



## *The Betty Letters*

*My Dear Grandchild,*

*You really must not fret at the fact that Mr Donald Tsang Yam Kuen (), our bow-tied, Catholic Chief Executive, got into a little trouble when Vice President Xi Jin Ping () came to town, earlier this week. I know that you are very fond of the Chief Executive with his twinkling little eyes and childlike mannerisms, but you must realise that he is used to being told that he has been naughty and must pay penance. That is the raison d'être of the confessional and every good Catholic must go to confession at least once per week, you know. Last Monday, Vice President Xi Jin Ping told Chief Executive Donald Tsang Yam Kuen, among other things, that Beijing expected that there be, at all times, solidarity among Hongkong Government officialdom and that there is a need in Hongkong for sensible and reasonable Government policies. He went on to state: 'Our (Beijing's) expectations for the Administrative Team (that is the Hongkong Government) can be summed up in 2 phrases: Sensible and reasonably; solidarity and high efficiency. We, also, hope the SAR (Special Administrative Region) Government and the Chief Executive can maintain strong governance, a stable Administration, and high efficiency ... There should be mutual understanding and support among the Executive authorities, the Legislature and the Judiciary ...'. Great stuff! Of course, the Vice President is correct. Who would dare to suggest otherwise? I might add, at this point, that this was the second time in 2 days that the Vice President had taken a slice of proverbial flesh, out of the hide of Hongkong's Chief Executive. One day prior, the Vice President had ordered, in no uncertain terms, that Mr Donald Tsang Yam Kuen had to be personally responsible for the schedule insofar as the Olympic equestrian events, scheduled to be held in Hongkong, were concerned. Vice President Xi Jin Ping said, in so many words, that he would hold Hongkong's Chief Executive responsible for any and all hiccoughs in that regard. Which is quite right, also. Somebody has to be responsible, after all. But you need not worry, My Dear Grandchild, about the psychological pain, caused to the Chief Executive by the words of The Great Man of Beijing, because the Chief Executive has become very thick-skinned in the past few years. That is required of all, aspiring politicians, you must understand.*

*For the Chief Executive, he must have realised, on listening carefully to the 2 tirades, uttered on 2 separate days by Vice President Xi Jin Ping, that Beijing is of the firm opinion that:*

- a. There is not, always, solidarity among Hongkong Government officials;*
- b. There is not, always, sensible Government in Hongkong;*
- c. There is not, always, reasonable Government in Hongkong;*
- d. There is not, always, high efficiency in the Hongkong Government;*
- e. There is not, always, mutual understanding and support among the Executive authorities;*
- f. There is not, always, mutual understanding in respect of all of the Legislative Councillors;*
- g. There is not, always, mutual understanding and respect between many of the members of the Legislative Council and the Executive Branch of the Hongkong Government; and,*

- h. There is not, always, mutual understanding in respect of all of the members of the Hongkong Judiciary.*

*If the above 8 points had not been the case, there would have been no reason for the Vice President of one of the world's most-important countries to have made mention of the obvious inadequacies that he had observed in his short stay in Hongkong.*

*In the last week of June, you will recall, Mr Donald Tsang Yam Kuen barged into the Legislative Council and told the assembly to shut their silly mouths about the terms and conditions of the appointment of 'his' newest batch of appointed minions. The Legislative Council was all set to table a Motion, seeking full and comprehensive disclosure in respect of the appointment of the new Hongkong Government minions. In the Chief Executive's opinion, the Legislative Council had gone too far. In the words of the Vice President of China, there was demonstrated, clearly, that there was no, or little, solidarity and mutual understanding between the Legislative Councillors and the Hongkong Government Administration. Mr Donald Tsang Yam Kuen realised this, only too late, it seems. As a result, the Chief Executive got a little scolding for being remiss in his duties.*

*Now, about the Hongkong Judiciary and the suggestion from the Vice President of China that there should be mutual understanding within its ranks and within the ranks of the Executive, I, for one, fully support this idea. It is, of course, in keeping with the way in which the Judiciary in China works: Hand-in-glove with the Executive Branch of Government. In the United States of America, all appointments to the Supreme Court are political appointees, you know, so for what reason should not Hongkong follow a similar modus operandi? Hongkong was founded on the principal of one-country, two-systems, was it not? But that does not preclude, in the case of the Hongkong Judiciary, that there could be a meeting of the minds between the Judiciary of China and the Executive Branch of Government at Beijing. The Judiciary in China is interdependent within the confines of the Executive Branch of Government of China so that there is, always, a meeting of the minds in order to achieve harmony of purpose. For what reason can there not be the same, or similar, harmony in Hongkong?*

*It reminds me of the time that naughty children used to be spanked by parents when the children were found to have been wanting. The children, of course, cried at the pain, being inflicted on them, but, in time, they started to love the hand that held the cane that inflicted the pain. I dare say that Chief Executive Donald Tsang Yam Kuen will, in the fullness of time, grow to love his Vice President in the same way that he has grown to love and accept the love of God, even though He moves in mysterious ways.*

*Talk to you, next week.*

*Chief Lady*

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