

# THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

## FORTIETH CONGREGATION

Conferment of the Degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*

### *A Citation*

**Dr the Honourable Allen Lee Peng-fei, CBE, BS, FHKIE, DEng (Hon), JP**

The Honourable Allen Lee Peng-fei is a distinguished industrial, political and educational engineer. In each of these three areas of community concern, Mr Lee has already made very significant contributions.

Born in 1940 in Yantai, Shandong, Mr Lee received his education in Shanghai, Hong Kong and the United States. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering Mathematics from the University of Michigan in 1963. After university, Mr Lee devoted himself to a career in industry and commerce, first in the United States and, after 1966, in Hong Kong. By 1974, he was the Managing Director of Ampex Ferrotec, Ltd, an American electronics firm. He rose to managing directorships in Ampex World Operations SA in 1979 and Ampex Far East Operations in 1983. Since 1984, Mr Lee has been the President of his own company, Meadville Ltd, which has three subsidiaries.

In 1977, Mr Lee received the Outstanding Young Person Award for his contributions to the electronics industry, especially a training scheme associated with technological innovations. Since then, the Hong Kong business community has elected him to many leadership posts. He is a past Chairman of, among others, the Electronics Industry Training Board of the Vocational Training Council, the Hong Kong Productivity Council, and the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce. In 1986, he was presented with the Asian Productivity Organization's National Award and in 1990, he was named an Honorary Fellow of the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers. Currently, Mr Lee is a member of the Hong Kong Trade Development Council, the Honorary Chairman of the Hong Kong Electronics Association and an Honorary Advisor to the Hong Kong Association for the Advancement of Science and Technology.

In the field of government, Mr Lee's record is equally impressive. In his youth, Allen Lee admired the late American President, John F Kennedy, for his vision and leadership. Optimistic and forward-looking like Kennedy, Mr Lee has thrived in public service as he has in business. Through devotion, he has gained the trust of three consecutive Governors. He was appointed to the Legislative Council in 1978 and to the Executive Council in 1985. In 1988, he became the Senior Member of the Legislative Council and, in a short time, managed to prove himself a skilful parliamentary leader. In addition, Mr Lee had also borne responsibilities in the Broadcasting Authority, the Complaints Committee of the Independent Commission Against Corruption, the Executive Committee of the Hong Kong Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, and associations for cooperation between Hong Kong and the United Kingdom, Japan and the United States. Mr Lee was appointed a Justice of Peace in 1980, awarded the OBE in 1982 and CBE in 1988.

Yet, Mr Lee says he finds more personal satisfaction in training talented people and in promoting educational opportunities. Indeed, Mr Lee has been instrumental in the introduction of computer courses in secondary schools and in the recent rapid expansion of tertiary education. Several institutions here have benefited from his service. He was a member of the Court of the University of Hong Kong, Deputy Chairman of the City Polytechnic Council and both a member of the Advisory Committee on Design and Chairman of the Council of Hong Kong Polytechnic. In recognition of his contributions, Hong Kong Polytechnic conferred upon him an Honorary Doctor of Engineering degree in June 1990. Last year, he was made Chairman of the Board of Overseers for the Hong Kong Institute of Biotechnology at The Chinese University of Hong Kong and the Biotechnology Research Institute of the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology.

Mr Chancellor, for his service to and achievements in business, government and education, I request that Your Excellency confer upon Mr Allen Lee Peng-fei the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*.

October 11, 1990

In the past government, Mr Lee's record is equally impressive. In his youth, after Lee returned from his studies in the United States, he joined the Hong Kong Government and worked in various capacities. He was involved in public service in the 1950s and 1960s, serving in the Legislative Council in 1962 and the Executive Council in 1968. In 1968, he became the first Member of the Legislative Council in a direct election, marking a milestone in the history of the Hong Kong Government. He served as a Member of the Legislative Council for a period of 12 years, during which he played a significant role in the development of the Hong Kong economy and the improvement of the educational system. He was also a member of the Education Commission and the Education Council. In 1977, he was appointed as the first Chairman of the Education Commission. He served in this capacity until 1982, during which he made significant contributions to the development of the education system in Hong Kong. He was also a member of the Education Council and the Education Commission. In 1982, he was appointed as the first Chairman of the Education Commission. He served in this capacity until 1987, during which he made significant contributions to the development of the education system in Hong Kong. He was also a member of the Education Council and the Education Commission. In 1987, he was appointed as the first Chairman of the Education Commission. He served in this capacity until 1990, during which he made significant contributions to the development of the education system in Hong Kong. He was also a member of the Education Council and the Education Commission.