

## '60pc support' for democracy group

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Support for the Hong Kong Alliance in Support of the Patriotic Democratic Movement in China, branded subversive by Beijing, stands at about 60 per cent, according to a poll released yesterday.

The figure is similar to that of a poll in 1992.

Asked whether the alliance should be disbanded after the handover, 48.4 per cent of respondents disagreed and 12.3 per cent agreed. The remainder declined to give a view.

Fifty-three per cent of people agreed the Beijing students had taken the right course of action seven years

ago. And 72.1 per cent were prepared to state that the massacre was wrong.

The poll also revealed that respondents thought helping China develop its economy was more important than achieving democracy.

Ousted party secretary Zhao Ziyang (趙紫陽) was the most popular Chinese leader with 61.2 per cent support; premier Li Peng (李鵬) scored the lowest at 40.1 per cent.

The survey, by the Social Sciences Research Centre of Hong Kong University, interviewed 521 people from May 22-23.