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香港的历史与发展

The History and Development of Hong kong

文化萎折

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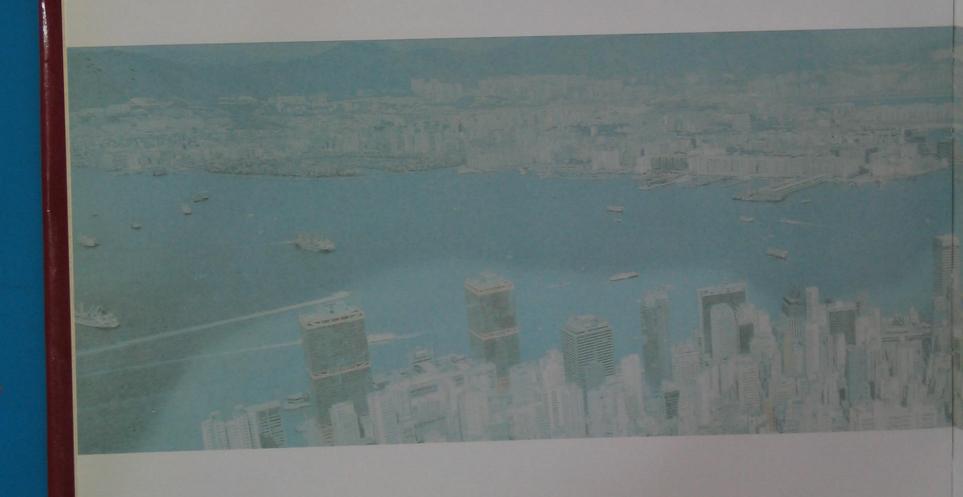
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前 言



为了迎接 1997 年 7 月 1 日我国对香港恢复行使主权这一历史性时刻的来临,使广大读者对香港的历史与发展有更多的了解,我们特出版《香港的历史与发展》大型画册。

香港地区自古以来就是中国的领土。英国人侵占之前,当地的社会经济与文化教育已有一定程度的发展。从 19 世纪 40 年代开始,在两次鸦片战争和列强瓜分中国的背景下,英国通过中英〈南京条约〉、中英〈北京条约〉和〈展拓香港界址专条〉三个不平等条约,强行割占香港岛、九龙,租借"新界",从而侵占了整个香港地区。

中国人民从来不承认三个不平等条约,一直希望收回香港。 但是只有在中国共产党领导之下,中国取得国家真正独立并强大 起来以后,这一宿愿才得以变为现实。

1979年,邓小平提出的"一国两制"的方针,为解决香港问题奠定了基础。1984年12月19日,中、英两国政府在平等互利的基础上,经过友好协商,签署了关于香港问题的《中英联合声明》。声明确定中华人民共和国将于1997年7月1日恢复对香港地区行使主权,圆满地解决了中、英两国之间历史上遗留下来的问题。这是新中国外交工作的重大成就,也是中英关系史上光辉的一页。

1990年4月4日,在广泛征求香港社会各阶层和有关专家意见的基础上,第七届全国人民代表大会第三次会议通过并颁布了《中华人民共和国香港特别行政区基本法》。"一国"与"两制"的紧密结合,维护国家主权、领土完整与授权香港特别行政区实行高度自治的紧密结合,是这部基本法的主要特征。基本法为香港未来的稳定与繁荣提供了可靠的法律保障。

第二次世界大战后的几十年间,香港经济高速发展,成为世界瞩目的"亚洲四小龙"之一。香港经济发展取得巨大成就,是多方面的因素造成的,香港华人的聪明才智和奋斗精神是十分重要的因素。早在19世纪70至80年代,华商在香港的经济生活中已占有相当重要的地位。20世纪60年代中期以后,香港华资迅速崛起,对香港经济的发展起着举足轻重的作用。中国内地多

方面的支持与互利合作,也是十分重要的因素。

香港地区自古以来便与祖国内地有着紧密的联系。英国侵占香港地区以后,两地同胞在许多方面仍然保持着密切的联系。这在辛亥革命、省港大罢工和抗日战争等历史阶段,以及内地实行改革开放政策以后,表现得尤为明显。

展望未来,祖国的前景是美好的,香港的前景同样是美好的。让我们翘首以待,迎接摆脱了殖民统治的香港特别行政区的诞生!

Preface

We are publishing this large-format art book *The History* and *Development of Hong Kong* to greet July 1, 1997, the historic moment when China will resume the exercise of its sovereignty over Hong Kong, and to help readers to acquire a better understanding of the history and development of Hong Kong.

Since ancient times Hong Kong has been part of China's territory. Before the British invasion, local society, economy, culture and education in Hong Kong had already attained a certain degree of development. But in the 1840s, taking advantage of the two Opium Wars and the attempt to partition China by the other foreign powers, Britain compelled China to cede Hong Kong Island and Kowloon, forcibly leased the "New Territories" and thus invaded and occupied the entire area of Hong Kong by means of the three unequal treaties: the Treaty of Nanking, Convention of Peking and Convention for the Extension of Hong Kong Territory.

Throughout the whole period since then the Chinese people and Chinese government have always wanted to recover

Hong Kong, but China has been able to bring such a wish to reality only under the leadership of the Communist Party of China, after China won its true independence and became strong.

In 1979 senior Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping put forward the policy of "one country, two systems", laying the groundwork for solving the issue of Hong Kong. On December 19, 1984 the Chinese and British governments, after friendly consultations, signed the Sino-British Joint Declaration on the issue of Hong Kong, on the basis of equality and mutual benefit. The declaration confirmed that the People's Republic of China will resume the exercise of sovereignty over Hong Kong as of July 1, 1997, thus successfully solving the long-standing problem that had been left by history between China and Britain. This was a major achievement of China's diplomacy and wrote a glorious page in the history of relations between China and Britain.

On April 4, 1990 the Third Session of the Seventh National People's Congress adopted and promulgated the Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, on the basis of extensively hearing the opinions of all walks of life in Hong Kong and specialists concerned. The close link between the concept of "one country, two systems" and between the safeguarding of state sovereignty, territorial integrity and allowing a high degree of autonomous rule in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region are the major characteristics of this law. The Basic Law has provided a legal guarantee for Hong Kong's future prosperity and stability.

In the decades since World War II Hong Kong's economy has experienced rapid development, making it one of the "four

small dragons of Asia" and attracting world attention. There were several factors behind the speedy growth of the Hong Kong economy, and the intelligence and hard-working spirit of the Chinese in Hong Kong are two very important factors. As early as in the 1870s and 1880s Chinese businessmen were already occupying an important position in the economic life of Hong Kong. Since the mid-1960s the amount of capital owned by the Chinese in Hong Kong has increased dramatically, playing a decisive role in the economic progress there. The various methods of support accorded by China's mainland and the mutual cooperation between the mainland and Hong Kong are also important reasons for this progress.

Since ancient times Hong Kong has maintained close contacts with the mainland. After Britain occupied Hong Kong compatriots in both areas still maintained close contacts in many aspects, a fact that has been particularly apparent during historical periods such as the Revolution of 1911, the Guangdong-Hong Kong strike and the War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression, as well as the period since China introduced its reform and opening-up program in the late 1970s.

Looking ahead, our country has a bright future, and the prospects for Hong Kong are equally good. Let us be prepared to greet the birth of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region as Hong Kong frees itself from the colonial rule of Britain on July 1 this year.

一、香港问题的由来

香港地区自古以来就是中国领土不可分割的部分,中华儿女世代在这里繁衍生息。香港地区有文字可考的建置始于秦汉,元、明、清三朝政府先后在这里设置过屯门巡检司、官富巡检司和九龙巡检司,建立了完备的政权机构,进行有效的行政管理。

香港处于我国南海前哨,拥有世界少有的天然深水良港,是明清时期的海防要地,英国殖民主义者对其垂涎已久。从 18世纪开始,英国公然践踏中国法律和侵犯中国领海,对中国进行罪恶的鸦片走私活动。1840年,英国借口中国查禁鸦片,发动侵略中国的第一次鸦片战争,并于 1841年占领香港岛,1842年强迫清政府签订中英《南京条约》,予以割占。《南京条约》是中国近代史上第一个不平等条约。从此,中国开始沦为半殖民地半封建社会。1856年至 1860年,英、法对中国发动了第二次鸦片战争。在战争后期,英国强占了九龙半鸟南端,并通过中英《北京条约》,将这片土地强行划人"香港殖民地"。

19世纪末,帝国主义列强掀起瓜分中国的狂潮。1898年,英国胁迫清政府签订《展拓香港界址专条》等条约,强行租借了界限街以北、深圳河以南的大片中国领土及附近235个岛屿(即后来所谓的"新界"),完成了对整个香港地区的占领。通过专条,英国将沙头角海到深圳湾之间最短距离直线以南、九龙割占地界限街以北的广大地区及附近岛屿和大鹏、深圳两湾水域强行租借99年。租借陆地面积达975.1平方公里,约占广东新安县陆地总面积的三分之二。

英国侵占香港地区之后,中国人民进行了多次抗英斗争。中国人民和历届中国政府一直希望收回香港地区,但在中华人民共和国成立之前,由于国力薄弱,这一愿望未能变成现实。

I. The History of the Hong Kong Issue

Since antiquity Hong Kong has been an inseparable part of China's territory and a place where Chinese people have lived from generation to generation. The existence of Hong Kong as an administrative unit of China can be proved by written records dating back to the Qin (221-207 BC) and Han (206 BC-220) dynasties. The governments of the Yuan (1271-1368), Ming (1368-1644) and Qing (1644-1911) dynasties maintained border inspection offices, taxation departments and a special Kowloon inspection department, which conducted effective administration and management of the Hong Kong area.

Located on the southern frontier of China, Hong Kong has one of the best natural deep-water harbors in the world. As a strategic coastal stronghold during the Ming and Qing periods, it was coveted by the British colonialists for a long time. From the 18th century onward, Britain, wantonly ignoring Chinese laws, invaded China's territorial waters and carried out opium smuggling activities. In 1840, outraged at China's efforts to ban opium, Britain launched the First Opium War and invaded Chinese territory, occupying Hong Kong Island in the following year. In 1842 Britain compelled the Qing government to sign the first unequal treaty in China's history, the Treaty of Nanking, which ceded Hong Kong Island to British rule. This marked China's reduction to a semi-colonial and semi-feudal society. From 1856 to 1860 joint British and French forces launched the Second Opium War against China. Toward the end of the war Britain occupied the southern tip of the Kowloon Peninsula by force and, through the Sino-British Convention of Peking, incorporated this piece of land as part of the "Colony of Hong Kong".

At the end of the 19th century the imperialist powers contended to carve up China. In 1898 Britain forced the Qing government to sign the Convention for the Extension of Hong Kong Territory, compelling China to lease a large piece of Chinese territory north of present-day Boundary Street and south of the Shenzhen River, along with 235 islands in the vicinity, later to be known as the "New Territories", completing its occupation of the entire Hong Kong area. Through this convention Britain forced China to lease the area south of the shortest straight line between Sha Tau Kok Hoi and Shenzhen Bay and north of Boundary Street in Kowloon, the neighboring islands and the waters off Dapeng and Shenzhen bays for a period of 99 years. The total land area leased was 975.1 sq km, or two-thirds of the size of Xin'an County in Guangdong Province.

After the British occupied Hong Kong the Chinese people waged many struggles against this aggression. The Chinese people and Chinese governments of different periods always wanted to recover Hong Kong. Before the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949, however, this hope could not be realized, as China was weak and poor.