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從此改變歷史 ◆

HISTORY◆神級資歷·5**狀元之選

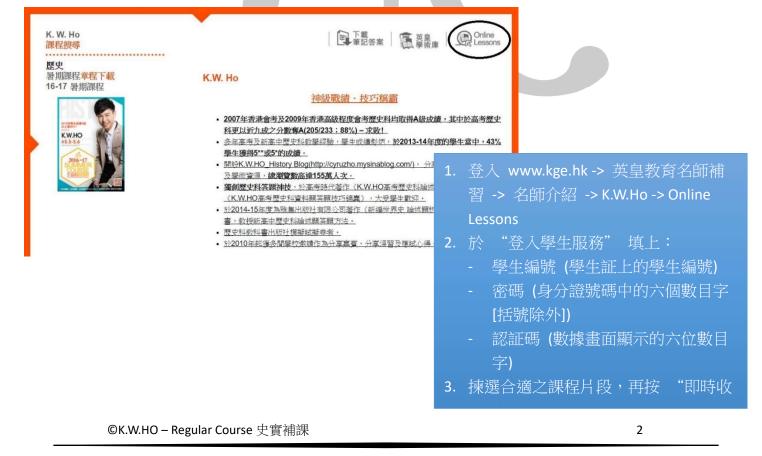
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Background & Development of History

- MAJOR EXAMPLES

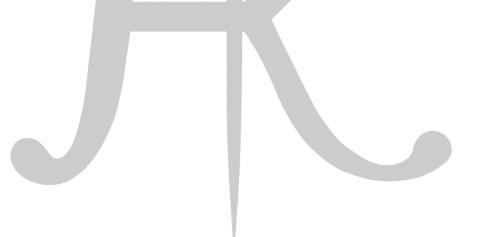
1. Chow Shou-son appointed as the non-official member of the Executive Council (1926)

A. Background and reasons:

In 1919, Chow Shou-son was already appointed as the council member of Sanitary Board (the former Urban Council). He was also appointed as the non-official member of the Legislative Council. He also acted as mediator between the China and Hong Kong during the 1925-1926 Canton-Hong Kong Strike. Due to his achievement in the Strike, he was appointed as the first Chinese non-official member of the Executive Council.

B. <u>Significance:</u>

> This symbolizes that the status of Chinese was improved. Chinese could participate in the operation of both Legislative Council and Executive Council.





2. Establishment of the Heung Yee Kuk (1926)

A. Background and reasons:

In 1923, the government planned to implement a land-requisition policy of farmland in the New Territories. The policy stipulated that residents of the New Territories had to pay land premiums to the government for building housing on agricultural land. This policy aroused strong dissatisfaction from the residents of the New Territories. Residents like Yang Guorui, Li Zhongzhuang and Tang Weiji established the "Agricultural and Commercial Research Association" in the same year to negotiate with the government. At last, under the fierce protest from the residents in New Territories, Governor Clementi reluctantly gave up this policy.

In 1924-25, the Agri-Commerce Business Research Association was set up as an platform for the New Territories residents to express their opinion. However, as its name was similar to the name of some Pro-Communist organizations at that time. Therefore, Governor Clementi proposed to rename the organization as "The Heung Yee Kuk" and was formally established in 1926.

- Heung Yee Kuk was a platform for the local inhabitants to express their opinion. It gives advice to the governor on New Territories affairs and facilitate communication between the local inhabitants and the government.
- In 1959, the Heung Yee Kuk became the official advisory organization of the government.



3. Ottawa Agreement (1932)

A. Background and reasons:

The export trade of Britain dropped more than half after the Great Depression in 1929. At that time, a policy of trade protection by raising tariffs in order to protect domestic industries was adopted. However, to maintain relationships with the British Commonwealth countries that have close ties with the United Kingdom and to facilitate trade relations between the two sides, the British and its dominion and colonies signed the Ottawa Agreement in Canada in 1932. This established an imperial preferential system of the nature of the Customs Union.

B. Content:

- There was tax discount between the United Kingdom and its dominion and colonies. For example, 80% of the goods exported to the United Kingdom were tax-free while the other 20% were only charged for a low tax rate for 10% tax.
- Dominions and colonies also provided tax benefits to the British goods. At the same time, they charged higher tax rate towards countries other than the United Kingdom.

C. <u>Significance:</u>

- Hong Kong could enjoy low tax rate when exporting its products to the United Kingdom and other Commonwealth countries. This facilitated the industrial development of Hong Kong.
- The Agreement enhanced the trading between Hong Kong and the other Commonwealth nations. This benefited other cultures entering into Hong Kong through trading.

4. Setting up of the Urban Council (1936)

A. Background and reasons:

The Sanitary Board that established in 1883 was the former Urban Council. It was responsible for sanitary services like street cleansing. In 1936, it was renamed as Urban Council and the responsibility of it also extended. It included food safety, restaurant management and entertainment. Other than that, election was introduced which became the first government organization with voting.

B. Significance:

It was the first time for the Government to introduce elective element. There were two seats for election before the Second World War. In 1946, Ngan Shing-kwan was the first Chinese member in the Urban Council.

5. Fall of Hong Kong (1941)

A. Background and reasons:

Within 8 hours of Japan secretly attacked the Pearl Harbour at Hong Kong time 2 am of 12th August 1941, the Japanese force invaded Hong Kong immediately. Under the fierce attack of the Japanese force, Sir Mark Young surrendered on the 25th December.

B. <u>Significance:</u>

- After the fall of Hong Kong, all the government departments were handed over to Japanese army. More details can be referred to the notes of regular course.
- Hong Kong was under Japanese occupation for "3 years and 8 months" since Sir Mark Young surrendered on the 25th December 1941 to Japan announced surrender without any conditions on 15th August 1945.

6. Young Plan (1946)

A. Background and reasons:

The power of Britain greatly declined after the Second World War. To gain back the support from the colonies, Britain promised to strengthen the autonomy of the colonies before the end of the War. After the War, the Governor Sir Mark Young was asked to undergo reform in Hong Kong in order to gain support from the public. As a result, Sir Mark Young announced the reform plan in 1946.

B. Content:

- The aim of Young Plan is to "give more responsibility to Hong Kong citizens to handle their own issues".
- > It proposed to establish a Council that 2/3 seats are elected by citizens.
- It increased the seats of the non-official members in the Legislative Council that made them the majority in the Council.

C. Significance:

- The purpose of the Young Plan is to promote democratization and localization in Hong Kong to enhanced the sense of belonging towards the British administration.
- However, due to the end of service of Sir Mark Young and the establishment of Communist China, the plan was failed.



7. Paul Tsui Ka-cheung as the first Chinese administrative officer (1948)A. Background and reasons:

After the Second World War, the Government started to hire Chinese as administrative officer to take part in the policy making process to gain support from Chinese and minimise the impact of decolonisation. In 1948, Paul Tsui Ka-cheung became the first Chinese administrative officer in Hong Kong. Then, he became the Commissioner for Labour and the official member of the Executive and Legislative Councils.

B. Significance:

- > This reflects the increasing Chinese political participation.
- More and more Chinese became administrative officers. For instance, Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor (1980), John Tsang Chun-wah (1982), Michael Wong Wai-lun (1985) and Raymond Tam Chi-yuen (1987).

8. Embargo imposed by the United Nations on China due to its participation in Korean War (1951)

A. Background and reasons:

The North Korea took advantage right after the outbreak of Korean War in the 1950s. However, there was drastic change after the United States took part in the Korean War through the United Nations. At last, China dispatched army in October to fight against the US, South Korea and the United States. In 1951, the United Nations decided to impose embargo on China and North Korea.

B. Significance:

The imposition of embargo by United Nations on China made Hong Kong inevitably followed the instructions to ban import from China. This resulted in hardship to Hong Kong which relied on entrepot as major economic activities. The entrepot value dropped to 1/4 of the amount before the embargo. This forced Hong Kong to transform to industrial development.

9. 1967 Riots (1967)

A. Background and reasons:

Under the influence of the outbreak of the Cultural Revolution in China in 1966, the leftists in Hong Kong responded to the call to launch a proletarian revolution in the hope of affect the British capitalist administration. In due course, there was a labour dispute occurred in a plastic flower factory in San Po Kong in April 1967. Workers were dissatisfied with the factory regulations and the factory dismissed as many as 92 workers after negotiations. There were even physical conflicts between the factory and its workers. The police failed to handle the situation and eventually there is a need to mobilize riot police to suppress the workers. In the incident, several workers were injured and were charged by the police.

The police's actions were strongly criticized by the leftists, complaining that the police persecuted patriotic compatriots and urged the public to start a strike. The incident became more and more serious. The police suppressed and arrested the protesters. Some demonstrators fought back with incendiary bombs, drowning water and home-made bombs, this forced the Government to impose a curfew in July.

In September 1967, the development of the Cultural Revolution exceeded the scope of the CCP's control. The Communists sent out the People's Liberation Army to maintain order. In December, Zhou Enlai requested the Hong Kong left to stop the bombings. Eventually, the 1967 Riots lasted for 8 months.

B. Significance:

The incident was a great blow to British government's colonial governance of Hong Kong. Afterwards, the British government launched a large-scale reform to appease the citizens, it included aspects like policies, housing, education, and social welfare. It was a turning point for British government governance in Hong Kong.

10.City District Officer Scheme (1968)

A. Background and reasons:

The government thought that the lack of communication with citizens was the cause for the 1967 Riots. The resulted in dissatisfaction of the citizens. Hence, after the Riots, the government introduced the city district officer scheme in 1968.

B. <u>Content:</u>

Divide Hong Kong and Kowloon into 10 districts and set up Secretariat for Chinese Affairs to collect opinion from citizens.

C. Significance:

- The scheme was the start for the British Government to collect the opinion from the residents of Hong Kong and Kowloon.
- In 1969, the Department was reformed as Secretariat for Home Affairs. It was responsible for the district administration. Afterwards, the City and New Territories Administration was formed in 1981 to handle the district offices.

11. Public Assistance Scheme (1971)

A. <u>Background and reasons:</u>

The British Government actively improve the living environment of the lower class after the 1967 Riots. It proposed the Public Assistance Scheme in 1971 in order to provide social safety net for those who failed to provide sufficient living for themselves.

B. <u>Content:</u>

- The Plan aims to provide the meal cost for the needy after paying for expenses like rent, school fee and transportation fee.
- Until 1972, the assistance included other necessary family expenses, such as electricity fee, necessities clothing, transportation, services and durable goods.

- It was a milestone for the Hong Kong social security system, this fulfilled the basic living expenses of the needy and their personal needs.
- It was reformed as the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Scheme to provide a more comprehensive social security net.

12.Six-year Compulsory Education (1971)

A. Background and reasons:

During the period of Trench, the British Government had suggested in the 1965 Education Policy that 80% of the children could study in government-funded primary school starting from the 1970-1971. Since 1971, Hong Kong officially introduced 6-year compulsory education and stipulated that there would be penalties over parents that refused to let their children go to school.

B. <u>Significance:</u>

- It was the start of Hong Kong's voluntary education. After MacLehoese succeeded as the Governor, he further promoted 9 years of voluntary education in 1978. This extended compulsory education to 6 years of elementary school and 3 years of middle school.
- Voluntary education can enhance the education level of Hong Kong people. This provides high quality labour for Hong Kong's economy which facilitated the development of industries like financial and tourism.





13.Ten-Year Housing Plan (1972)

A. Background and reasons:

With the post-war baby boom and the influx of Chinese refugees, Hong Kong's population increased dramatically and the housing problem became more and more serious with squatters and huts everywhere. However, the living environment in squatters and huts was poor and fire happened frequently. In 1953, the fire in Shek Kip Mei caused 50,000 residents lost their home. In order to improve the living environment of the lower class, the government launched the "Government Low Cost Housing Scheme " in 1961 to provide low-cost rental housing with better living environment to the public. However, the scale of the "Government Low Cost Housing Scheme " was relatively small. By 1965, only less than 60,000 people could live in low-rent housing.

After the 1967 Riots, the government thought that the poor living environment was a cause of dissatisfaction and the government implemented various housing policies. Thus, in 1972, the government proposed the "Ten-Year Housing Plan."

B. <u>Content:</u>

The aim of the Plan was to provide well-equipped public housing for 1.8 million citizens in 1973-82.

- It was a new page for the housing policy. The government then continued to introduce different housing policies in response to the needs of different classes. For example, the "Home Ownership Scheme" was introduced in 1976 to help lowand middle-income families to own their properties.
- By 1981, as many as 2 million people had been living in public housing estates under the Housing Authority.
- By 1982, as the target had not been reached, the government announced that it would extend the "ten-year housing construction plan" for five years to 1987.

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14.Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) (1974)

A. Background and reasons:

The problem of corruption was serious in Hong Kong before the ICAC was established in 1974. It was common to see corruption of police officers. The problem seriously damaged the righteousness of the society and threatened the stability of Hong Kong.

The Anti-corruption Office of the Police Force was established in 1952. However, the internal corruption was too serious in the Police Force. Thus, the effectiveness was low. It was also criticized by the society.

The 1967 Riots were the reflection of the dissatisfaction towards the government. The corruption problem was an important source. After the Riots, Government started to tackle the problem of corruption. The Prevention of Bribery Ordinance was set up in May 1971 to extend the

B. <u>Significance:</u>

The establishment of the Independent Commission Against Corruption had greatly improved the integrity of Hong Kong. Since the first publication of the "International Incorruption Perceptions Index" in 1995, Hong Kong has been the world's 20 most uncorrupted economies.

15.First District Council Election (1982)

A. Background and reasons:

Since the Japanese occupation, the Japanese set up the "3 administrative regions and subdivided further into 28 districts" system. After the 1967 Riots, the British Government divided Hong Kong Island and Kowloon as 10 districts and set up District Office in different districts in order to collect opinion for reform.

In 1980, the British government issued the Green Paper on Local Administrative Patterns to consult the public on local administrative systems. The Government planned to divide Hong Kong into 18 districts, with one District Council in each district. Part of the Council members were elected by the public. The first District Council election was held in 1982, also it provided Hong Kong permanent residents that aged 21 or above and also lived in Hong Kong for 7 years with the right to vote.

- B. <u>Singificance:</u>
- It was a turning point for the district system as it allows local Chinese to participate in local issues by voting.
- There were official seats in the early stage of District Council. However, all of them were abolished in 1985. In 1994, all of the appointed seats were also abolished with the age requirement for voters reduced from 21 years old to 18 years old.



16.Signing of the Sino-British Joint Declaration (1984)

A. <u>Background and reasons:</u>

After the defeat in the Opium War in 1839-42, China signed the Nanjing Treaty which ceded Hong Kong Island to the Britain. Afterwards, China lost in the Second Opium War(1856-60) and handed over the Kowloon Peninsula to Britain under the Beijing Treaty. By 1898, the Manchu government signed the Second Convention of Beking with Britain to lease the New Territories to Britain for a period of 99 years. The deadline of the lease was due at 1997 and many colonies were liberated after the Second World War. Therefore, starting in the 1980s, China began to negotiate with the Britain on the future of Hong Kong and eventually signed the Sino-British Joint Declaration on December 19, 1984.

B. Content:



- Britain would return the sovereignty of Hong Kong to China on 1st January 1997.
- It established the principle of "One Country Two Systems", it is stated that there will be two systems in one country. The socialist system will not be practiced in Hong Kong and the original capitalist system and lifestyle will remain in Hong Kong. It is promised that this will remain unchanged for 50 years.
- Deng Xiaoping mentioned the concept of "Hong Kong people ruling Hong Kong" which local Chinese will be responsible for the local issues.

- Hong Kong would return to China on 1st July 1997 and became the special administration region of China.
- Britain feared that Hong Kong would be under China's harsh administration after the return, this resulted in the introduction of election in the Legislation Council in 1985 to strength the elective element of Hong Kong.
- The principle of "Hong Kong people ruling Hong Kong" made the British government started to appoint Chinese as the senior government officials in order to train for the future leaders.

17. The June Fourth Incident (1989)

A. Background and reasons:

On April 15 1989, Hu Yaobang, the former General Secretary of the Communist Party of China, died. A large number of Beijing university students and citizens held a memorial service in Tiananmen Square. However, under the lead of some univeristy students, this became a movement that urged the government to solve social problems such as corruption, unemployment and inflation.

During the early stage of the movement, Zhao Ziyang, then General Secretary of the Communist Party of China, hoped to resolve the movement through peaceful negotiations. However, with some students launching hunger strike in early May, the democratic movement was spread to the other part of the country. At that time, some hardliners such as Deng Xiaoping and Li Peng decided to solve the problem by force. On the 20th May, Li Peng announced the imposition of martial law and mobilized 300,000 People's Liberation Army to Beijing. On June 4, the People's Liberation Army ended the movement by force, resulting in a large number of casualties. It was known as the "June Fourth Incident".

B. Significance:

- This further reinforce the fear of Britain that Hong Kong would be under China's harsh administration after the return, this resulted in the introduction of election in the Legislation Council in 1985 to strength the elective element of Hong Kong.
- The incident made a lot of Hong Kong citizens start worrying over China's intense administration, this resulted in an inclination towards Pro-Democracy Camp in the 1991 Legislative Council election. In 18 elected Council members, 14 of them were from the Pro-Democracy Camp.

18. Political Reform by Chris Patten (1992)

A. Background and reasons:

After the signing of Sino-British Joint Declaration, the British Government had speeded up the reform of the representativeness in the Legislative Council. After the June 4th Movement in 1989, the British Government feared that China would rule Hong Kong in extreme way. In 1992, Chris Patten from the Conservative Party became the Governor of Hong Kong and declared the reform of Legislative Council and District Council.

B. Content:

- In 1993, the Chairperson of Legislative Council was elected by the Council members rather than the Governor serving as the Chairperson.
- > In 1995, all 60 seats of the Legislative Council were generated by election.
- In 1994, the District Council abolished all appointed seats and lowered the age requirement for the voters from 21 to 18 years old.

C. <u>Significance</u>:

- China was dissatisfied over Chris Patten's proposal and claimed that the proposal contravened the Sino-British Joint Declaration and the Basic Law. Lu Ping even condemned Chris Patten as a "Sinner of a Thousand Years" when he was the director of Hong Kong affairs office at that time.
- As China was dissatisfied over all 60 seats in the 1995 Legislative Council were elected, it formed the "Provisional Legislative Council" in 1996 to replace all the elected members and forced them to "take off the train".

19.Provisional Legislative Council (1996)

A. Background and reasons:

The CCP was dissatisfied with the political reform plan put forward by Chris Patten in 1992 as it believed that the reform was conducted without the consent of China. Therefore, the results of the Legislative Council election in 1995 was not. In the Provisional Legislative Council, 400 members of the selection committee, which consists mainly members from the business side, elected temporary members for the Council.

B. <u>Content:</u>

- Within the 60 seats, nearly all of them were from the Pro-Establishment camp. There were only 4 seats for the Pro-democracy camp.
- The Provisional Legislative Council was an illegal organization before the 1997 reunification. Thus, they need to have meetings in Shenzhen.

- The Provisional Legislative Council shows that China forced to affect the politics in Hong Kong. It replaced the Legislative Council that elected in 1995 by the Provisional Legislative Council after the 1997 reunification.
- The Provisional Legislative Council strengthened the strict ruling of China over Hong Kong. For instance, it established the "Legislative Council Regulations" to amend the functional constituency. This made the Pro-Establishment camp controlled the Legislative Council.



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20. Functional Constituencies in the Legislative Council

A. Background and reasons:

The concept of functional constituencies in Hong Kong was first developed in the release of "Green Paper: A Pattern of District Administration in Hong Kong" in 1984. It pointed out that of the Legislative Council election in 1985, 12 of the 24 electoral seats were selected by functional constituencies. In the Legislative Council election in 1995, Christopher Patten suggested adding nine functional constituencies that were almost universally elected. Finally, as many as 2.7 million voters were eligible for the functional constituency in 1995. The actual number of registered voters was 1.15 million.

However, the CCP was dissatisfied with the reform of the Legislative Council. After the return of sovereignty of Hong Kong in 1997, the Chinese government replaced the Legislative Council at 1995 with the Provisional Legislative Council. On 27 September of the same year, the Provisional Legislative Council even passed the "Legislative Council Regulations", this amended the seats of the functional constituency and the electorate base. It resulted a reduction in the number of electorate bases to less than 200,000 people, with most of them were organization votes related to the Pro-Establishment Party.

B. Significance

- The reform by Christopher Patten aimed to promote political democraztion through increasing the elective element in the Legislative Council through functional constituency.
- However, after the reunification in 1997, the CCP took advantage of the Provisional Legislative Council to pass the "Legislative Council Regulations" that benefits the Pro-Establishment Camp. No proposals could be passed without the approval of China as they will all be banned in the voting in groups. This can ensure that Hong Kong is under the control of China.

C. <u>Notes:</u>

- Before the reunification in 1997, all legislative motions of the Legislative Council required the agreement of more than half of the members to be passed.
- However, after the Legislative Council Ordinance was passed in 1997, it stipulated that any motions or amendments proposed must first be passed by a split vote. In other words, the motion can only be passed by gaining agreement from more than half of the members that elected by the direct election and members from functional constituencies respectively.



21. Transfer of sovereignty of Hong Kong (1997)

A. Background and reasons:

China and the United Kingdom had already negotiated on the future of Hong Kong as early as in the early 1980s. The British side proposed exchange of sovereignty for administration and the implementation of a British administration post-handover. However, China refused the proposal and reached the Sino-British Joint Declaration (1984) based on the principles of "one country, two systems" "a high degree of autonomy" and "Hong Kong people ruling Hong Kong". This confirmed that Hong Kong would return to China in 1997.

B. <u>Significance:</u>

Before the transfer of sovereignty of Hong Kong to China, the Preparatory Committee appointed by the Chinese National People's Congress appointed 400 committee to select the candidate for the Chief Executive and the Provisional Legislative Council. Although Hong Kong's chief executive was elected after the transfer of sovereignty, there was limited elective element.

