

THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

TWENTY-FIRST CONGREGATION

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

A Citation

Mr. T.C. Cheng, OBE, BA, MA, DipEd, JP

To members of The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Mr. T.C. Cheng needs no introduction. Many of us know from first hand experience that he is a resourceful educationalist and a brilliant administrator who has helped provide the leadership that has made the University what it is today.

Mr. Cheng has served the University in many key posts over a long period of time. He was appointed President of United College in 1963 - the first year of the University's existence - and served in that post until 1977. For four years before retirement, he was Pro-Vice-Chancellor and concurrently Director of the School of Education. He was also the founding Director of the Department of Extramural Studies from 1964 to 1970. In these and many other roles, Mr. Cheng has served with distinction, displaying a deep knowledge of his fellowmen as well as unusually acute judgment. Indeed, the University owes much to this prominent administrator, especially during its difficult times.

Before joining the University, Mr. Cheng had a record of enviable achievements as a government official. While an Inspector of schools, following the War, he was instrumental in re-establishing the Northcote Teachers' Training College (now the Northcote College of Education). Appointed to the Government Administrative Service in 1955, he served with various departments, and from 1959 to 1963 was Chief Assistant Secretary for Chinese Affairs, being the first local officer appointed to the post.

Mr. Cheng's history of service stretches beyond the University and the Government, for he has also rendered continual and honorable service to the communities, local and overseas. Since 1972 he has been an External Examiner of the Institute of Education, Singapore. He is a member of the Court of the University of Hong Kong, Chairman and Deputy President of the Hong Kong Red Cross, as well as Chairman of the Police Education and Welfare Trusts Management Committee. He is an Officer of the Order of the British Empire and a Justice of the Peace, honours that he well deserves.

In recognition of his outstanding contribution to the University and untiring service to the community, I now ask you, Mr. Vice-Chancellor, to confer on Mr. T.C. Cheng the degree of Doctor of Literature, *honoris causa*.

December 6, 1979.