

Honorary Doctor of Laws

The Hon Andrew LI Kwok-nang

Citation written and delivered by Professor WANG Guiguo

Chancellor:

The Hon Andrew Li Kwok-nang was born in Hong Kong and attended St Paul's Co-educational College in Hong Kong and Repton School in England. He obtained Master of Arts and Master of Laws degrees from the University of Cambridge and was called to the Bar by the Middle Temple in 1970. In 1973 he was admitted to the Hong Kong Bar and took silk in 1988.

Mr Li has a remarkable record of public service. Whilst in private practice, he served as a member of the Executive Council of the Hong Kong Government before the handover, as Deputy Chairman of the Inland Revenue Board of Review, Secretary of the Bar Association, Steward of the Hong Kong Jockey Club, Chairman of the University and Polytechnic Grants Committee and the Land Development Corporation and as a member of the Lands Tribunal, the Securities Commission, the Law Reform Commission, the Standing Committee on Company Law Reform, the Banking Advisory Committee and the Judicial Services Commission. He has also served as Vice Chairman of the Council of the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. At present, he is serving as Vice Chairman of the Council of St Paul's Co-educational College, Trustee of the Friends of Tsinghua University Law School Charitable Trust, Guest Professor of Tsinghua University and Honorary Professor of all the law schools in Hong Kong.

Mr Li was appointed Chief Justice of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (Hong Kong SAR) on 1 July 1997. In his tenure as Chief Justice, Mr Li set up the Court of Final Appeal, which, under his strong leadership, has won the trust not only of the people of Hong Kong but also of judiciaries in other jurisdictions.

As the first Chief Justice of the Hong Kong SAR, Mr Li upheld the rule of law and the independence of the judiciary under the principle of "one country, two systems", and guarded the essential values of this territory. With his wisdom,

knowledge, determination and dedication, Mr Li fully succeeded in carrying out his task as Chief Justice.

Mr Li has been a friend of City University of Hong Kong's School of Law for a number of years. Prior to the establishment of the Law School, Mr Li was Chairman of the Law and Professional Legal Education (PLE) Departments Advisory Committee. He took personal interest in the growth of the School of Law and advised and supported its unique feature, Chinese and Comparative Law.

Mr Li also lent his full support and encouragement to the LLM Programme for Chinese Judges and the Senior Chinese Judges Programme of CityU in cooperation with the Supreme People's Court of China and Columbia Law School. He attended both the inauguration and graduation ceremonies of the LLM Programme for Chinese judges. He invited the judges to his Court to brief them about the Hong Kong judiciary and to exchange views with them. His rich knowledge and experience left a deep impression on all these judges.

Mr Li cares very much about the future of Hong Kong and China. He works tirelessly to help young students. After he learned that CityU's School of Law, CIETAC (China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission) and Columbia Law School were to establish an International ADR Mooting Competition, he immediately accepted the honorary patronship of the Moot and sent a personal message to encourage the participants. Under his guidance, the first International ADR Mooting Competition was a complete success and won praise from all those involved.

Limited by space, it is impossible to list all the important contributions Mr Li has made to CityU and the School of Law; suffice it to say we have all benefited from their impact.

Mr Chancellor, on behalf of City University of Hong Kong, I present The Hon Andrew Li Kwok-nang, Hong Kong SAR's first Chief Justice, for the award of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*.