

**THE BRITISH, REALLY,
WERE BASTARDS, WEREN'T THEY ?**

Without question, the British have been bloody bastards with regards to Hongkong and its population, over the 156 years that it ruled these 416 square miles.

From the cessation of hostilities, in 1945, with Germany and her allies, including but not limited to Japan, the successive British Administrations of Hongkong have done everything wrong in respect of her once flourishing colony in Asia, now known as the Hongkong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) of the People's Republic of China (PRC).

There is ample reason for the Chinese population of the HKSAR, especially the important moguls of the HKSAR, to despise the British.

Hate! Hate! Hate!

Because of the successive British Administrations of Hongkong, of the past, today, the HKSAR has an efficient postal service.

Because of the successive British Administrations of Hongkong, of the past, today, the HKSAR has an efficient civil service.

Because of the successive British Administrations of Hongkong, of the past, today, the HKSAR has a well-disciplined and efficient police force, ambulance service, hospital service, etc, etc, etc.

Because of the successive British Administrations of Hongkong, of the past, today, the HKSAR has an efficient and sensitive English Common Law System of Justice whereby consideration has been built into the law, giving rise to its form and application, with due sensitivity to the region and the customs of the people that it serves.

Because of the successive British Administrations of Hongkong, of the past, today, the HKSAR has a well-developed and dynamic education system, catering for the very young, as an introduction to the school system (kindergartens), to post-graduate courses in established and internationally well respected, HKSAR universities.

Because of the successive British Administrations of Hongkong, of the past, today, the HKSAR has a privately owned, very efficient public transportation network, one that is the envy of most Asian countries, in fact.

Because of successive British Administrations of Hongkong, of the past, today, the HKSAR continues to adopt a laissez faire economic philosophy, which still serves these 416 square miles, well.

Because of successive British Administrations of Hongkong, of the past, today, telecommunication links with the world are among the most advanced in Asia.

Because of the successive British Administrations of Hongkong, of the past, today, the HKSAR has an economic infrastructure, which has been considered, by the world's foremost Pulitzer Prize winning economist, Mr Milton Friedman, to be the shining exemplification of the success of a free-market economy.

Because the British have been such bastards to the people of Hongkong, under successive Administrations, people, such as Messrs Li Ka Shing, Gordon Wu Ying Bun, Lee Shau Kee, Cheng Yu Tung, David Li Kwok Po, and tens of thousands more such moguls have been able to earn billions of dollars (any currency will do, thank you very much).

Because the British have been such bastards, the Chinese multi-millionaires of the HKSAR, and the Chinese multi-billionaires of the HKSAR, hate the British for what they have done.

Hate! Hate! Hate!

If it is not hate that the Chinese multi-millionaires and the Chinese multi-billionaires hold for the British, then it is the well-beloved pragmatism of HKSAR businesses and business leaders, most of whom maintain that it is important to note in which bowl one finds the rice; and, to act in accordance with the requirements of the day.

Some people might consider the nomenclature of tergiversation as being the most appropriate term for such people.

An example of the above was when Mr Gordon Wu received his knighthood, on June 30, 1997.

Immediately after receiving this honour, he remarked on television that he did not care for *'fish and chips'*, in any case.

What he meant by this statement was that he did not care about the singular honour, bestowed on him by the Queen of England.

In point of fact, for what reason should he care about being knighted?

After all, the PRC Government does not embrace such an honour system and, since Mr Gordon Wu does not care for fish and chips, preferring dim sum, it is correct and fitting that he considers his new Chinese masters, not the British bastards of yesteryear.

Questions might have been raised, at the time of his receiving his knighthood, however, as to the reason that he agreed to accept it, in the first place, since, if one does not care for deep-fried fish, one may be advised not to get too close to the kitchen stove, lest one be splattered by boiling oil.

The former Chief Justice of Hongkong, Sir T. L. Yang, threw away his knighthood in favour of joining forces with the PRC Government

Because Sir T. L., who was once considered to be more British than the British, saw that his future lay in another camp – the 1997 untested and still-to-be defined PRC Camp under the untested and still-to-be-defined (in 1997, at least) leadership of Mr Tung Chee Hwa, the former boss of Orient Overseas (International) Ltd, a publicly listed company in the HKSAR which, at one time, nearly went belly up and had to be reorganised under the able direction of the once, Chief Executive Officer, Mr Tung Chee Hwa.

(Chief Executive Tung Chee Hwa has been tested, now, after being in office for more than 2 years; and, it is generally held that his leadership leaves a lot to be desired, not for that which he has done, or caused to be done, but that for which he has neglected to do, or neglected to have done)

One cannot but applaud the ethics of such a gentleman as Mr T.L. Yang, and one cannot but agree with his taste in politics: Chow faan, after all, is preferable to him than fish and chips.

The Government of the PRC did a great deal for the people of the HKSAR before assuming sovereignty of these 416 square miles.

The successive Governments of the PRC, since the coming to power of Comrade Chairman Mao Ze Dong in 1948, did all that it could to assist Hongkong in curbing the tyranny of successive British Administrations, as the British bastards were *'raping'* the territory, and persecuting the inhabitants by abolishing the death penalty and causing Hongkong to become one of the most prosperous territories in Asia.

This, today, is a widely held belief by Chinese big businesses in the HKSAR.

Those HKSAR Chinese, who traded one British (temporary) Camp for a PRC (permanent) Camp, are to be congratulated for their perspicacity and nous.

It is not everybody who can see into the future and realise that a former master – the British – had, after all, been very naughty, and had been seen to have been terribly inefficient; and, that the new Government Administrative format for the HKSAR would be far better than the last one.

Since the British pulled out of Hongkong, on June 30, 1997, the HKSAR has gone through some of the worst times in living memory in respect of its economic history (not including World War II, of course).

But that is not the fault of the PRC Government, or the HKSAR Government, controlled by the PRC Government; and, the PRC Government is to be congratulated for not blaming the British for alleged British acts of abnegation and desertion of these shores.

After all, is not everybody happy that the British have left?

Today, HKSAR policemen are not required to wear the red underlay, atop their epaulets, just beneath their designated numbers, these red underlays, indicating that they are capable of speaking English.

This outdated concept was stopped as soon as the Government of the PRC assumed sovereignty over the HKSAR, policy wise, at any rate, according to police sources.

It is a sign of the times that a policeman is not required to let a member of the general public know of his, or her, bilingualism, or multilingualism.

For what reason should a policeman of the HKSAR have to be armed with knowledge of the international language of commerce?

Today, the flag of the People's Republic of China flies over these 416 square miles, while the People's Liberation Army (PLA) stands by, ready and able to quell any uprisings, which may be perceived to have the possibility of disturbing the peace and tranquility of these shores.

The PLA has replaced the terrible British Tommy who kept internal peace in Hongkong since the Year Dot.

The British Tommy rarely caused any problems for the population of Hongkong, except when a drunken Tommy, cavorting in Wanchai, had to taken away by the British Military Police.

Individual acts of ignominy by PLA troops have rarely hit the headlines as being a disruptive element in the red light districts of the HKSAR.

And one hopes that they never will, since the PLA troops are known to be, for the most part, without much, if any, formal academic education, but have a good knowledge of the use of firearms, and the quickest way to remove a physical threat, be it a person or any other obstacle.

While the HKSAR gives every appearance of being unchanged from the days when the British bastards had control of this enclave, insidious changes have come about.

The inability of journalists, working in the HKSAR, to obtain timely information is one change which the man-in-the-street does not see too readily, if at all.

Today, a journalist, working in the HKSAR, is not deemed to have an inalienable right to information within the public domain, and may not, as in the old days when the British bastards were in control of Hongkong, make a complaint to the relevant authority about not being able to obtain certain pieces of information.

The High Court, now called The Court of First Instance, is another area where, if a member of the public desires to obtain a document, in accordance with the Rules of the High Court, he may be denied access to the

information if it is deemed, by the powers-that-be, too sensitive and/or of a political nature whereby it is not in the general public's interest to be informed of such information.

There is, also, the question as to what constitutes State Secrets.

Administrative errors in the Court system of the HKSAR are commonplace, today, as are errors in the Companies Registry, with files, mysteriously, going missing – or, never having been in existence.

An example of the above statements would be a Statement of Claim, attached to a Writ of Summons: It is entirely possible that a clerk of the High Court, on instructions, no doubt, from his superiors, would state that *'the file is with the presiding judge'* (there can be no presiding judge because the case has not gone to Court), *'the Statement of Claim has been transferred to the Labour Tribunal'* (another impossibility since such a situation could never occur), or, simple, *'the file is out and cannot be located at this time.'*

In addition to the *'machinery'* of the Court System, being able to thwart efforts of the public to obtain, what is known in legalese as, *'Originating Process'* (Order 63, Rule 4), similar delaying tactics, or outright refusals of information, are witnessed by members of the public in trying to obtain information from The Companies Registry.

Sometimes, one is told that a certain company file is not available because *'it is not a company, registered in the Hongkong Special Administrative Region,'* even though an annual report of a publicly listed company states that the company is one, registered in the HKSAR.

And one may obtain proof of such an assertion – because the auditors of the publicly listed companies attested to that fact.

The HKSAR is, definitely, dirtier, today, than when the British bastards exerted influence over the population not to litter the streets and not to spit in public places.

The HKSAR is, definitely, less efficient than it was when the British bastards put in place checks and balances in order to maintain the British Government's Administrative machinery and have transparent accountability.

The HKSAR, still, has an adversarial system of justice; and, it is said that English Common Law will be maintained.

But, at the same time, there is The Ways and Means Ordinance, firmly in place.

The parceling out of HKSAR *'goodies'* to the *'chosen ones'* by the present Government Administration is well known.

And, it is well understood.

These *'goodies'* come in the form of that which is not done, as well as that which is done, and seen to be done.

And those HKSAR residents, and former residents, those who should have received the rod on their backsides, but escaped the punishment that would have been their just deserts under the British bastards, sing the praises of the coming to power of the HKSAR Government under the able and well-respected baton of Chief Executive Tung Chee Hwa as he plays his somewhat new and novel songs.

And those HKSAR residents who, today, are benefiting from the seeds, which they planted yesteryear, also sing the praises of the Tung Chee Hwa songs.

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