

EDITOR'S NOTE

SOMETHING NEGLECTED

The year is coming to an end.

2009 has been a year of ups and downs for the People's Republic of China (PRC). While authorities put on a celebratory face for the PRC's 60th anniversary, the ethnic violence between Hans and Uighurs in Xinjiang in July highlighted the underlying tensions that threaten peace and stability.

While we are deeply aware of these significant news events, we are also alert to something that has been quietly happening around us. Although Hong Kong is closer to mainland China in many ways after the handover, we are still far apart in other ways. In this issue, the Periscope team looks at different groups of mainlanders in Hong Kong. How do mainland students and "quality migrants" interact with the local community? On the other hand, some mainland abode seekers are still denied the right to live here. The series of dramatic events surrounding their fight for residency rights after the handover seems to have faded from the locals' memory. The 10th anniversary of the interpretation of the Basic Law that denied their claims to live here provides an opportunity to review this issue, and to reflect on this long-running movement.

Turning to another issue, the debate over the establishment of a literary museum has stirred concerns over Hong Kong's cultural development. What can we do to help Hong Kong shed its image as a cultural desert? Take a look at *New Patrons for Local Writers* in the Our Community section. In People, artist Hoi Chiu, brings us his passion and persistence in the arts. For more about art, read about glass art in Lifestyle.

Finally, don't forget, Christmas is coming. Here, *Varsity* presents: *Christmas Edition* of *Varsity's Choice*. You may find the perfect gifts for the special people in your life.



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