

Part II

**WELCOME, ONE AND ALL,
TO THE CHOSEN LAND:
THE MIDDLE KINGDOM**

So, who is welcome in the People's Republic of China (PRC)?

Clearly, Legislative Councillor [Margaret Ng Ngoi Yee](#) is not welcome to visit the capital city of the Middle Kingdom -- because she was told as much, in very clear messages, first from the seat of power in Beijing, repeated, just last Friday, by the Chief Executive of the Hongkong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) of the People's Republic of China, Mr Tung Chee Hwa, in that historic, 40-minutes tÃ¢te- ' -tÃ¢te between the Chief Executive and 'big mouth' Margaret Ng.

Strangely, it was the British author, Mr G. K. Chesterton (1874 - 1936), who, in his book, *'The Defence of Patriotism'* (1901), stated: ' "My country, right or wrong" is a thing that no patriot would think of saying except in a desperate case. It is like saying, "My mother, drunk or sober". ' '

What in the world did Legislative Councillor Margaret Ng expect the Chief Executive of the HKSAR to say to her at last Friday's meeting?

Did Legislative Councillor Margaret Ng really expect the representative of the Government of the People's Republic of China in the HKSAR to tell her that the PRC Government was wrong in its determination to prohibit her from travelling to Beijing on September 12 in order to attend a legal seminar?

Did Legislative Councillor Margaret Ng expect Mr Tung Chee Hwa to open the doors of Tin Tong (Chinese Heaven) for all the big mouths of the HKSAR?

But something very constructive did come out of the Tung Chee Hwa-Margaret Ng historic Meeting.

The following are the positive results of the Meeting:

1. If one thinks that one may have upset the Government of the PRC, or the HKSAR, (presumably), or any member thereof, one should learn to re-examine oneself;
2. If one thinks that one may have upset the Government of the PRC, or the HKSAR, (presumably), or any member thereof, one should study in order to become a different kind of person;
3. If one thinks that one may have upset the Government of the PRC, or the HKSAR, (presumably), or any member thereof, one should learn to reflect on oneself; and,
4. If one thinks that one may have upset the Government of the PRC, or the HKSAR, (presumably), or any member thereof, one should learn to demonstrate that one is patriotic to the PRC Government, and all the members of that Government, and to the people of the 'motherland'.

This, clearly, is not a complete list because it is drawn from published statements, uttered by Legislative Councillor Margaret Ng to the media, following the historic meeting with Mr Tung Chee Hwa.

However, going back to TARGET's questions, as to what Legislative Councillor Margaret Ng attempted to accomplish by going, directly, to the PRC Government's representative in the HKSAR: Was it Legislative Councillor Margaret Ng's intentions to consider the Chief Executive in a similar light as a devoted Catholic considers a Father?

Did Legislative Councillor Margaret Ng want to meet Chief Executive Tung Chee Hwa because she learned, some years ago, that confession is good for the soul?

Chief Executive Tung Chee Hwa is not the HKSAR's Mother Superior!

Nor is Chief Executive Tung Chee Hwa, the HKSAR's Father Confessor!

In fact, he is not even a Christian, let alone a Catholic!

Mr Tung Chee Hwa has never claimed to be anything more than a believer in the teachings of Confucius (551-479 B.C.); and, from that, it follows that the family is the centre of everything, and everything is the family.

That, being the case, he must look upon the people of the HKSAR, that is all the people of the HKSAR, including, of course, Legislative Councillor Margaret Ng, as his children.

And it is well known that children, and that means all children, from time to time have to be punished by parents in order for the children to learn the lessons which will enable them to plough through this life in a successful manner.

Lesson Number One:

How does one learn to examine oneself?

Aristotle (384-322 B.C.), one of the most famous, classical Greek philosophers, maintained that the world comprises individuals in different species, each specie, possessing an innate pattern of development and growth toward self-realisation.

This, being the case, growth, purpose and direction are true, built-in attributes of man.

The notion of causality was first propagated by this teacher of Alexander the Great.

Aristotle believed that there was more than one reason for every man's existence on earth.

He maintained that there were 4 explanatory causes for man: (1) The Material Cause; (2) The Efficient Cause; (3) The Formal Cause; and, (4) The Final Cause.

The Material Cause is the matter out of which a thing is made. The Efficient Cause is the source of motion and change. The Formal Cause is the specie, type, or kind. The Final Cause is the full development of an individual, or the intended function of a construction or invention.

It is clear from the teachings of Aristotle that Legislative Councillor Margaret Ng's Material Cause is her tissues and organs, her Efficient Cause is the teachings of her parents (of which, clearly, Chief Executive Tung Chee Hwa must, now, be considered in this category), her Formal Cause is that of homo sapien, and The Final Cause is her built-in propensity to becoming a mature person and, hopefully, a mature Legislative Councillor.

At this time, it is obvious that Legislative Councillor Margaret Ng has attained only 3 Causes out of 4 Causes: She has to work on the Fourth Cause.

Until she attains The Final Cause, she has to be punished when she is naughty in order that she graduate from The Efficient Cause to The Final Cause.

When she completes the full 4 Causes, with honours, she will receive a visa, which will not be withdrawn at the last minute, allowing her to visit Tin Tong -- Beijing.

Lesson Number Two:

How to become a different kind of person is not an easy task, for most, to be sure.

To seek the path, or inward peace, is truly a Confucian concept.

The starting point for an individual, wanting to be a different kind of person, is knowing oneself, and knowing that one is, innately, bad, or innately wrong, or both.

And, when this realisation is imbedded, deeply in the very being of he/she, who accepts that change is required, then a person's Tin Tong, on earth, may be attained with relative ease.

Humility is the key to attaining this goal.

As with Chief Executive Tung Chee Hwa, the teachings of Confucius were practical and ethical, rather than religious.

One may have noted, since June 30, 1997, Mr Tung Chee Hwa has become a different kind of person: He is humble; he has acquired his Tin Tong in the HKSAR.

The Confucian 5 virtues predominate the teachings of one of the greatest of all Chinese philosophers: Kindness; uprightness; decorum; wisdom; and, faithfulness.

These are the duties of every man and woman, be he/she a Legislative Councillor or a high-ranking civil servant in the service of his country's government.

A government, according to Confucius, must be paternalistic.

At the same time, all individuals within a State must observe, carefully, their duties toward that State.

So, the path of how Legislative Councillor Margaret Ng may become a different kind of person is easy to travel: She must become a follower of Tung Chee Hwa.

Also, she must throw away her British Passport; renounce his British citizenship; and, apply to become a *'real'* Chinese patriot.

This would require that she learn to speak Mandarin, preferably with a Beijing accent; eat more Chinese food, and stop going to The Conrad Hotel for European luncheons with gweilos; and, stop spouting English Common Law, but start appreciating and employing Chinese Common Law.

Lesson Number Three:

How does one reflect on oneself?

One may look into a mirror, of course.

But one is often misled by the reflection one sees in a mirror since one always sees a misconceived image of oneself.

Plato (428-347 B.C.), another classical, Greek philosopher, maintained that there are 2 worlds: The world of imperfection; and, the world of perfection.

We know of the world of perfection by trying, unconsciously, to mirror that world in the world of imperfection.

This is done, for instance, by trying to comb one's hair, in public, in a perfect manner.

A lady is, constantly, purchasing new clothes and new shoes because she is searching, all the time, for the perfect dress or the perfect pair of shoes, in order to make her look more beautiful and perfect ... if there is still some

hope, left.

Mrs Imelda Marcos was a perfect example of this point because it was discovered that she, at one time, had more than 3,000 pairs of shoes in her closet.

Legislative Councillor Margaret Ng is not a pretty woman, but she must see herself as being a pretty lady.

She must look into the mirror of life with a view to seeing herself as being humble, physiognomically. And, there are good grounds for her to think that there is room for humility.

As in the case of the Irish born novelist, playwright and poet, Oscar Wilde (1854-1900), in his famous story, *'The Picture of Dorian Gray'* (1891), a man may think that he is beautiful, and other sycophants around him may agree, but the painting shows the real character of the man; and, with every evil deed that the man perpetrates, it is reflected in the painting, the depiction of the man, growing uglier, day after day.

A man may put on one face, but his real face will be manifest in due course.

The sins of man weigh upon his soul and, in order to cast off this weight, one must, first, reflect on oneself in the mirror of life, thus making one's life lighter.

To reflect, truly, is to seek a higher, more spiritual plane.

This is, exactly, what the Chief Executive has done: He has cast off the chains of monetary considerations, and has adorned the purple of office in order to serve the State and his *'children'* as their teacher and servant.

So, Legislative Councillor Margaret Ng needs a new, clean mirror in which to view herself: Then, she will be beautiful, again.

Lesson Number Four:

How to be patriotic toward the People's Republic of China?

For this question, one may turn to TARGET's ultimate hero: Mr Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826).

Mr Thomas Jefferson was the third President of the United States. He was one of the wisest men to have ever lived in the US.

On the subject of patriotism, he wrote, copiously, and to his friend, Mr I. Tiffany, in 1816, he wrote:

'The full experiment of a government democratical but representative was and is still reserved for us. The idea ... has been carried by us more or less into all our legislative and executive departments; but it has not yet by any of us been pushed into all the ramifications of the system, so far as to leave no authority existing not responsible to the people; whose rights, however, to the exercise and fruits of their own industry can never be protected against the selfishness of rulers not subject to their control at short periods ... My most earnest wish is to see the republican element of popular control pushed to the maximum of its practicable exercise. I shall then believe that our government may be pure and perpetual.'

One year later, in a letter to Mr F. von Humboldt, President Jefferson wrote:

'The first principle of republicanism is that lex majoris partis is the fundamental law of every society of individuals of equal rights; to consider the will of the society enounced by the majority of a single vote as sacred as if unanimous is the first of all lessons in importance, yet the last which is thoroughly learnt. This law once disregarded, no other remains but that of force, which ends necessarily in military despotism.'

Then, 3 years later, in 1820, in another letter, this time to Mr W. Jarvis, he wrote:

'I know no safe depository of the ultimate powers of the society but the people themselves; and if we think them not enlightened enough to exercise their control with a wholesome discretion, the remedy is not to take it from them, by to inform their discretion by education ...'.

President Jefferson was way ahead of his time, without question, and his wisdom has been quoted so often that there exists, in many universities in the US, endowed chairs, which are devoted to the study of this American genius.

Comrade Chairman Mao Ze Dong would have applauded President Jefferson and his thinking, if they had ever met, because the late Comrade Chairman took more than one leaf out of President Jefferson's books on how to rule a republic.

It was the Comrade Chairman's belief that the people of the People's Republic (of China) should receive a comprehensive political education in order to equip themselves to rule themselves ... with the assistance of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, of course.

Those people, who wish to discard a democratic government and who seek a form of government, based on the concept of individualism and the rights of each individual in opposition to the majority, fail to realise that what they propose could only be instituted by a dictator, because the only alternative to democracy, that is a government by the people, is dictatorship.

The principles, upon which the People's Republic of China was formed, were that it would, always, be a country in which a democratic constitution would be the '*bible*', and in which the people of that republic would rule with the assistance of a more enlightened oligarchy.

Patriotism in democratic the People's Republic of China, therefore, must mean to fight against dictatorship, in all its forms, but, at the same time, damning the concept of individualism and the rights of the individual in opposition to the majority.

Since the National People's Congress is a duly elected body of the people of the largest republic in existence, today, not to support the determinations of the National People's Congress, or any member of it, be he in the PRC or in the HKSAR, is to be unpatriotic to the cause of the republic.

Legislative Councillor Margaret Ng, in order to be put back into the good books of Chief Executive Tung Chee Hwa, the HKSAR, the National People's Congress, and all the members, thereof, must renounce her opposition to having the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress overturn decisions of the HKSAR Court of Final Appeal.

For, it is held that, when the National People's Congress overturns a decision of an HKSAR Court, it is only for the good of all, not a group's good, or the individual's good.

In addition, Legislative Councillor Margaret Ng must stop criticising members of the Government of the HKSAR, even when the Chief Executive puts them in power in order to monitor the progress of democratisation.

This is patriotism of the best kind in the Hongkong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China.

So ends the sermon, according to the Teacher.

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