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From:  
Date:2004/03/03 Wed PM 01:55:30 CST  
To:<views@cab-review.gov.hk>  
Subject:On Patriotism

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I am an Oversea Chinese with HKSAR permanent resident status, living here for over 20 years as an academic

In U.K. people who want to join the Government has to sit for a civil service exam and some of the topic questions always revolve around facts on English history and culture and how the candidates' view on them. One needs to screen out the unfavourable candidates - especially people who hates their own culture.

A good example is Taiwan's former president Lee Teng Hui who has a very pro-Japanese mentality. He was not screened properly and the result was obvious.

Patriotism is a very important issue and it is often ignored in HK. In every society, there are always people who do not like their own country and culture. In Cultural Studies, they are known as xenophobic.

However we must be careful to define what is meant by patriotism - one should look at it from various dimensions and levels. I do not intend to start a definition but at least one should consider these many perspective of looking at the issue. eg. proud of one's culture and practise it, support local economies such as buying Made in HK or Made in China products to name only a few.

From:

C.C. Woon,  
HKU

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