

Hong Kong tycoon Jimmy Lai arrested

Jimmy Lai, Hong Kong democracy activist and media tycoon, is the most high-profile person detained to date under China's controversial security law

■ **1948:** *Jimmy Lai* born in Guangzhou to wealthy family that lost everything when communists took power in 1949

■ **1960:** Smuggled into Hong Kong as stowaway on fishing boat at age 12. Finds work as child labourer in textile factory

■ **1974:** Sets up successful garment business, manufacturing sweaters for major U.S. retailers

■ **1981:** Launches fashion brand *Giordano*

■ **1989:** Tiananmen Square massacre spurs Lai to move into publishing

■ **1990:** Establishes *Next Media*, writing columns critical of Beijing in *Next Magazine*

■ **1995:** After China retaliates by shutting Giordano stores on mainland, Lai launches popular pro-democracy titles including widely-read **Apple Daily** newspaper

■ **Early 2020:** Twice arrested on charges of illegal assembly relating to 2019 anti-government protests

■ **Jul:** China labels Lai as “traitor” after he meets U.S. Vice President **Mike Pence** and Secretary of State **Mike Pompeo** at White House

■ **Aug 10:** Hong Kong police arrest Lai, 72, and at least eight others on suspicion of violating security law



Pictures: Getty Images