

# Democracy Movement in Hong Kong: Leadership, Strategy and Framing

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## A. Introduction: Returning to a city of rage and sadness

Sentenced to 16 months of jail on Apr. 24, 2019 due to involvement in Umbrella Movement







Released on Mar 14, 2020 when Hong Kong had gone through a most turbulent period of time due to the Anti-extradition Bill Movement.



Hong Kong is no more the same....







Sad stories retold...

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Police Brutality under  
Authoritarian Regime

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# Era of Defiance

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## B. Anti-extradition Movement in Historical Context: leadership, strategies & identity framing in democracy movement





# 1. Leadership: from collective actions to connective actions

Old democracy movement since 1980s:  
centralized leadership



First rally for direct election of Legco in 1988



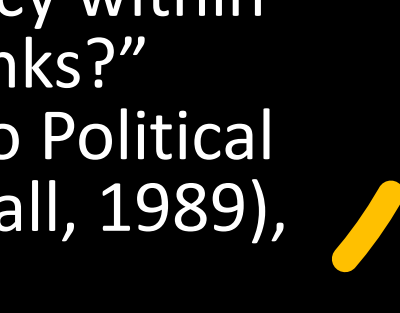
Strong leadership under Szeto Wah (right)



A large orange circle is positioned on the left side of the slide, partially overlapping the dark background.

## From Collective Actions to Connective Actions

“A true democrat may believe that any form of oligarchy is reprehensible and to be avoided at all costs. However, organizations that permit competition and dissent to arise among factions are often so debilitated by the internal conflicts that they are incapable of attaining their goals in the larger society, whereas those that insist on unity within the ranks and manifest cohesive leadership, perhaps even oligarchy, frequently are the more successful in attaining the broader goals. Which is to be preferred, democracy within the ranks or victory outside the ranks?”  
(Anthony M. Orum, Introduction to Political Sociology (New Jersey: Prentice Hall, 1989), p.224.)

A series of yellow dashed lines are located in the bottom right corner of the slide, arranged in a curved, decorative pattern.



# 2014 Umbrella Movement: unstable leadership



Deliberation Day



Joshua Wong and other student leaders



Civil Referendum



Benny Tai & the Occupy Trio



# 2019 Anti-extradition Movement: leaderless/diffused leadership



**連登仔再眾籌**

**立場新聞 STANDNEWS**

**FIGHT FOR FREEDOM  
STAND WITH HONG KONG**

**\$1,974,216 of \$1.0M goal**

Raised by 22,565 people in 2 hours

No Longer Accepting Donations

制裁港共戰爭罪行 全球眾籌反擊戰 [留意係美元\$ 唔駛俾 tips]

**一小時籌過百萬美元速達標**



# Be water



大紀元  
EPOCH TIMES

11.15中環和你Lunch  
隨時隨地 如水抗爭



日期:4月28日  
時間:18:30  
地點:中環IFC中庭

願榮光歸香港  
重現千人 和你Sing





## 2. Strategies: from legal, peaceful to mixed strategies

Old democracy movement since 1980s: legal protests (rally and assembly)







## 2014 Umbrella Movement: Civil Disobedience

Strategies: from legal, peaceful to mixed strategies





## 2016 Fish-ball Revolution: Militant Revolt

Strategies: from legal, peaceful to mixed strategies





# Anti-extradition Movement: Mixed strategies

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Strategies: from legal, peaceful to mixed strategies



# Strategies: from legal, peaceful to mixed strategies

民意有逆轉

示威者使用過分武力

39.4%

理解激烈行動

55.7%

警察使用過分武力

71.7%

政府要為武力上升負責

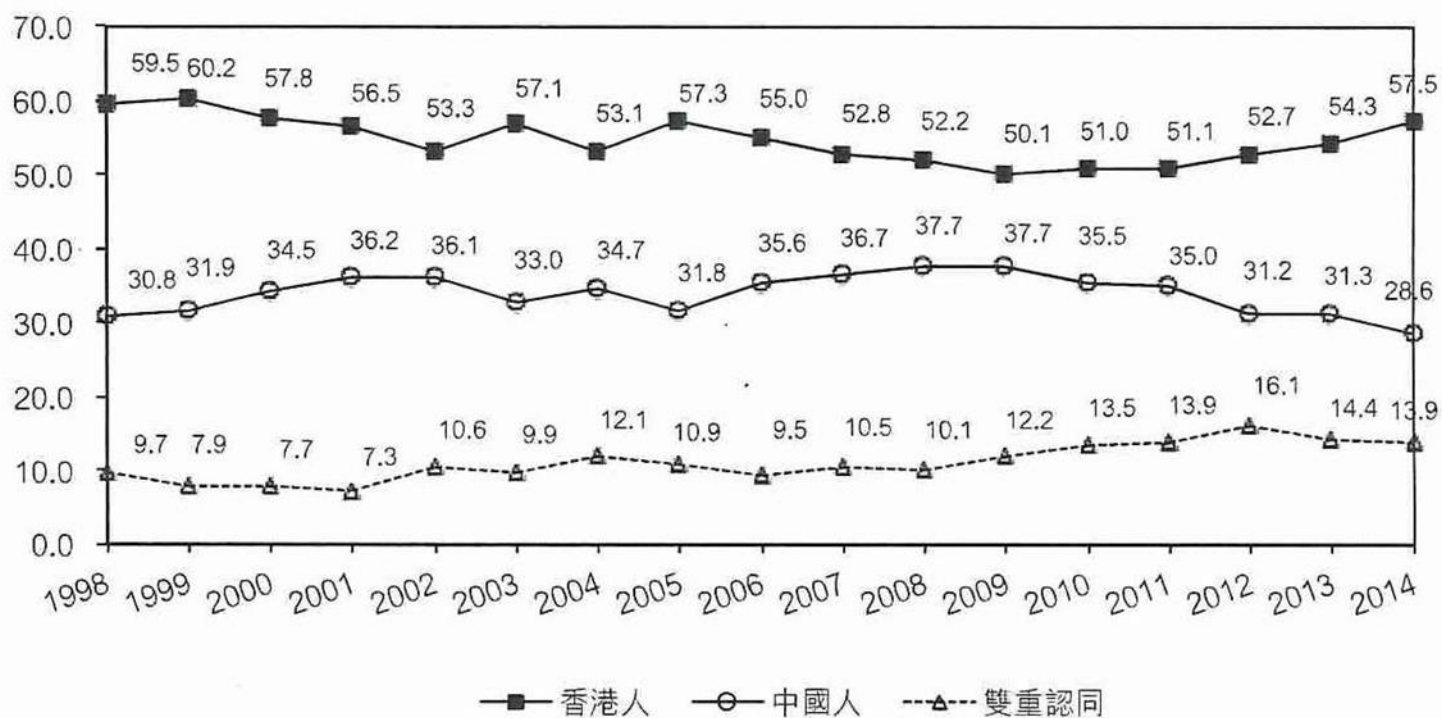
50.5%





### 3. Framing identity: from Hong Kong Chinese to Hongkongers

圖1：香港人和中國人身份認同的轉變，1998—2014 (%)

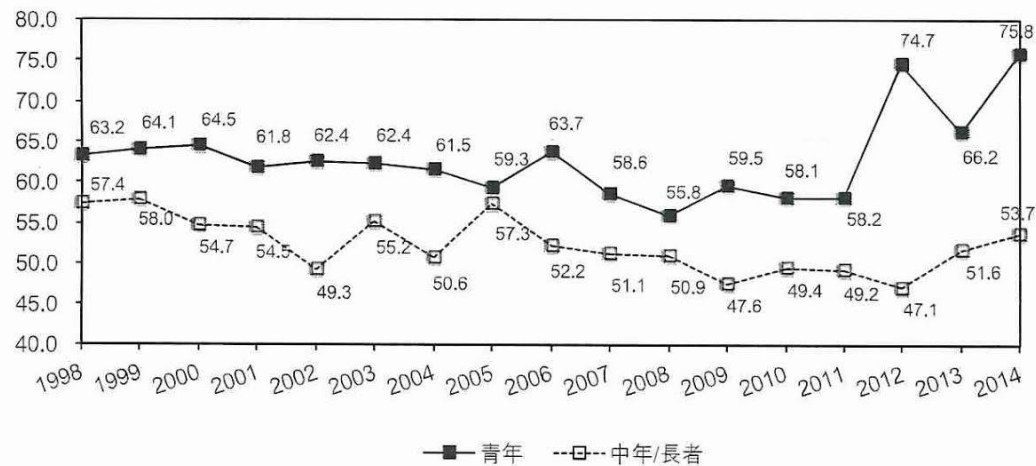




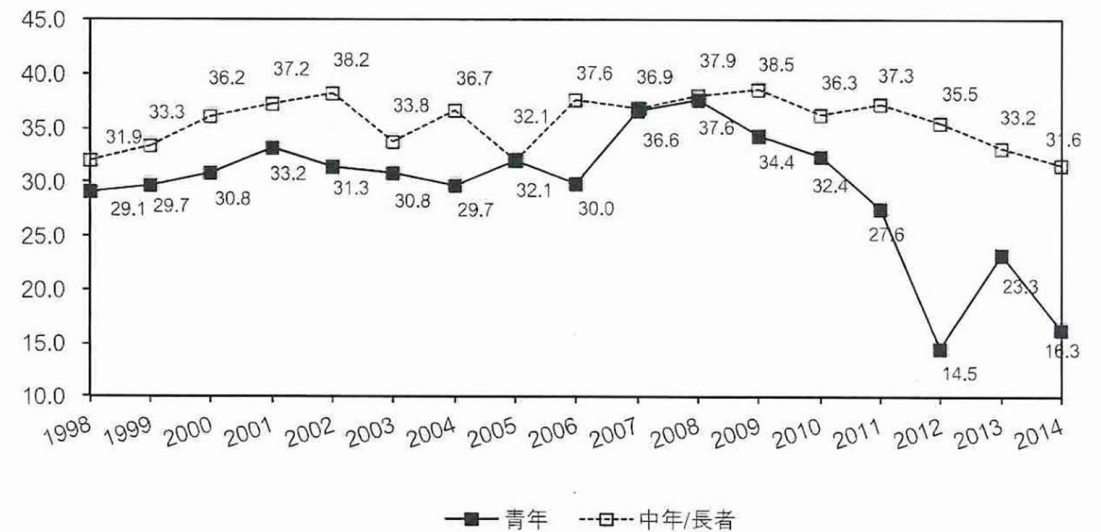
# Youngsters identify themselves as Hongkongers

圖2：青年身份認同的轉變，1998—2014（%）

香港人認同



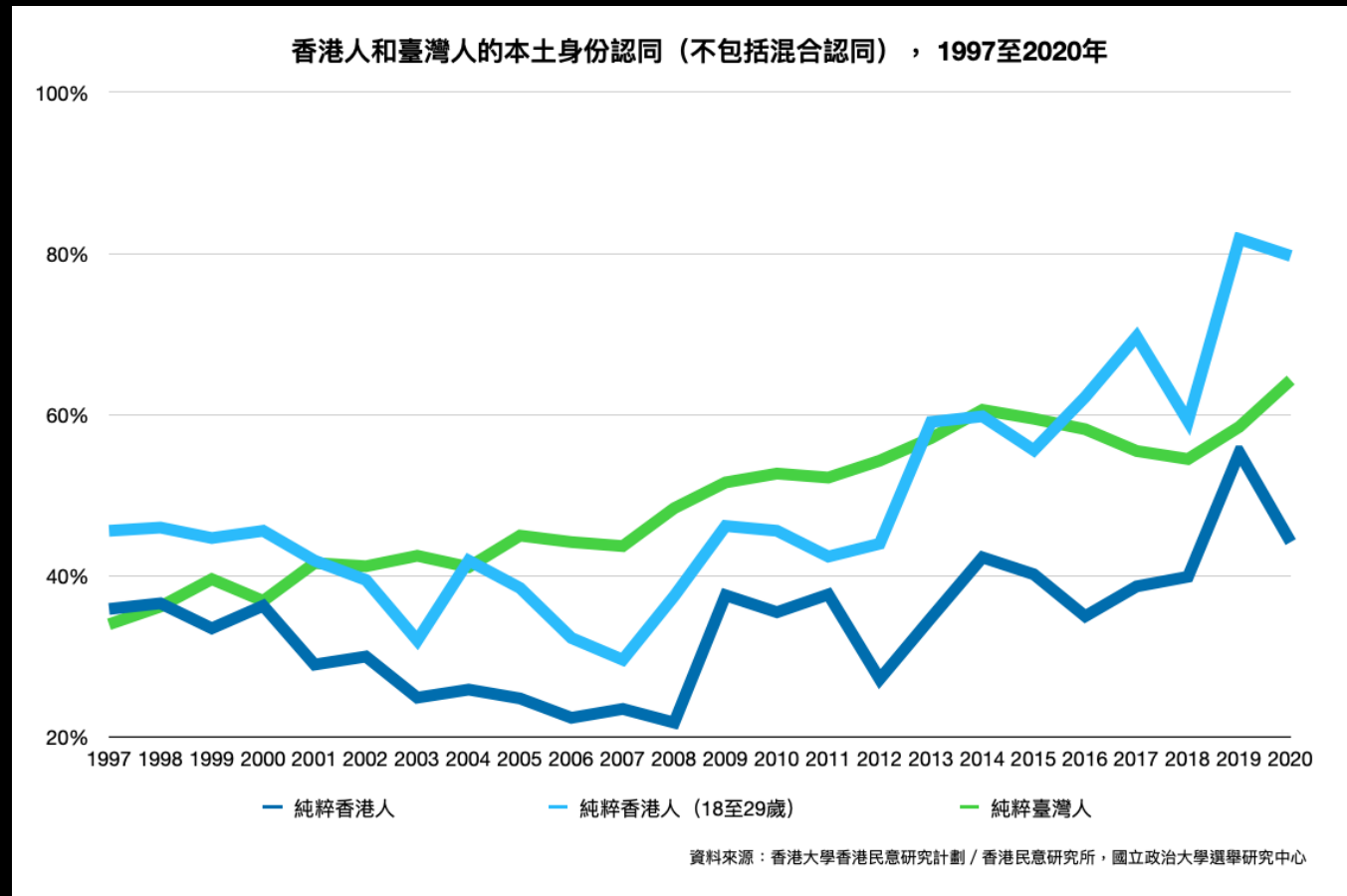
中國人認同



(尹寶珊、鄭宏泰 (2016) 身份認同:對中國的「重新想像」)



# Youngsters identify themselves as Hongkongers



(圖片由徐承恩製作)



# Framing Identity: from Hong Kong Chinese to Hongkongers

Old Democracy Movement: Patriotism & “democratic reunion”



HK Alliance in Support of Patriotic Democratic Movements in China





# Framing Identity: from Hong Kong Chinese to Hongkonger

2014 Umbrella Movement: the end of “democratic reunion”







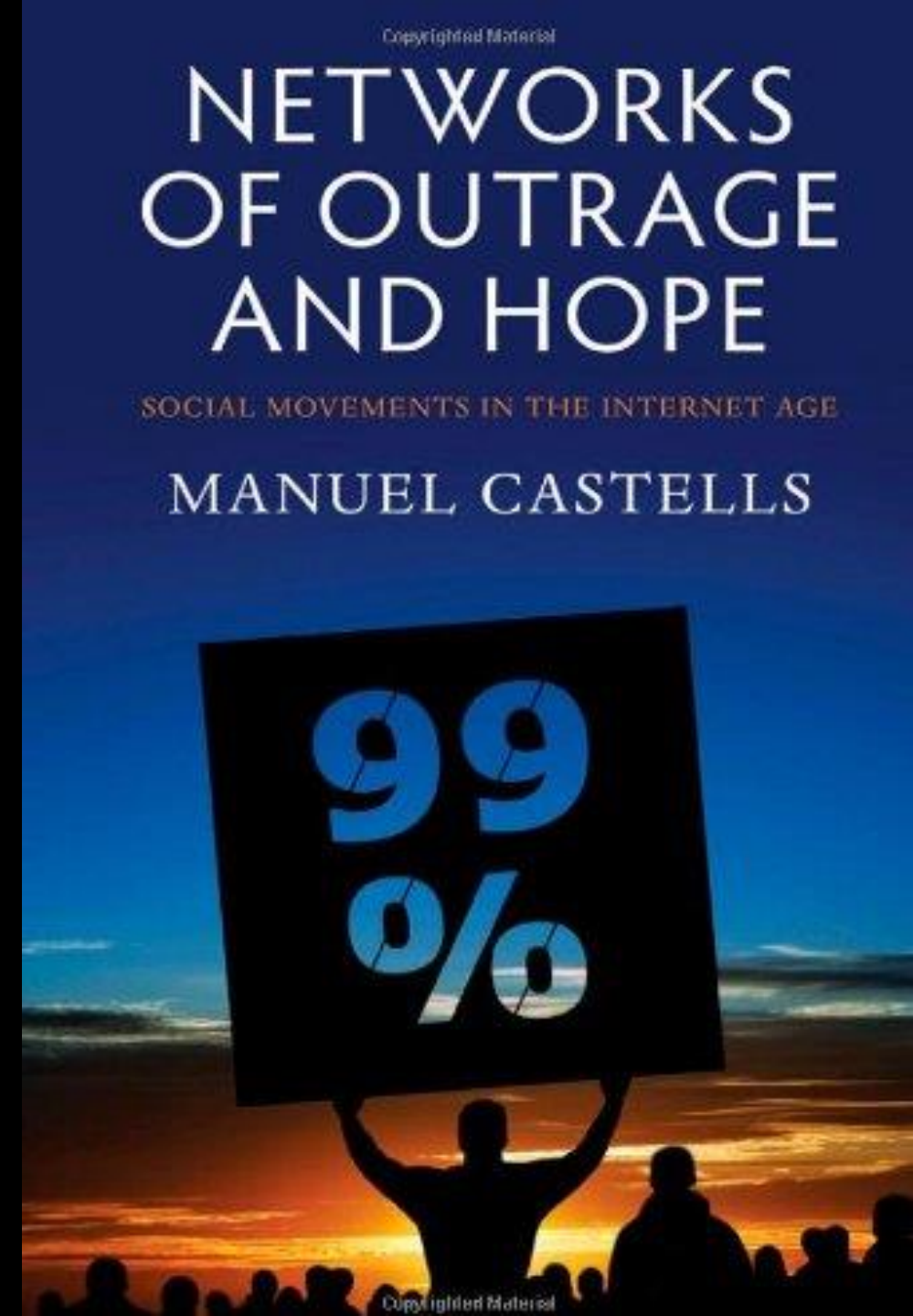
# Framing Identity: from Hong Kong Chinese to Hongkongers

Anti-extradition Movement: Hong Kong identity



## C. Strengths & Weaknesses of Networked Movement

- Networked social movement - Internet not only centralizes our communicational routines, but also liberates individuals to shape a new autonomy, to reclaim power and to shake the political scene, leading to social change. By coordinating their offline action with other online initiatives, networked social movements could become 'super counter powers' that are able to articulate in multiple settings, converge into transnational agendas and achieve an unseen political accountability.
- Recent evidences show they are more powerful in creating cultural change than political change





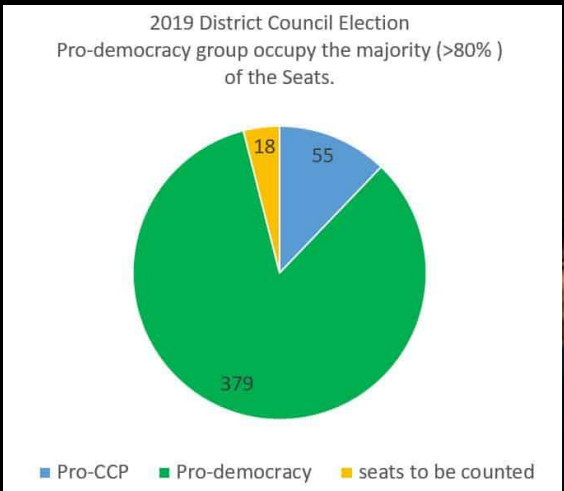
# Successes of Anti-extradition Movement

## Hong Kong protesters' five demands



- Release of all arrested demonstrators
- Retraction of the word "riot" to describe rallies
- Withdrawal of extradition bill
- An independent inquiry into perceived brutality of the police
- The right for people in Hong Kong to democratically choose their own leaders

CBC NEWS Source: The Associated Press





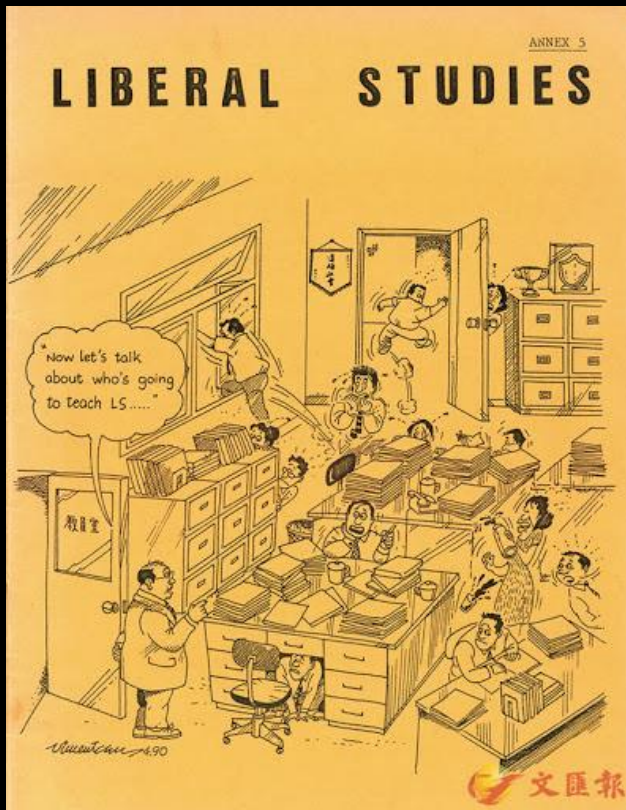
# Backlash from China – National Security Law (1/7/20)



More arrests and humiliations



# Backlash from China – National Security Law



Banning critical media and changing school curriculum (+NSE)



# Backlash from China – National Security Law

## 九龍10名民主派區議員被DQ



## 新界東 16區議員被DQ

區議員宣誓

大埔區議員



西貢區議員



沙田區議員



黃浩鋒



2021.10.8

截至 2021.7.8 13:00

傳追討DQ區議員薪津

過去14小時至少22區議員辭職



鄭潔賢 九龍城區 關家倫 九龍城區 林蓮 元朗區 陳樹英 屯門區 盧俊宇 屯門區



朱頌聲 屯門區 李俊峰 深水埗區 陳旭昭 北區 林子瑋 全區 李傲然 沙田區



丘文俊 沙田區 陳兆陽 沙田區 任啟邦 大埔區

Disqualifying (DQ) pro-democracy representatives from legislature and district council



# Human rights related civil society organizations were forced to dissolve



32年歷史  
支聯會

通過解散



今日你可以解散咗個會，  
但係市民悼念六四嘅心係唔會解散。

／支聯會成員曾健成





## D. Everyday Life Resistance



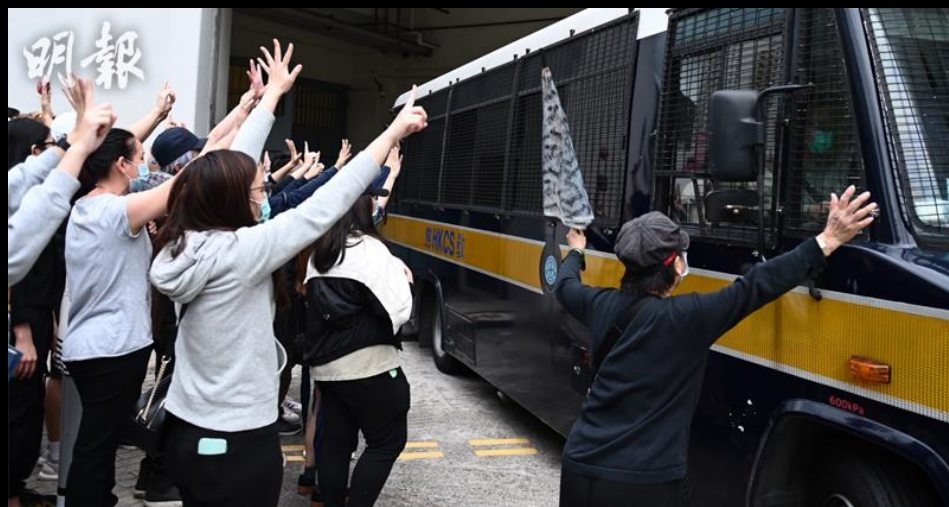
Yellow Economic Circle



# From Community of Resistance to Community of Suffering



寫信師



送車師



旁聽師





The fight will continue.....