has to love the individual policemen who enforce the law. Policemen are, after all, trained to be a suspicious group of people, who have to think evilly in order to be on the same wavelength with the crooks, thus making it possible to catch them and, in that manner, protect the innocent citizens of a territory. The members of the Hongkong Independent Commission Against Corruption are another group of horrible people, but one must respect the job that this group of horrors tries to do. This police motto, 'To Protect And Serve', is a nonsense, you know, because it should state: 'Crooks Beware! We Are Your Worst Enemies!' Governments of countries are, like police forces, necessary evils. It is a pity, actually, that there have to be governments, but the truth is that the civilised people of the world cannot live together without having rules, engraved in stone, and have laws to make certain that the rules are followed in accordance with the spirit of those rules. So, as in the case of a police force, one may not love individual members of this disciplined force, but one appreciates the requirement for their existence. What chaos there would be without an efficient police force in Hongkong! What chaos there was in Nepal, recently, when the citizens of that country rebelled against the authority of the Government, controlled by King Gyanendra who had absolute rule! People must respect*

*a government, but they will not respect their government if the people, at the head of the administration, act in a manner, considered not in the best interests of the territory and its peoples.*

*Which brings me to my next points:*

- 1. Is the Chief Executive of Hongkong, acting in accordance with that which is best for Hongkong and its human inhabitants? or,*
- 2. Is he acting in accordance with what he thinks is best for Beijing?*

*Put another way:*

- 1. Is he trying to curry favour from his Beijing masters, at the expense of Hongkong, its people, and their way of life?*

*Of late, a number of people, including the Commissioner of the Foreign Ministry of the Government of China, Mr Lu Xin Hua, has come out, praising Mr Donald Tsang Yam Kuen. In fact, they have made it very clear that Beijing loves this Hongkong Catholic, with Mr Lu Xin Hua, stating: 'I support him serving for five more years.' (Hey! The thoughts just struck me: May a practising Catholic be a member in good standing of the Chinese Communist Party? Would Mr Donald Tsang Yam Kuen agree to forsake his religious leanings in order to join the Chinese Communist Party or to follow the Party line?) Mr Li Ka Shing has, also, endorsed the candidature of Mr Donald Tsang Yam Kuen to be the next Chief Executive of Hongkong. And, when Mr Li Ka King makes such utterances, Beijing does listen. For what reason would a Chinese-Government bigwig, or a Chinese Government bigwig without an official portfolio, endorse a candidate for the post of Chief Executive of Hongkong, even before that candidate has thrown his hat into the political ring? Is it not a clear message to certain people of Hongkong, telling them how to vote at the next election? Democracy is a wonderful form of government, but Chinese democracy is slightly different from the democracy, originally envisaged:*

***'A government by the people; a form of government in which the power resides in the people and is exercised by them, either directly or by means of elected representatives; a form of society which favours equal rights, the ignoring of hereditary class distinctions, and tolerance of minority views.'***

*Talk to you next week.*

*Chief Lady*

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

*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](mailto:editor@targetnewspapers.com). **TARGET** does not guarantee to publish readers' views, but reserves the right so to do subject to the laws of libel.*