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June 2022, Issue 11

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Register HK Event: Marking 1997 – Reflections 25 Years On (Jun 30, 8 pm HKT)



The return of Hong Kong to China in 1997 meant something different to everyone involved. For China, it was a diplomatic, moral, and psychological victory over the “unequal treaties” between China and Western powers. For Hong Kong, it meant relinquishing their colonial past.

Overnight, this former colony became the first Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China. For Britain, 1997 marked the end of one of the world’s great empires. In Hong Kong, reactions ranged from pride and joy to fear and frustration. Twenty-five years on, China and the West continue to grapple with the change.

This program revisits those historic events leading up to 1997 and considers what made this event so distinctive in world history.

Join our Faculty Director, Kenneth Pomeranz as he and his expert panellists from Hong Kong and the U.K. revisit the historic event and discuss their unique research and perspectives including “Britishness in Hong Kong and 1997”, “Writing and Rewriting Hong Kong’s Past: History Education for a Decolonising Society”, “Telling the Story of Handover Negotiations”, and “1997 in World History”.

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The Hong Kong Jockey Club University of Chicago Academic Complex
The University of Chicago Francis and Rose Yuen Campus in Hong Kong

168 Victoria Road, Mount Davis, Hong Kong

hk@uchicago.edu | <https://www.uchicago.hk/>

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