

THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

TWENTY-SECOND CONGREGATION

Conferment of the Degree of Doctor of Social Science, *honoris causa*

A Citation

The Honourable Li Fook-wo, CBE, BS, MCS, FIB, JP

The Honourable Li Fook-wo is a banker and leading figure in financial circles in Hong Kong. He joined the Bank of East Asia as a junior member of staff in 1940 and rose to Chief Manager in 1972. After his retirement from this post in 1977, he remained a director of the Bank. Over a period of forty years Mr. Li worked his way through the various departments of the banking business, laying the foundation for his subsequent success as a banker, noted for his versatility. Much though he has distinguished himself in his chosen profession, his contributions to Hong Kong cannot be measured within such a narrow compass as they are made in the realm of the social, the educational and the cultural as well as in the welfare of the community.

Industry is for Hong Kong the vital means of survival and for Mr. Li, in his capacity as director in twelve big commercial concerns, success has more than a personal meaning. Mr. Li has been member of the Hong Kong Trade Development Council, Chairman of the Hong Kong Industrial Estates Corporation, Vice-Patron of the Community Chest of Hong Kong, Vice-President of the Executive Committee of the Hong Kong Society for the Protection of Children -- just to name but a few of the important posts he has held. This is an indication of the dedication and contribution to Hong Kong community and its welfare which culminated in his appointment as unofficial member, in 1973, of the Legislative and, in 1978, of the Executive Council. Mr. Li has always had the interest of people at heart and championed their causes. He always advocated and supported whatever measures were necessary for dealing with the ills of the times. He was made a Justice of the Peace in 1964, and awarded the O.B.E. in 1968, the Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal in 1977 and the C.B.E. in 1978. This is no more than a recognition of the services he has rendered to the community over the years.

From 1961 to 1967 Mr. Li was a member of the Board of Trustees of United College and from 1964 to 1970 was Honorary Treasurer of Chung Chi College and from 1970 to 1976 was Chairman of the Board of Governors and the Council of Chung Chi College. Since 1970, with the short break of one year, Mr. Li has been a member of the Council of The Chinese University of Hong Kong. His contribution to higher education in general and to this University in particular is difficult to over-estimate. In recognition of this, I now ask you, Mr. Chancellor, to confer on Mr. Li Fook-wo the degree of Doctor of Social Science, *honoris causa*.

December 11, 1980