

Twenty-Seventh Graduation Ceremony of Lingnan College
Conferment of the Degree of Doctor of Laws *honoris causa*
A Citation

Mr David Pun Chan, BSc

Mr Visitor,

Mr David Pun Chan is a distinguished member of the business community, whose practical advice and conscientious industry have made him an important figure in his own profession and -- - though this is less well-known --- in the world of education. As a businessman, Mr Chan is highly regarded for his acumen, good sense and courteous manner. His steadfast support of educational development in Hong Kong and in China demonstrates his belief that there can be no development of a community and an economy without the development of the skills, training and education of our young people.

Mr David Pun Chan has been a forceful member of the community of property developers who have created the dramatic skyline that we now take for granted and who have provided a major engine for Hong Kong's growth to prominence. In so doing, Mr Chan has developed his own family business, Tai Cheung Properties Ltd, into a major player in local property development and has earned wide respect in the community.

Born in Hong Kong in 1951, Mr David Pun Chan attended St Paul's Co-educational College, proceeding from there to study at the renowned Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in the United States. His great interest was Science, and in particular bio-technology. In his imagination, he saw himself one day as a researcher in the then new field of Genetics, and there is no doubt that with his determination, he would have been successful. But his future lay in developing the family business, which he took over after the untimely death of his father, Mr Edward Chan Tak-tai, in 1981. He inherited from his father --- one of the pioneers and steadfast supporters of Lingnan College --- not only a prosperous business but also the spirit of service, a strong sense of commitment and the desire to strengthen the local community and its educational opportunities for young people. Such service and commitment is shown in Mr Chan's work as Vice-Chairman of the Lingnan Education Organization Ltd from 1991 to 1996. In the business domain, the large number of companies controlled by Mr David Pun Chan stands as evidence of his abilities and sense of purpose. It is an achievement characterised by hard work, forward thinking and the capacity to create the future. Of these achievements, Mr David Pun Chan remains modest and refreshingly humble.

The determination and drive with which Mr David Pun Chan approached his business activities, are the qualities which have underpinned his support of educational trusts, both here in Hong Kong and in China. He is a trustee of the Hong Kong Pei Hua Education Foundation and the Hua Xia Foundation. The former has been instrumental in training Chinese officials especially from the minority regions to appreciate the way that the market economy works so as to facilitate greater understanding between the very different economic systems that prevail between Hong Kong and the rest of China. The latter also sponsors a variety of medical and agricultural training courses in China, but with its focus on the less developed parts of the interior. Under the guidance of men such as Mr David Pun Chan, the wealth and expertise created in Hong Kong has been spread to enlighten the lives of those in other places.

The relationship between Mr David Pun Chan and Lingnan College has deepened over the years and it was his work as Chairman of the Campus Development and Management Committee

which was to contribute to the creation of our beautiful new campus in Tuen Mun. Against all the odds, the campus was finished on time and on budget and this was achieved as a result of Mr David Pun Chan's professional expertise and determination. Two years after completion of the building, the entire Lingnan community is proud to work and study in such a peaceful and stimulating environment. Our gratitude must also include thanks to him and to his mother, Mrs Chan Tak-tai, for contributing so generously to the construction of our Auditorium at the new campus.

Mr Visitor, for his distinction as a business leader in Hong Kong, his untiring efforts to sponsor educational development for the people of Hong Kong and of China, and for his personal qualities, may I present Mr David Pun Chan for the award of a Doctorate of Laws *honoris causa*.

嶺南學院第二十七屆畢業典禮

榮譽法學博士陳斌先生讚辭

監督先生：

務實而充滿幹勁的陳斌先生是一名傑出的商界人士。成功非僥倖，能夠成為卓越的企業家，全賴他有過人的洞悉力、敏銳的觸角和誠懇的態度。他在教育界的貢獻雖然未如他在商界般聞名，但他默默支持本地及國內的教育發展，因為他深信栽培下一代成才，讓他們得到適當的教育、技能及訓練，對社會及經濟發展至為重要。

陳斌先生在香港地產界屬於中堅分子，除建造了奇蹟般的高樓大廈外，還推動了香港的發展。在他領導下的「大昌地產」家族事業，對香港地產的發展有舉足輕重的影響，而他本人更獲得同儕的尊崇。

一九五一年，陳斌先生於香港出生，其後就讀於聖保羅男女書院及美國麻省理工學院。他對科學有濃厚興趣，尤其是生物工程學，甚至幻想成為遺傳學的研究員。他處事做人，堅毅不屈，務求取得成功。然而，他的先父陳德泰先生在一九八一年猝逝，使他最終不得不把事業轉移到發展家族生意上。陳德泰先生是一名忠心的「嶺南人」，陳斌先生繼承了父親的遺志，不僅令生意蓬勃發展，更要對社會作出承擔，全面履行「作育英才，服務社會」的精神。陳斌先生現時旗下的公司生意不勝枚舉，足可反映他的商業管理才能出眾及宏大抱負。他那種勤勉的精神、高瞻遠矚的眼光及努力創造未來的魄力，都成為成功的動力。儘管陳斌先生擁有這非同凡響的成就，他仍舊保持一貫謙遜和以禮待人的作風。

陳斌先生做事的決心和魄力不僅見證於他的商業成就，還應用於推動教育發展事業上。他成立了「培華教育基金」及「華夏教育基金」，支持本地及國內的教育發展。前者致力培訓國家幹部及少數民族地區官員認識市場經濟的運作，從而使他們了解香港及國內兩種截然不同的經濟運作機制；後者負責為國內新開發城市提供多元化如醫療及農業培訓課程。陳斌先生的努力，得以令在香港創造的成就及財富延續至其他地方，燃亮他人的生命。

陳斌先生對嶺南學院有深厚的感情，多年來他無忘嶺南，經常積極參與校園建設的工作。他擔任校園發展管理委員會主席，憑著專業眼光和判斷，終於能排除萬難，在沒有超支的情況下，按時完成這優雅標緻的屯門新校舍。新校園竣工至今已有兩年，全體嶺南人對能在這優美怡人的新校園內工作和學習，感到十分驕傲。我們亦借助這個機會，衷心感謝他的母親陳德泰夫人慷慨撥捐巨款興建大會堂。

監督先生，為了表揚陳斌先生在商界的卓越成就、對發展本地及國內教育工作的不遺餘力、及其個人高尚品格，懇請頒予陳斌先生榮譽法學博士銜。