

P.1
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V .t' ?st- _hkptt' ct WM ASIA ;'
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I - I _ I , , . tel: vote Ihgvlel ? :le pal: thitmtlves on the
' . . ' eectou to . n Wee 'e strictelecdons.
votes f Which took place on a Suunday to make Vot-
. . , t in: wier, the turnout was just nude: 1
; . om ' thitd. ltt ehnost a quartet of the mu, undi-
t. . dates ttOod unopposed. . .
.,N tt eOm _ . , Hons Keng. Chch . ; ,Thoughgtelevieion ctews had trouble
. . na e aetmm t I , louder than werde. finding vows to film. the Hon: Kort; gov-
EleCttoItts were heIID . , Match Jtd for the emment is net unhappy. In fw places do
colanyt' 19'19c3ldutF'I _- ds. The d: af- municipal election: drew many voters and
tet. Mt attest the -Iet in_GuanE: ouI Hong Kong's district boards have pethepe
(Canton); the People' Imtetmediate curt lea to do than many locnl authorities. Their
sentenced the Horn 'gtng men to titon most visible job is to lobby for more sports
for four to five yeussi Ih it crime he been' facilities lnd better .Wbbitht collection.
trying to_ help two ' I hit hmtdt dissidents Hon; Kong oftchls point Out the: Sunday':
(tom Chutes pto-de m 'aey movement get turnout wu - highet than that 'in 1988
ewey tftet the Tim: E. Square themete (30.3%) end reverse: a long slide in purici.
m June 1989. Chem I tleelly. the- Hon; wion in disttiet-board eleetlom. What
Kong government haI I i-e no public com- matters. they uy. it how many peeple Vole
ment on the plight of" . hthtee. for the Legco seats In September. _
Thl; sequence 0 ; H tiom end hmh Those eatpecting hordes may be sutv
utenetng looks to mf n" Ilike cease and efa prized. The conviction thet thetpeople of
feet. Chine teem: inteIu 2:: giving warning Hon Kong crave perliamentary democncy
that democracy In Hoh- t. tang will have it: may u'mieuken ai'the ee'rlier ueumpton
hmttwsevote on v qu t the British eol- that they would jump It the thanc'e of full
ony reverts to China I .1 7. ; . British citizenship. After Tiananmen. the
. . ' . Were the March 1 'I -I elections then e Hort; Kong governmeht pteued Britain for
me of tlmeLThey I'I . cent t6 be a step an "insurance policy": British puspotts
towetdt democracy. ti. '2 ext steps willbe would be oieted to encourage managers
eleettcm: for regional: i" ' ell: in May and and professional people net toluve the to!-
for the Legislative COu _ (known at Legco) any for Ametlca. Auemlia 0:- Canada. The
m September. Of 60 I I :0 seats. 18 ete to British ovetnmetttt faced doun a Tory te-
be directly chosen. ThIt ill beIthe 6m in volt an pushed thmugh a bill giving 50.000
the colony's 150-yeat h -ry when ordinary Hon: Kan; heede-of-household-md their
people em vote for th 7 legislators: lf the dependenu,'perheps mnthe: 175.000 W
toeest is a success, 5 '1 n'tish and Hon; ple-nfull British citizenship without the
t maurr-u
b
_n _
m
. I , h on; goxiemmenteete -- II It the Chinese to need to go to dreary Britain to eeeure
it. Ex-
' 4 allow more diteetIy-eleh - -- Legco tents. The peering a stampede. the Hon: Ken: gove
m
Chinese have already t w d to 20th 1995. meat ptitttted lm epplliution fem.
24 in 1999 and 301:: 02? I By the deadline on Feb 28th. only
Suceeu is hard (61- - at. De: ite en- 65,574 heads of household ha in fut w
coutuement t6 resist :only hnl of the plied-fer fewer than expected. What went
3.6m mph in Hang : w I; who are eligible Wrens? There are many answers. The 32-
_ _ - . _ . _ . . . e _ .
t ASIA
page epplltatltmt form with its 250-page ittv
struttion manual was daunting. Manypeo-
. F - pie dispititedly thought they could never get
K ' enough points in the competition for places.
Others were already applying to go 21sz
where and wrongly thought that would dis-
qualify them for a Btitith passport. Perhaps
a mate telling teach II that the Chinese au-
thodties opposed the scheme from the start,
! and said they muld atili trtat its btntflttae
Ql ties as Chinese nationals, like the three men
jailed in Guangzhou. h .
Whatever the answer. most or the pccr
pk. of Hong Kong whont the passth

scheme was meant to help have simply is-
nored it: They art leaving (Qt Amtttta. Aw
ttaha or Canada at a rate ofmore than LOGO
a week. They are not giving a Iecond
thought to those Itsialntivt tittttiom: