

社評 雙語道

總結強檢經驗 努力達至「清零」

Learn from the experience of compulsory testing and strive for zero infection

原文

政府於2020年12月24日首次進行強制檢測的執法行動，要求沙田乙明邨明恩樓的住戶出示檢測陰性證明才可以出入。這次行動展現政府嚴格落實強制檢測令，以達至社區「清零」為目標，方向正確，為本港實施全民檢測和禁足令積累經驗，提升防疫能力。政府應通過此次強檢總結經驗，完善落實行動，減少對市民的影響，推動全港同心抗疫。

沙田乙明邨明恩樓在12月中爆發疫情，累計有6名居民牽涉4個單位受感染，部分人源頭不明，政府在17日至21日設置流動採樣亭，為大廈居民進行檢測。到12月24日，多個部門突擊採取執法行動，於明恩樓外拉起封鎖線，要求居民出入時展示接受病毒檢測結果電話短訊通知或相關證明，未有證明的會被口頭警告，再到附近流動檢測站檢測，有結果前必須留在家。

今次行動果斷迅速，事前未有通知居民，以免有未檢測者提早離開，是有必要的措施。更為重要的是，今次行動展現政府開展跨部門協作，以「联防联控」措施落實強制檢測。執行強檢令是一項系統工程，既要維持現場秩序，又要房協釐清住戶名單和上門查證，又要有衛生人員協助居民檢測，24日參與行動的部門中，就有沙田民政事務處聯同田心警署、醫療輔助隊和房協等多個部門共同合作，本港近一年防疫工作效果未如理想，屢屢出現防疫錯漏，正因為缺乏跨部門通力合作、精準防疫，24日的強檢執法是一個有益的探索。民政事務局長徐英偉指出，今次行動目的是要確保所有明恩樓居民均已接受檢測，沒有漏網個案，只有這樣才可以達到小區「清零」。行動展現政府「清零」的決心，調動市民配合防疫的積極性。

借鑒內地的防疫成功經驗，哪裏發

現疫情，就立即採取強而有力的措施，封區禁足，全民檢測排查，一般可以在短時間堵截疫情擴散，有效保障市民安全健康，盡快恢復正常生活秩序。本港經歷四波疫情，因為一直不採取全民檢測、封區等果斷的防疫措施，導致疫情始終不能「斷尾」，經濟民生重啟無期，政府、企業、市民都付出巨大代價。經過24日明恩樓的強檢行動，市民更應明白長痛不如短痛的簡單道理。

24日強檢行動事出突然，居民的出行、生活難免有所不便，但大多數居民並無太大怨言，相反都同意無論是為自己好，還是社區好，居民都應理解、配合強檢行動。政府應認真總結24日強檢行動的得失，改善執行的細節安排，為今後實施社區強檢、排查形成一套可快速反應的機制，截斷傳播鏈，努力清零。

(摘錄自香港《文匯報》社評 2020-12-25)



沙田乙明邨明恩樓的住戶需出示檢測陰性證明才可以出入。資料圖片

Exercise

- 1. 核酸檢測 2. 深喉唾液測試 3. 鼻咽拭子測試 4. 社區檢測中心 5. 疫苗接種

1. nucleic acid test 2. deep throat saliva test 3. nasopharyngeal swab test 4. community testing centre 5. vaccination

Answer

譯文

The government carried out its first enforcement action for compulsory testing on 24 December 2020 in Shatin, ordering residents of Ming Yan Lau block of Jat Min Chuen estate to produce a negative test result before they can enter and leave. This is a sign that the government is on the right path, as it demonstrates the government's resolve to strictly implement compulsory testing and to achieve the goal of zero infection in the community. The operation also enhances Hong Kong's ability to fight the pandemic, as the experience gained is an important step towards population-wide mandatory testing and comprehensive lockdown measures. The government should draw lessons from this experience to refine future operations, so that the impact on citizens' daily lives could be reduced.

Earlier in mid-December 2020, a small-scale community outbreak took place at Ming Yan Lau of Jat Min Chuen in Sha Tin. A total of six Cov-

id-19 cases involving four apartment units were linked to the building, with some of them having an unknown source of infection. Consequently, the government set up mobile specimen collection stations at the building from 17-21 December to conduct screening on residents. On 24 December, the authorities followed up with a surprise inspection operation at Ming Yan Lau, cordoning the area temporarily and ordering residents to provide the text message or other relevant proof that shows the result of the Covid-19 test they were ordered to take earlier before they can enter or leave the premise. Those who could not provide proof received warnings and were immediately tested in a nearby site. They also had to stay home until results came back.

Out of necessity to prevent non-compliant residents from leaving early, the operation had to be swift and decisive, and Ming Yan Lau residents were not notified beforehand. But more importantly, this operation also showed that

the government is now leaning towards a new approach in which multiple authorities would work together to enforce compulsory screening. Carrying out compulsory testing was no easy task. Housing Society officials had to check through its list of residents and then visit for verification. Health personnel had to carry out the tests on site. Throughout the whole operation, the authorities also had to maintain order. As an example, the Sha Tin District Office, Tin Sum Police Station, the Auxiliary Medical Service, the Hong Kong Housing Society, and other relevant departments were involved during the 24 December surprise inspection. Hong Kong's anti-pandemic effort in the past year has not been as effective as expected, with quite a few errors being identified along the way. It is precisely because the efforts of different government departments lack coordination and precision. The joint-operation on 24 December is a good start to rectify the problem. According to Caspar Tsui Ying-wai, the Secretary

for Home Affairs, the goal of this operation was to ensure that all residents of Ming Yan Lau had undergone compulsory tests, and that only then can the area be eventually clear of Covid-19 infection. This demonstrated the authorities' determination in achieving zero infection, and their resolve to mobilise citizens to cooperate with anti-pandemic measures.

Learning from the successes of mainland China, swift and firm actions must be taken immediately in places where Covid-19 cases are found. By locking down the area and conducting compulsory screening, small community outbreaks could usually be stopped in a short period of time. The safety and health of citizens are better protected this way, and people can return to their normal lives sooner. Hong Kong has been battered by four waves of Covid-19 pandemic now, and the day when the pandemic ends still seems to be so far away. This is because necessary measures such as mandatory universal testing and compre-

hensive community lockdowns were never put in place. The government, enterprises, and citizens are all paying a heavy price as the people's livelihoods and normal economic activities cannot resume. After the operation on Ming Yan Lau on 24 December, the public should understand the simple fact that powering through a short-term pain is better than having to sustain the agony in the long-term.

The surprise inspection operation may cause some inconvenience to the residents, yet most of them did not complain too much. This is because they understand that for the good of both themselves and the community, it is better to cooperate. The government should review the 24 December inspection operation and refine the detailed implementation plans. By doing so, a feasible and smooth mechanism could be set up for future mandatory community screening, thus breaking Covid-19 transmission chains and taking a big step towards zero infection in Hong Kong.

春節提法百餘載 曆法追溯到夏朝

歷史今昔

這篇文章是這個專欄2021年的首篇文章，筆者在此謹祝大家新年快樂、新春進步。不知道讀者有沒有遇過他人質疑，元旦並非新年，只有春節才能算上新年？其實這些質疑不無道理，但要了解「春節」這個概念，則必須先了解曆法。世界有很多不同的曆法，每一個曆法均有很多不同背景和歷史可研究，筆者在此只枚舉現時世界常用的三大曆法：陽曆、陰曆和陰陽曆。

陽曆，顧名思義就是根據太陽公轉而制定的曆法，世界通用的公曆（或叫新曆）就是陽曆的一種。陰曆的概念是與陽曆對應，根據月亮

圍繞地球一周為一個月，伊斯蘭曆就是採用陰曆。陰陽曆便是日期以月球為定位，年份就與太陽相關，故稱為陰陽曆，中國農曆便是陰陽曆的一種。所以如何定義年份的「歲首」，那就是視乎採用何種曆法，而中國農曆的歲首明顯與公曆的歲首是不一的，這自然產生不同人對歲首的定義不一樣。

中國農曆也稱為夏曆，原因是古代相傳此曆法是夏朝發明。夏朝定正月初一為歲首，這似乎理所當然，但自商湯推翻夏朝，建立商朝後，認為紀年歲首應當「前」於前朝，於是定12月首為歲首。後來周朝推翻商朝，則又推前一個月，定11月首為歲首。秦朝統一六國，又再推前一個月，定10月首為歲首。

直到漢朝建立，可能看不慣前朝將曆法胡亂更改，於是「返璞歸真」，遵循夏朝原定曆法，定正月初一為歲首，此制被後世援用。古代歲首定義乃同於現今的元旦，即是新一年的開始，但所謂「新年」具體日期，其

實也並非統一。

狹義上來說，現今的「春節」其實只有百多年歷史，那麼現今公曆元旦，何時引入中國？中國人為什麼叫農曆歲首為「春節」？這要解釋二十四節氣和追溯到民國時期。

二十四節氣是中國古代農曆社會用作記錄氣候的概念，其中「立春」是二十四節氣的其中一節，顧名思義就是春天的來臨。古代中國以農立國，「冬至」代表可以停止耕種，而立春則代表開始耕作。立春不代表新一年的開始，只是為方便農民了解耕作的開始，「立春」和「歲首」本來是毫不相關的概念。而將歲首聯繫立春，命名為春節，這要追溯到民國年間。

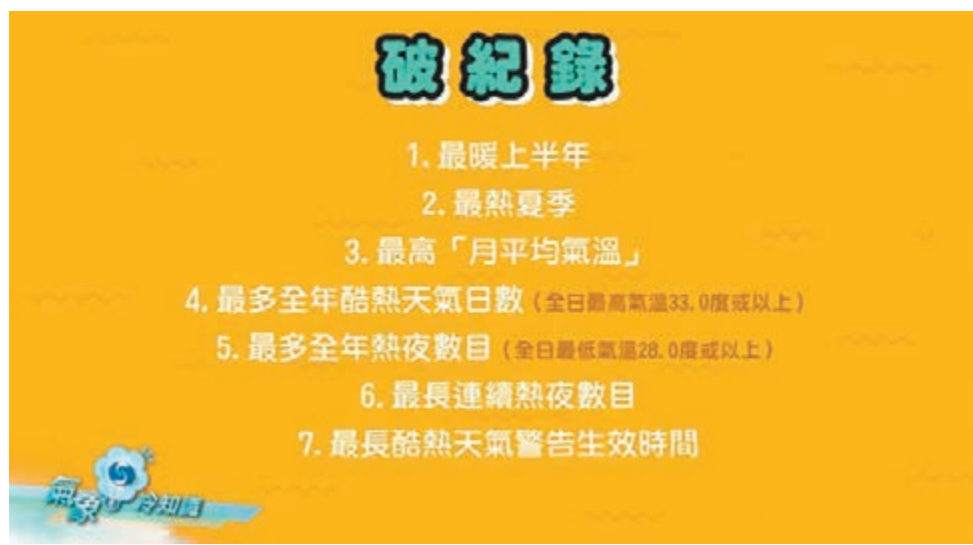
民國建立後，民國政府棄農曆而採用公曆，民間不容許慶祝農曆節日，所謂的「歲首」自然採用公曆，亦即現在1月1日。可是，農曆曆法自漢朝沿用，民間根本無從適應。袁世凱任臨時大總統期間，將「立春」的概念和「歲首」的概念混合，名叫「春節」，將此標記為農曆的開始，但「效仿」西方的方向不能更改，1月1日的「元旦」依舊援用，這才有了現今所謂「兩個新年」的情況。換句話說，現今意義的「春節」其實只有百多年的歷史，但其曆法卻可以追溯到夏朝。



歲首聯繫立春其實是民國時代才開始。資料圖片

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2020 天氣回顧



● 2020年打破了多個高溫紀錄。

影片截圖

氣象萬千

又到了年尾回顧馬拉松的時候啦，雖然最近都甚為涼快，但去年的高溫破了紀錄。

首先是最暖的上半年，2020年上半年異常溫暖，1月至6月的平均氣溫和平均最高氣溫分別為23℃和25.7℃，都是同期有紀錄以來最高。不止這樣，受較正常強的副熱帶高壓脊影響，2020年香港經歷了自1884年有紀錄以來最熱的夏季，6月至8月平均氣溫為29.6℃、平均最高氣溫為32.6℃、平均最低氣溫為27.7℃，都是歷年之冠。當中7月更是有紀錄以來最熱的一個月，最

高月平均氣溫達到30.2℃，首次超越30度大關。酷熱天氣警告在7月份持續生效467小時，是這個警告設立了二十年以來最長。

除此之外，全年有47天酷熱天氣和50個熱夜，都是歷來最高。47個酷熱天比舊紀錄多了9天，另外有50個熱夜，也比舊紀錄多了4天。

今年也是2017年以來再次出現黑雨，還要試過兩次，分別是6月6日和9月30日，還有五次颱風，其中八月的「海高斯」還去到九號風球，在香港天文台西南偏西約80公里掠過，香港多處吹烈風，離岸風力還達到暴風程度。

今年大家都辛苦啦，希望來年風調雨順，平平安安。

● 香港天文台 (本欄以天文台的網上氣象節目《氣象冷知識》向讀者簡介有趣的氣象現象。詳情可瀏覽天文台YouTube專頁: https://www.youtube.com/user/hkweather。)

