

THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

TWENTY-FIFTH CONGREGATION

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

*A Citation*

Dr. the Hon. Sze-yuen Chung, CBE, DSc(Hon), JP

It is indicative of international recognition of the impressive success of Sir Sze-yuen Chung as a leading engineer and industrialist that in the single month of May this year he received three of the most pursued honours in his line: Honorary Fellowship, Institution of Mechanical Engineers, London; Fellowship of Engineering, United Kingdom; and Japanese Order of the Sacred Treasure. He is the first Hong Kong resident to have received the Honorary Fellowship, there being at present only 37 Honorary Fellows of the Institution amongst its 75,000 members throughout the Commonwealth. The award of the exclusive Fellowship of Engineers made him its first recipient not only from Hong Kong but from overseas.

In spite of his widespread fame, however, Sir Sze-yuen's unswerving devotion is to Hong Kong, to the emergence of Hong Kong as a manufacturing industrial base as well as to the economic well-being of the community, a fact duly emphasized by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers in its letter inviting him to accept the Honorary Fellowship.

Born in Hong Kong, Sir Sze-yuen graduated from University of Hong Kong with a B.Sc. in Engineering (First Class Honours) in 1941 and from University of Sheffield with a Ph.D. in Engineering Science in 1951. In England he learned among other things "deep drawing of sheet metal" and glass technology. In the early fifties he burst upon the local industrial scene by setting up factories and devising a variety of new manufacturing techniques. By 1965 he had established Sonca Industries Limited, a concern of world renown, of which he is now Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer as well as director of many other companies. For years active as a prominent figure in our commerce and industry, Sir Sze-yuen has held chairmanship of many organizations including Federation of Hong Kong Industries, 1966-70; Metrication Committee, 1969-73; Hong Kong Industrial Design Council, 1969-76; Hong Kong Productivity Council, 1973-76; and, since 1983, Hong Kong/Japan Business Co-operation Committee.

Yet such a man of diverse interests and talents is Sir Sze-yuen that he has found time to futher serve our community in a number of key positions. At present Senior Unofficial Member of Hong Kong Executive Council, he once sat on both Councils, Executive and Legislative. He has also been, since 1972, Chairman of the Council, Hong Kong Polytechnic and, since last year, Chairman of the Planning Committee for City Polytechnic. In view of such outstanding achievements, Mr. Chancellor, I request Your Excellency to confer on Sir Sze-yuen Chung the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*.

October 17, 1983