

Honorary Doctor of Business Administration

Dr the Honourable LEE Shau-kee

Citation written and delivered by Professor Matthew LEE Kwok-on

Pro-Chancellor, Council Chairman, President and Distinguished Guests:

Dr the Honourable Lee Shau-kee is a household name as Chairman of Henderson Land Development Company Limited, and an outstanding figure in the business world of Hong Kong. He has gained such a success through his hard work, far-sightedness, sincerity, and his approach to doing business, which he sums up in a formula marked by six words, namely Rest, Determined, Calmness, Tranquil, Deliberation, and Attainment.

The formula is Dr Lee's laconic adaptation of a famous passage in the *Great Learning* as part of *The Classic of Rites*. The quotation says:

“The point where to rest being known, the object of pursuit is then determined; and, that being determined, a calm unperturbedness may be attained to. To that calmness there will succeed a tranquil repose. In that repose there may be careful deliberation, and that deliberation will be followed by the attainment of the desired end.”

Applying this teaching to investment and business, Dr Lee explains that one must first have some savings to rest upon as capital before having one's goal determined, then without worries one can have calmness of mind, and in this tranquil state there can be deliberation on when and where to advance or retreat, and that will naturally lead to the attainment of one's goal.

Acting on this formula, Dr Lee has been successful in the business world for the past seven decades.

Born and brought up in Guangdong, Dr Lee came to Hong Kong by himself in 1948. He worked in various trades before entering the property industry. Relying on his vision, wisdom, broadmindedness and courage, he set up his own company in 1976. Today, Dr Lee owns a property empire with a market value totalling over HK\$420 billion.

Dr Lee has witnessed the speed-up and take-off of the economy and has made great efforts to foster prosperity for both Hong Kong and the mainland. For his remarkable services, he has received special honours. In 2007, Dr Lee received the Grand Bauhinia Medal from the Hong Kong SAR Government in recognition of his outstanding contributions to society.

In addition to his success in business, Dr Lee has distinguished himself as a generous philanthropist. Through the Lee Shau Kee Foundation, he has funded education and talent training projects in Hong Kong, mainland China and abroad, from which countless people have benefited.

Along with several friends, Dr Lee set up the Hong Kong Pei Hua Education Foundation in 1982. The Foundation adopts a visionary approach to enhancing human resources and providing training opportunities in mainland China.

Also, through the “Warmth Project” that he initiated across mainland China, Dr Lee has helped to train over 1.23 million farmers and 11,000 doctors working in rural areas. In recent years, Dr Lee has helped to fund and carry out the “Overseas Study Programme for a Thousand University Presidents in Central and Western Regions of China” to enhance teaching and administrative standards for higher education institutions in those parts of the country. All the donations and training projects that Dr Lee has helped to bring about have made clear and lasting changes to the education sector in mainland China.

For his contributions, Dr Lee has earned various honorary titles from universities in Hong Kong, mainland China and abroad.

City University of Hong Kong has benefited a great deal from Dr Lee’s kindness. We have named one of the halls at the Student Residence as Lee Shau Kee Hall in appreciation of his great generosity, and earlier this year we received a donation of HK\$120 million to support our long-term development.

Mr Pro-Chancellor, Dr the Honourable Lee Shau-kee is esteemed as a highly successful entrepreneur, and he is warmly praised as a great philanthropist. An exemplary member of society, Dr Lee has proved to be a role model for all young students. I request City University of Hong Kong to award Dr the Honourable Lee Shau-kee an Honorary Doctor of Business Administration, *honoris causa*.