## Dr. Wong Bing-lai Doctor of Laws honoris causa



Dr. Wong Bing-lai was born in 1917, into a traditional Chinese family in Toishan. He has been a filial son following his father's advice and example, and has a close attachment to his ancestral home and to his home country. From humble beginnings he worked hard to achieve professional and business success and has dedicated much of his life to helping others and encouraging them to better themselves. Guided by Christian ethics and teachings from the Bible "it is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35), he is a cheerful giver, who never considers the returns or rewards.

Although not baptised until 1956, Dr. Wong adopted and practised Christian principles from his school days. For his secondary education he first attended St. Joseph's College on Hong Kong Island and later Diocesan Boys' School in Kowloon. At the age of 18, driven by a patriotic urge to serve his country, Dr. Wong gave up the opportunity to join his classmates at the University of Hong Kong or study abroad and applied for direct entry to a civil engineering degree course at Lingnan University in Guangzhou. As his family was not then particularly well off, he worked to support himself while studying. Despite many disruptions to his studies during the war years, Dr. Wong persevered and eventually completed his degree in 1943 which laid the foundation for his later professional and business success. He then went into the construction business working not only with building contracting, property development and civil engineering projects, but also taking an active role as director and later president of related construction associations. In addition, he has been involved in other businesses as well as charitable organisations, having been a Director of Hong Kong Telephone Company Limited, President of Lions Club of Victoria, and District Governor and Regional Director of the Y's Men's Clubs in Hong Kong and South-East Asia respectively.

Remembering always what his father had taught him, Dr. Wong has lived his life with a firm belief in the principle of 'Stronger body, stronger nation; better education, better people'. This means that a single individual having a strong body and a sound education is not enough; everyone should have the opportunity for this. For this reason, he has advocated, encouraged and supported sports and public health projects to create strong bodies. At the same time he has also promoted education. Education, according to Dr. Wong's philosophy, has two main aspects. It is a necessary condition to improve the quality of people, thereby leading to a modernized nation. It is also a mutually respectful process, whereby equality and fairness can be upheld between those helping and those being helped. He believes in people helping themselves and sees education as a means to allow them to do this.

In accordance with these beliefs and following his father's example, Dr. Wong has played a very active role in sports from his early school days and participated widely in voluntary work throughout his life. To name just some of the offices he has held, he has been Chairman and President of the South China Athletic Association and has played a leadership role in the Chinese Young Men's Christian Association, serving for 38 years both in Hong Kong and South East Asia. In the medical and welfare field, he is Chairman of Project Concern Hong Kong and United Christian Nethersole Community Health Services and serves on the Board of Directors of United Christian Hospital, the Haven of Hope Hospital and Hong Kong Central Hospital. He has also been a trustee of many benevolent and welfare organisations, such as Tung Wah Group of Hospitals and Po Leung Kuk. Not only has Dr. Wong been dedicated in his commitment of time to this work, but he has also given generously to support many different bodies, these include the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Hong Kong and Queen Mary Hospital in the medical field. In the educational sphere, many establishments have benefited from his considerable contributions. including primary and secondary schools as well as Lingnan University in Hong Kong and Lingnan College in Zhongshan University. True to his patriotic feelings and his attachment to his ancestral home, Dr. Wong has donated substantially to his home village, for the building of several primary and secondary schools, a museum, a medical school, a nurses training school and a teachers training school. Dr. Wong says that he gives 'within my best ability, to build a better and more equal community'. Many people must be grateful for his generosity which has given them opportunities to change their lives for the better.

In recognition of Dr. Wong's life long pursuit of excellence in business and community service especially in health, education and sports, Springfield College in Massachusetts, United States of America conferred a Degree of Doctor of Humanics *honoris causa* on Dr. Wong in 1995.

Mr. Chairman, from the aforementioned we can see that Dr. Wong has made enormous contributions to our community in terms of time, interest and resources. His efforts in promoting health, sports, education, hospital and nursing services are most worthy. His belief and action to promote self-help, equality and fairness through education are admirable. His long history of association with Lingnan organisations, and his exceptional attachment to Lingnan especially as one of the founders of Lingnan University in Hong Kong, deserve an added recognition. Mr. Chairman, may I now present Dr. Wong Bing-lai to you for the award of the degree of Doctor of Laws honoris causa.

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## 黄炳禮博士 榮譽法學博士



黄炳禮博士祖籍廣東台山,一九一七年生於一個傳統的中國家庭,事父至孝,待人接物,均遵從父訓,以父親為榜樣;對故鄉和祖國懷有深擊的感情。黃博士行遠自邇,不斷努力,在專業和事業上取得成功。同時積極幫助並鼓勵他人進取,不遺餘力。<<聖經>>>有言:「施比受更為有福」(<<使徒行傳>>>二十章三十五節)。黃博士遵從這一行事準則和教訓,樂於捐獻,從來不望收益或報酬。

黄博士一直乗承父訓,堅信「身強,國強;教育越佳,人才越優」的理念。 認為社會上僅得一人體魄強健,教育良好,並不足夠;人人均有機會臻此境界, 方為理想。因此,黃博士極力主張並鼓勵體育活動和健康生活,以鍛練強健的體 魄。同時,他還促進了教育事業。根據黃博士的理念,教育應包括兩方面:一方 面教育是提高人民質素,使國家達至現代化的必要條件;另一方面,教育是一個 互相尊重的過程,能維持助人和受助者之間的平等、合理關係。黃博士相信人能 自助,而教育是自助的途徑。 按照上述信念和父親樹立的榜樣,黃博士從求學時期開始,就一直積極參與體育活動和廣泛的志願工作,出任為數眾多的社團職位,其中包括南華體育會主席及會長,並負起中華基督教青年會香港及東南亞區的領導工作,長達三十八年。在醫療及社會服務方面,黃博士歷任香港醫藥援助會及基督教聯合那打素社康服務主席,基督教聯合醫院、靈實醫院、港中醫院董事。同時擔任慈善及社會服務團體的多項職務,諸如東華三院總理及保良局總理。黃博士熱心公益,不但奉獻時間,而且對多個團體慷慨解囊,其中包括醫學方面的香港大學醫學院和瑪麗醫院。在教育方面,為數眾多的學校團體,包括中、小學、香港嶺南大學以及廣州中山大學嶺南(大學)學院,也受惠於黃博士的慷慨捐助。黃博士熱愛祖國,對家鄉宗族感情深厚;在原籍鄉縣慷慨捐助,興建小學、中學、博物館、醫學院、護士訓練學校及師範學校。黃博士經常表示,自己是「盡力締造一個更美好、更平等的社會」。因此,社會上由於受黃博士慷慨捐贈之惠而得以改善生活的人,為數甚多。

為表揚多年來黃博士傑出的事業成就及其在保健、教育及體育方面對社會的傑出貢獻,美國麻省春田大學於一九九五年頒授黃博士榮譽人文博士榮銜。

主席先生,無論就時間、志趣還是金錢而言,黃炳禮博士都樂善好施,對社會有傑出貢獻。其在保健、體育、教育、醫院以及護理訓練等方面的努力尤堪敬佩。黃博士堅信,教育能發揚自我奮鬥、平等公平的精神,並將理念付諸實行,實在令人景仰。黃博士多年來與嶺南各機構有密切關係,是香港嶺南大學創辦人之一,對嶺南大學所懷的深厚眷念,尤堪表揚。現在謹恭請主席頒授黃炳禮博士榮譽法學博士學位。