

香
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董建華



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香港



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HONG KONG

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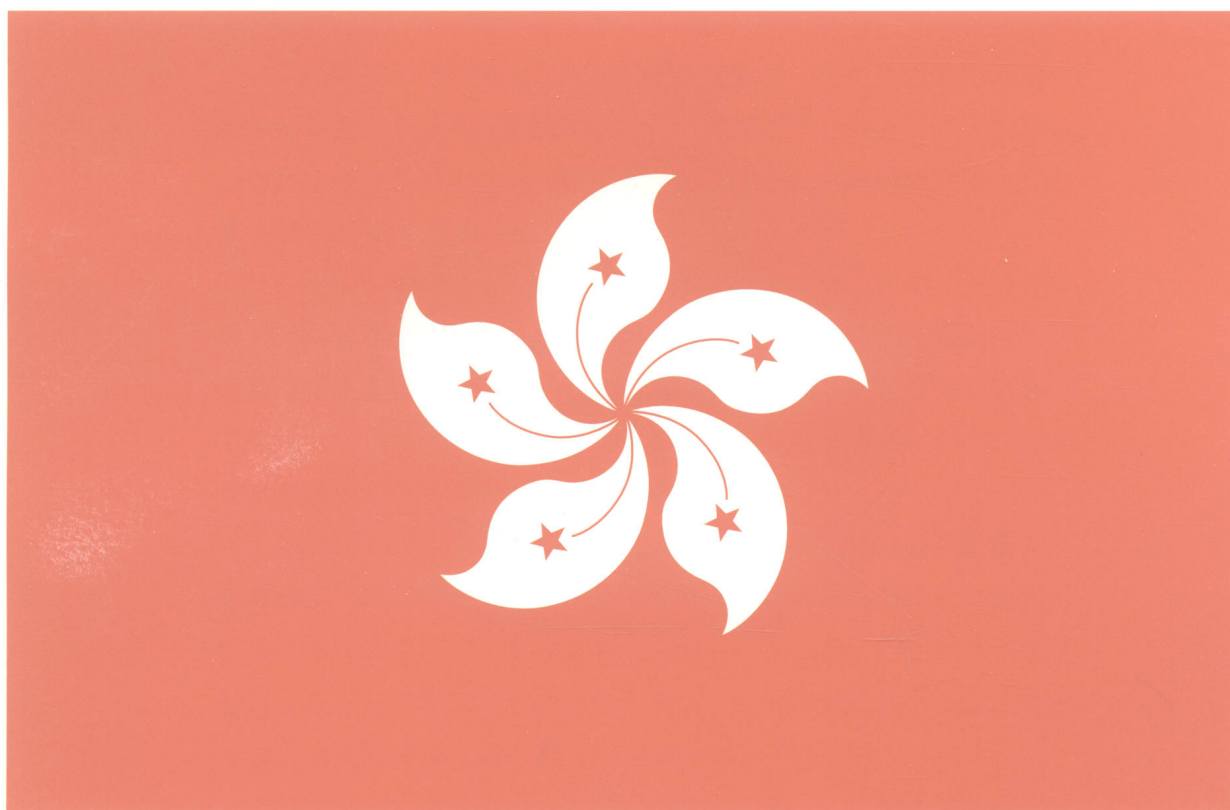
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前言

156年前，英国对中国发动了鸦片战争，强迫战败的清政府割让香港岛，西方列强瓜分中国领土由此发端。随后，英国又强占了九龙半岛南部，并强租九龙半岛北部至深圳河的大片土地和200多个岛屿，称为“新界”。一个半世纪以来，中国人民从来未曾忘记这一历史耻辱。统一祖国，包括收回香港是全民族矢志不渝的神圣使命。

新中国成立后，中国政府宣布：香港是中国的领土，不承认英国强加的三个不平等条约，主张在适当的时机通过谈判和平解决这一历史遗留问题。

70年代末，中国进入以经济建设为中心、改革开放的新时期。香港经济得益于内地广大腹地的开放，如虎添翼，高速发展。就在这个时候，邓小平同志以“一国两制”解决祖国统一问题的构想业已形成，解决香港问题的时机终于到来。

中英两国政府关于香港问题的谈判自1982年9月开始，历时两年多。至1984年12月19日，签订了《中华人民共和国政府和大不列颠及北爱尔兰联合王国政府关于香港问题的联合声明》。联合声明确认：中国政府于1997年7月1日对香港恢复行使主权，英国政府将在同日把香港交还中国。香港由此进入回归前的过渡期。

1990年4月，未来香港特别行政区的根本大法——基本法诞生。基本法将一国两制的构想具体化，也将中国政府对香港的方针政策用法律的形式固定下来。基本法规定了在“一国两制”的前提下，香港保持资本主义制度与生活方式50年不变，现行的法律基本不变，香港特别行政区政府由当地人组成，享有高度自治权等。

将近13年的过渡期中有友好合作，也遇到过阻挠平稳过渡的波折。然而，回归毕竟是人心所向，大势所趋，历史的潮流不可逆转。由于香港各界爱国爱港人士的协同努力，香港的繁荣稳定得以保持，香港同胞依然安居乐业。

在这世纪之交的伟大时刻，香港回归的钟声即将敲响。编辑、出版这本影集，纪念中华民族雪百年之耻，祝贺香港有更美好的明天，这是一件有意义的事情。回顾历史，展望未来，我们可以满怀信心地预言：依靠祖国的繁荣发展，依靠六百万香港同胞的勤劳智慧，21世纪的香港必将有更加辉煌的未来。

錢其琛

1997.4

Foreword

A hundred and fifty-six years ago, Britain started the Opium War against China and forced the defeated Qing court to cede Hong Kong Island to it, thus initiating the drive of the Western Powers to partition Chinese territory. Later, it seized the southern part of the Kowloon Peninsula and compelled China to lease to it large tracts of land in the northern part of that peninsula up to the Shenzhen River as well as more than 200 islands, calling the area the "New Territories". In the one and a half centuries since then, the Chinese people have never forgotten this historical humiliation. It has become a sacred mission of the Chinese nation to reunify the motherland, including the recovery of Hong Kong, a mission they have vowed to fulfill.

After the founding of the People's Republic of China, the Chinese government declared that Hong Kong is part of the territory of China, that it does not recognize the three unequal treaties imposed by Britain on the country, and that it stands for a peaceful settlement of this question left over from the past through negotiations at an appropriate time.

At the end of the 1970s, China entered a new period, a period characterized by an emphasis on economic construction as the centre of all work and by a policy of reform and opening to the outside world. Benefited from the opening of the vast inland areas, the Hong Kong economy grew rapidly with added vitality. By that time, the idea of "one country, two systems" conceived by Comrade Deng Xiaoping as a principle for the reunification of the motherland had already taken shape, and the time was finally ripe for a settlement of the question of Hong Kong.

The negotiations on Hong Kong between the Chinese and British governments began in September, 1982 and continued for more than two years. On December 19, 1984, the two governments signed the Joint Declaration of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the People's Republic of China on the Question of Hong Kong, which affirms that the Chinese government would resume sovereignty

over Hong Kong with effect from July 1, 1997 and that the British government would restore Hong Kong to China on the same day. This marked the inception of the transitional period preceding the return of Hong Kong to the embrace of the motherland.

The Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region was adopted in April, 1990 as the fundamental law governing the future special administrative region. It has embodied the "one country, two systems" concept and spelt out the policies of the Chinese government regarding Hong Kong in the form of law. It stipulated that, in accordance with the "one country, two systems" concept, the previous capitalist system and way of life of Hong Kong will remain unchanged for 50 years, that the laws currently in force in Hong Kong will remain basically unchanged, that the government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region will be composed of local inhabitants, and that the region will enjoy a high degree of autonomy.

In the transitional period, which has continued for close to 13 years, there has been friendly cooperation as well as twists and turns that tend to impede a smooth transition. But, after all, the return of Hong Kong accords with the feelings of the people and the general course of events ; the trend of history is irreversible. Thanks to the concerted endeavors of the people of all circles in Hong Kong who cherish both the motherland and the place where they live, Hong Kong has been able to preserve its prosperity and stability and the people there have continued to live and work in peace and contentment.

Soon the bell will toll the return of Hong Kong to mark a great moment at the turn of the century. The compilation and publication of this album of photographs to celebrate the success of the Chinese nation in wiping out a century-old humiliation and to wish Hong Kong a brighter future is an event of great significance. Looking back on the past and forward to the future, we may predict with perfect confidence that, relying on the prosperous development of the motherland and the industry and ingenuity of the six million local compatriots, Hong Kong is bound to have an even more splendid future in the 21st century.

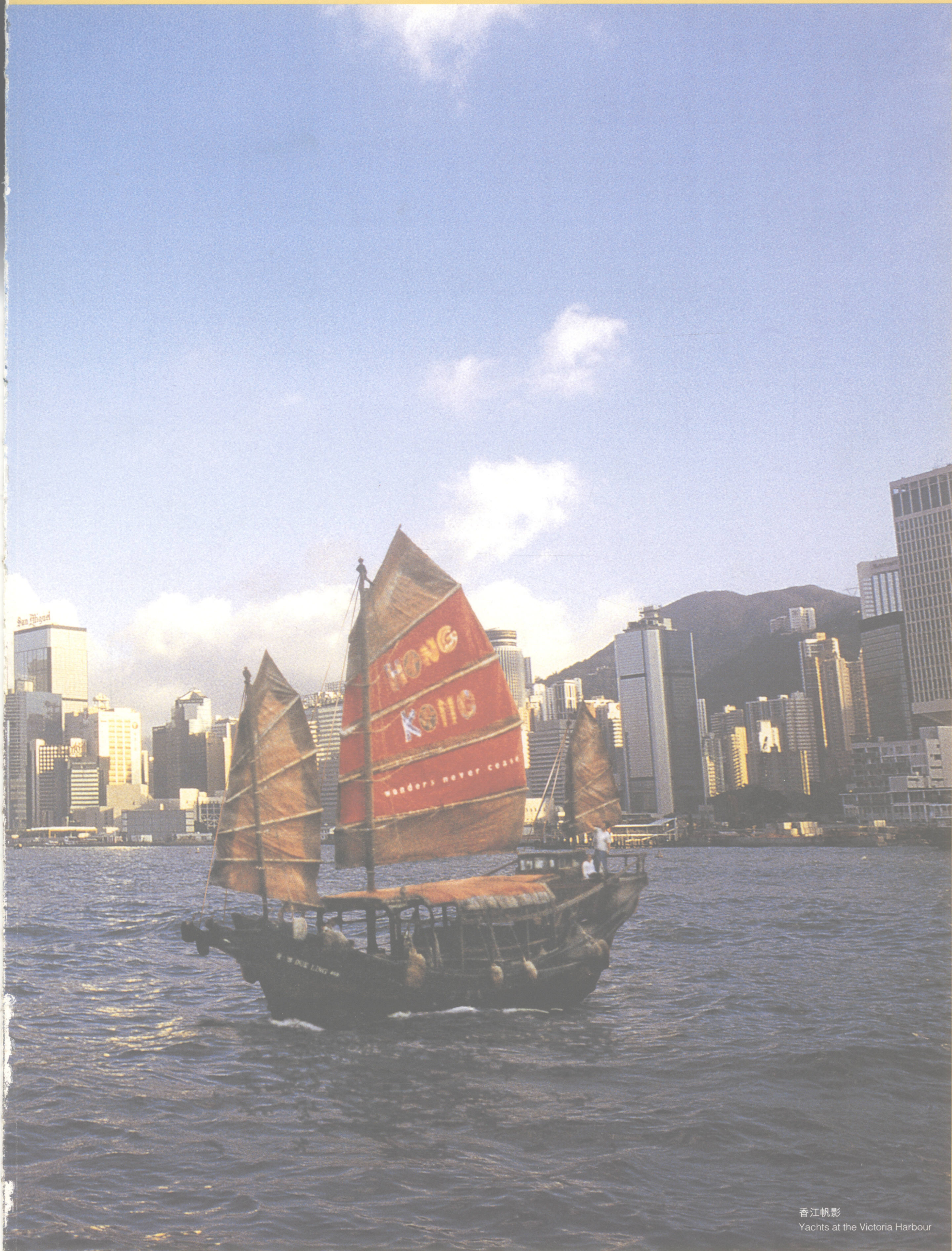
Qian Qi Chen

1997.4



邓小平和撒切尔夫人在《中英联合声明》签字仪式大厅向观礼的香港各界人士致意
Mr Deng Xiaoping and Mrs Margaret Thatcher greeted the public figures of various circles from Hong Kong at the signing ceremony for the Sino-British Joint Declaration on the Question of Hong Kong.





香江帆影
Yachts at the Victoria Harbour

晨光
Morning Light





香港会议展览中心扩建部分。1997年6月30日午夜，中英两国政府在此共同举行庄严的香港政权交接仪式。

At midnight of June 30, 1997, Hong Kong's solemn handover ceremony is held at the extension of the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre by the Chinese and British governments.



赤蠟角香港新機場 2040 年構想圖

An impression of Hong Kong's new airport at
Chek Lap Kok in the year 2040.