

THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG  
TWENTY-FIFTH CONGREGATION

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

*A Citation*

The Hon. Sir Philip Haddon-Cave, KBE, CMG, JP

The economic wonder of Hong Kong has been undoubtedly due to the combined efforts of its efficient government and industrious people, but for more than ten years, it was Sir Philip Haddon-Cave who wielded the magic wand. It was as Financial Secretary and, more importantly, as a creative economist that Sir Philip introduced "positive non-interventionism", while emphasizing the need of decisive management of public sector finances at crucial moments. By sound policies and able direction he has steered Hong Kong's economy with skill and sagacity despite a strong head wind and often choppy waters.

Born in Australia, Sir Philip earned his MA with honours at University of Tasmania and did research work at King's College, Cambridge. During 1947-48 he was Lecturer in Economics at University of Melbourne. Among the honours he has received are: Official Justice of Peace, 1969; CMG, 1973; and KBE, 1979.

Sir Philip's long and distinguished career in the public service began in 1952 in East Africa, where he reached the rank of Under-Secretary to the Treasury in Kenya in 1959. After a year as Treasurer and Secretary in Seychelles he returned to Kenya to become Deputy Secretary of Ministry of Agriculture. In 1962 he was transferred to Hong Kong as Assistant Director of Commerce and Industry, a post he held for three years. Then in a memorable succession he served as Deputy Director of Commerce and Industry, 1965-67; Deputy Economic Secretary, 1967-69; Deputy Financial Secretary, 1969-71; and Financial Secretary, 1971-81. Since November, 1981 he has been Chief Secretary of Hong Kong Government.

It is well-known not only locally but also internationally that Sir Philip has played a key role in the government of Hong Kong as a unique triple centre of finance, industry, and commerce. His name in Chinese standing for "Tripod Base" happily suggests that it is on these three supports that the prosperity of Hong Kong rests. To show our deep gratitude for his inspiring leadership, Mr. Chancellor, I request Your Excellency to confer on Sir Philip Haddon-Cave the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*.

October 17, 1983