



## 南巡重溫小平路 蓮花山下展新風

習近平總書記已於昨日結束南巡返京。總書記五日粵省之行，不僅在民衆中留下了隨和親切的好印象，更令人看到了國家進一步改革開放的美好前景。

二十年前，鄧小平二次南巡，視察深圳、珠海兩個經濟特區，肯定了改革開放之路方向正確、決不動搖；今天，習近平在成為總書記之後，也選擇了以廣東作為首個出訪目的地，這裡面，繼承前賢之意固已溢於言表，更重要的，還在於通過「重上小平路」向全國以至全世界莊嚴宣告：未來中國不僅會沿着鄧小平開創的改革開放道路堅定不移地繼續走下去，而且將會走得更堅強、更有力、更有自信，也一定會取得比過去二十年更動人、更輝煌的成績。

事實是，一個二十年前從深圳蓮花山腳下開始的中國改革開放浪潮，已經波瀾壯闊、勢如破竹，改變了神州、改變了世界。今天，中國又到了一個如同當年改革開放是否走下去的重大轉折關頭：中國已經躍居世界第二大經濟體，中國的殲十五戰機已經成功降落在中國的首艘航空母艦「遼寧艦」甲板上，但伴隨二十年經濟大發展而來的是各種社會衝突和矛盾：財富分配不均、特權貪腐橫行，還有錯綜複雜的國際環境，這一切，都使得二十年前鄧公開創的改革開放之路如何繼續走下去成了一個擺在全國人民面前的嚴峻課題。

而就在這一重要時刻，習近平來到了蓮花山，來到了鄧公的銅像面前，發出了改革開放一定要堅定不移走下去，而且要取得新進展、實現新突破、邁上新台階的新時代最強音。

習近平還明確指出，改革開放永無止境，停頓和倒退沒有出路；我們要堅持改革開放的正確方向，敢於涉險灘、啃硬骨頭，既要勇於衝破思想觀念的障礙、又要勇於打破利益固化的藩籬，聚合各項協調推進改革開放的正能量。

當然，歷史不會回頭，今天把習近平的講話和當年鄧公提出的堅持以經濟建設為中心、以四項基本原則和改革開放為兩個基本點的理論再作比較並不適宜，但是，中國需要前進，改革開放需要又一位能夠打破思想框框、敢於開拓有為的帶頭人，則是同樣迫切的事實。那麼，二十年前蓮花山下有小平，今天，蓮花山下有「近平」，中國的改革開放大業又有了新的「設計師」和掌舵人。

所謂「百聞不如一見」，今次習近平的南巡，以身作則，率先打破了過去領導人出行事前呼後擁的慣例。這一改，不僅是作風隨和那麼簡單，而是用行動揭示了人民才是國家主人、當權者不能高高在上的實質。一個打開小巴車窗向群眾揮手的鏡頭，將可以和當年鄧公在中山溫泉山上笑稱「不走回頭路」的歷史定格相比美。

見微知著、由表及裡，習近平講話不多、「官話」更少，但行動起來則大有令出如山、雷厲風行之勢，其講話一再強調了「速度」兩個字，國際經濟環境必須搶佔先機，中國經濟結構調整更要刻不容緩，而上任以來整治貪腐的力度也被傳媒形容為「提速」。

可以想見，習近平此次南巡之行表明的繼承鄧公之志和不搞特權之風，以及「空談誤國、實幹興邦」，向歷史、向人民負責的號召，未來一定會在團結全國人民、推動改革開放的偉大事業中發揮重要作用。

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## Xi renews Deng's path with tour of South

General Secretary Xi Jinping yesterday *wrapped up* his inspection visit to the South and returned to Beijing. With his five-day tour of Guangdong province, the General Secretary has not only left the impression of being easygoing and people-friendly, but also let people see the magnificent future of the country's further reform and opening up.

Twenty years ago, Deng Xiaoping made his second inspection tour of the South, visiting the two Special Economic Zones of Shenzhen and Zhuhai to reaffirm that the path of reform and opening up was correct and should always be adhered to. Today, Xi Jinping also chose Guangdong as the first place to visit after he became the General Secretary. With the move of "following Deng's path", he not only showed his determination to carry out Deng's behest, but more importantly solemnly proclaimed to the whole nation and world: in future China would not only continue firmly marching forward along the path of reform and opening up pioneered by Deng but would also march forward with greater strength and confidence to accomplish more amazing and magnificent achievements.

As a matter of fact, the tide of reform and opening up started from the foot of the Lotus Hill in Shenzhen 20 years ago has surged high and swept forward, changing China and the world. Today, as in 20 years ago, China once again arrives at a critical turning point whether to carry on reform and opening up: China has already become the world's second largest economy; China's J-15 jet fighter has successfully landed on the country's first aircraft carrier.

But accompanying great economic development there appear various social conflicts and contradictions: uneven wealth distribution; rampant privileges and corruption; and complicated international environment. With all this, the Chinese people are confronted with a serious problem of how to continue going on along the path of reform and opening up created by Deng.

It was at such an important moment that Xi Jinping came to the Lotus Hill, sending out the strongest voice of the new times before the bronze statue of Deng Xiaoping that China would firmly carry on reform and opening to achieve new advancement and make new breakthrough to upgrade itself.

Xi Jinping also clearly pointed out that reform and opening up *knew no bounds*. To stop or reverse the course would only lead to a blind alley. We should adhere to the correct path of reform and opening up, daring to *wade through* dangerous rapids and to crack *hard nut*. We should have the courage not only to break down ideological shackles but to sweep away interest-solidified obstacles as well, so as to unite all positive energies to coordinate and push forward reform and opening up.

Of course, history never reverses its course. It is not appropriate to compare Xi's speech with the theory, put forward by Deng 20 years ago, of upholding economic development as the central task and the Four Cardinal Principles and reform and opening up as the two basic points. But it is also an urgent reality that China must progress and reform and opening up needs another leader who can break down ideological shackles and dares to *forge ahead*. Hence, at the foot of the Lotus Hill, there was Xiaoping 20 years ago, and there is Jinping today. China's great undertaking of reform and opening up has found its new "architect" and helmsman.

As a saying has it that "seeing is believing", setting himself forth as an example during his inspection tour to the South, Xi Jinping took the lead to abandon the adopted practice of former leaders travelling with a large retinue. Such a change is not as simple as just a change in work style, but an action to show that only the people are the master of the country and rulers must not stand high above them. A snapshot of Xi opening a window of his van to wave at onlookers could match the historical one showing a smiling Deng saying "never to return to the old path" in the Spring Hill in Zhongshan.

A straw shows which way the wind blows. Outward appearance shows inner essence. Xi Jinping did not talk much, even less in official jargon. But he acted vigorously and effectively with every order as firm as a mountain. His speech repeatedly stressed on the word "speed": China should race to seize early opportunities in the international business environment; China's economic restructuring brooked no delay. China's intensified crackdown on corruption since Xi



▲中共總書記習近平在深圳蓮花山公園種下一棵高山榕樹 新華社

took his office has also been described by the media as "being sped up".

With his tour to the South, Xi showed his will to carry out Deng's behest and not to seek and enjoy privileges, along his remarks that "empty talks lead the country astray, down-to-earth efforts bring prosperity to the nation" and his call to be responsible to history and to the people. As such it can be anticipated that in future he surely will play an important role in uniting people across the country to push forward the great undertaking of reform and opening up.

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### Words and Usage

**Wrap up** (phrasal verb) – To bring to a conclusion; settle finally or successfully. (圓滿完成，結束)

Examples: 1.Let's wrap up the job and go home. 2.The police will soon wrap up their investigation.

**Know no bound** (idiom) – To have no limit. (無限，無止境)

Examples: 1.India's ambitions seem to know no bounds. 2.People's joy knew no bounds when the news of victory arrived.

**Wade through sth** (phrasal verb) – Get to the end of something with difficulty. (費力前進，艱難地通過)

Examples: 1.The soldiers waded through the mud on the way to battle. 2.We had to wade through the river to the opposite bank.

**A hard/tough nut** (to crack) (idiom) – A difficult problem to solve; an individual who is difficult to deal with. (棘手的問題，難對付的人)

Examples: 1.This assignment is a hard nut to crack. 2.It won't be easy getting her approval; she's a tough nut to crack.

**Forge ahead** (phrasal verb) – To continue on under difficult circumstances. (開拓進取，堅持前進)

Examples: 1. A boat sailing against the current must forge ahead or it will be driven back. 2.We forged ahead through the heavy snow.

## Gifted Education



▲No 8 Middle School's students are exposed to a variety of real life experiences that can only serve to develop them in a fuller and more engaging way

It is clear from this example that the role of the Principal is crucial. No 8 Middle School's approach is to take an exclusive model for provision – to identify a whole class for special provision throughout its school life – but this cuts against the grain in Hong Kong because the policy here is to take an inclusive line whereby teachers are expected to deal with able learners in the context of the regular classroom. Arguably, though, the skills required of teachers in either situation are not dissimilar.

The importance of the affective development (ie emotional and social development) of young people is at least partly addressed at No 8 Middle School. They provide dedicated teachers to advise and support their students on a regular and informed basis. As well as providing a safe learning

environment, inculcating character development and service learning as seen in Beijing, there are other strategies such as incorporating the arts; including bibliotherapy and/or cinematography as a means of self-discovery and promoting self-understanding – these are ways that any standards-based curriculum in any content area can be adapted to address the affective domain.

### Parental Engagement

They actively involve parents in the educative process because they feel that parents can offer the additional support that is in concert with the school's objectives.Parental engagement has been seen by some as the key factor in student (and school) success.

A faster pace to curriculum exposure is a key feature. We know that one of the hallmarks of the

gifted mind is its speed at comprehending information. One mathematics lesson we observed moved at an astonishing pace in 40 minutes and there was clear progression in terms of increasing complexity of the mathematical problems posed. The students loved it.

In a mixed ability class, typical of Hong Kong, the hurdles are different but the needs of the fast learner are still there. Flexible grouping, the use of extension material and open-ended tasks are proven strategies in facilitating the learning needs and styles of gifted students. Increasingly complex learning can take place in the mixed ability classroom, though it requires skill on the part of the teacher to facilitate it.

Though there is a clear emphasis on the academic achievement of its students, the School also exposes its students to a broad menu of options through its enrichment programmes whether in visiting museums, taking in the national space launch area, or visiting the coal face. Students are exposed to a variety of real life experiences that can only serve to develop them in a fuller and more engaging way.

Visiting the School was a valuable experience and herein lies a recommendation. Any teacher who wishes to learn more about what is possible in GE should visit a school (or schools) where there is good practice to be found in GE. These are the beacon schools. Usually, they are generous with their time and experience. More often than not, they will share what they do with fellow professionals and this saves so much wasted energy. How often do we find ourselves reinventing the wheel? Surely there is a collective responsibility to move the GE agenda forwards in Hong Kong to embrace more teachers and more schools. Sharing is one of the best ways.

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## 時事英語

### 聖誕樹趣談

一年一度的聖誕節又將來臨。本港各大商場早已裝飾一新，矗立起聖誕樹（Christmas tree），準備迎接即將到來的「銷售黃金旺季」（golden season for sale）。

聖誕樹是慶祝聖誕節中最有名的傳統之一。通常人們在聖誕節前把一棵常綠（evergreen）植物如松樹（pine）或杉樹（fir）擺在屋裡或戶外，在上面掛上聖誕燈（Christmas light）、花環（garland）、彩色金箔絲帶（tinsel）、糖果手杖（candy cane）、小鈴鐺（bell）、小球以及聖誕襪（Christmas Stocking）等，最後把一個小天使（angel）或星星放在樹頂上。那顆星代表「聖誕星」（the Star of Bethlehem），即《聖經》所載耶穌出生時出現在伯利恆上空的星。

關於聖誕樹的傳統，最早的文獻記載可以上溯（dated back to）到16世紀的德國。不過，拉脫維亞（Latvia）的首都里加（Riga）自稱是聖誕樹的故鄉；該市中心的廣場上有塊牌子用8種語言寫着「1510年第一棵聖誕樹在里加」（The first decorated Christmas tree was in Riga in 1510）。

傳統上，聖誕樹要在12月24日平安夜（Silent Night）才立起來裝飾，然後在1月6日主顯節（Epiphany）後移走，弄錯日子被認為會帶來壞運氣（bad luck）。

不過，聖誕節的宗教色彩早已被商業氣息所取代，成為購物旺季。大多數商店早就把聖誕樹立起來。香港的一些商場，在「復活節」（Easter）過後，就已開始矗立起聖誕樹進行裝飾了。

近年來，城市裡的人們越來越多使用人造（artificial）聖誕樹。最早的人造聖誕樹分木質和羽毛質兩種，均由德國人首創。現代的人造聖誕樹多由聚氯乙烯（PVC）製成，但也有鋁製聖誕樹和光纖（optical fiber）聖誕樹等。

聖誕樹的需求量很大。僅美國每年的需求量就差不多3,300–3,600萬棵，歐洲的需求量大約為5,000–6,000萬棵。利之所趨，引發了天然聖誕樹生產者與人造聖誕樹製造商的持久爭論（debate）。一方說每年砍伐大量樹木破壞生態環境，另一方指責塑膠做的東西對環境更有害。孰是孰非，也許消費者才是終極裁判。

亦然