


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


Dr Lam Chik-suen, MBE, LHD, JP

Mr Visitor,

A native of Xinhui City in Guangdong, Dr Lam Chik-suen is a renowned entrepreneur, social activist and philanthropist. Mr Lam Woo, Dr Lam's late father, made his living when he was young in Sydney, Australia. He worked diligently and accrued some wealth with which, upon his return to Hong Kong, he founded a company named Lam Woo Company. The company's main business was construction and it underwent continuous expansion. Before the Second World War, branches were set up in Guangzhou and Shanghai, with business spreading over Guangzhou, Shanghai and Hunan. The well-known Wing On Department Store in Shanghai was among the prestigious buildings constructed by Lam Woo Company.

Dr Lam has since childhood adhered to the instructions given by his father that one has to be sincere and helpful. The contributions he has made exemplify this spirit.

Dr Lam received his early education from both Lingnan Primary School and Lingnan Middle School. He then proceeded to study in the Department of Civil Engineering at Lingnan University. Before completion of the study programme, he furthered his studies at the renowned Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the United States. Upon his return to Hong Kong, he assumed management of his family business which, under his supervision, became increasingly prosperous. To observe his late father's will, Dr Lam Chik-suen and his late brother Mr Lam Chik-ho, donated a sum of money for the establishment of the "Lam Woo Foundation Ltd" in 1987. Every year the income generated by the foundation is given to educational, religious, and social welfare organisations in Hong Kong and China. Up to the present, over HK\$50 million has been donated to various organisations or areas such as hospitals, Hong Kong Baptist University, University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Lingnan College, Lingnan (University) College of Zhongshan University, and Jiangmen City. Dr Lam is currently Chairman of the Lam Woo Foundation Ltd.

Motivated by great zeal for causes of social justice, Dr Lam has an enviable record of public services. He has served as Member of the Reception Committee right after the war and Member of the Board to Draft the First Landlords and Tenants Ordinance. When Hong Kong fell to the hands of the Japanese during the War, Dr Lam, in his capacity as Honorary Treasurer of the United Chinese Church in Hong Kong, managed a Christian Co-op, importing food provisions from neighbouring areas for use by the Christians and clergymen in Hong Kong. He has also served as Member of Registered Contractors' Disciplinary Board Panel and Member of Technical Education and Vocational Training Committee. In educational services, Dr Lam has made significant contributions. He is founder and Council Member of the Chinese YMCA Secondary School; Honorary President, former Supervisor and former Member of Council of Ebenezer School for the Blind; Member of Council and former Chairman of Council of True Light Middle School of Hong Kong, and was responsible for the construction and financing of the School's Tai Hang Road campus; founder, Honorary Treasurer and Member of Council of SKH Tang Shiu Kin Secondary School; and Honorary Treasurer and Member of the SKH Primary School Council for thirty-three schools.

Dr Lam is enthusiastic about the promotion of social and religious activities in Hong Kong. He was elected the former President and now the Honorary President, and Member of the Board of Directors of the Chinese YMCA of Hong Kong, which he has served for over forty years. He

also served as former Chairman of the Financial Committee and Member of Executive Council of the World Alliance of YMCAs; former International Vice-President (Asia), past Regional Director and past District Governor of the Y's Men's International; former President and Honorary Member of Y's Men's Club of Hong Kong; Chairman of Council of SKH Lady Macle hose Centre for over 20 years; former Chairman and Member of Council of the Hong Kong Society for the Protection of Children; and former Director of Po Leung Kuk. In addition, he has also subscribed to quite a number of religious groups. He served as Honorary Treasurer and former Member of the Executive Council of the Church Body of the Chinese Anglican Church in Hong Kong Diocese; and Member of Vestry of St Paul's Church. For several decades, he has been whole-heartedly dedicated to his life mission, bearing responsibilities without grudge.

For the outstanding contributions he has made in youth affairs and social services after the war, Dr Lam has been awarded Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (MBE), and Justice of Peace. In 1960, he was awarded, as the second person in Hong Kong to receive this honour, the degree of Doctor of Humanities *honoris Causa* by Springfield College of Massachusetts in the USA.

As a loyal Lingnanian, Dr Lam's fervour for the development of Lingnan's educational enterprise has never weakened. All alumni of Lingnan University in Guangzhou have long cherished a wish: resumption of Lingnan University. The first step to the realisation of this aspiration was the founding of Lingnan College in Hong Kong in 1967, when Dr Lam Chik-suen was appointed Chairman of the College's first Board of Governors and Member of the Management Committee. With his endeavours, a firm foundation for the further development of the College had been laid.

In 1995, Lingnan College moved to its new campus in Tuen Mun. The Lam Woo Foundation Ltd, initiated by Dr Lam, generously donated a substantial sum of money towards the new campus development. To express appreciation for this charitable cause, a lecture theatre and a block of the southern student hostels in the Tuen Mun campus were named "Lam Woo Lecture Theatre" and "Lam Woo Hall" respectively by the College. In addition, Dr Lam was one of the founders of the Lingnan (University) College of Zhongshan University, which was set up in 1991. He is now Honorary Chairman of the Board of Governors and Chairman of the Lingnan (University) Development Fund Ltd, offering a generous sum of funding for the construction of "Lam Woo Hall". For more than six decades, Dr Lam has been rendering unswerving support to Lingnan's educational activities.

Besides active participation in local social and educational activities, developments of Dr Lam's native town has also been a focal point of his endeavours. The Foundation has donated a special sum of money for the construction of Lam Woo Middle School in his ancestral home of Xinhui. His significant contribution has won him the award of "Honorary Citizen of Jiangmen City" and "Honorary Citizen of Xinhui City".

Dr Lam has followed Christ's model of loving others throughout his life. He has taken it as his life mission to scrupulously abide by promises and to strive to perform his duties. He has also adhered to the principle of repaying society with what he has obtained from it. He certainly provides for us all a shining model of service.

Mr Visitor, for the admirable contributions he has made to the community over the years, may I present Dr Lam Chik-suen, who is now aged eighty-eight, for the award of Doctor of Social Sciences *honoris causa*.

嶺南學院第二十七屆畢業典禮

榮譽社會科學博士林植宣博士讚辭

監督先生：

林植宣博士祖籍廣東新會，是香港著名的企業家、社會活動家和慈善家。林博士先翁林護先生年幼時在澳洲悉尼謀生，因工作勤奮而薄有儲蓄。其後林氏回港營商，創辦聯益公司，公司業務不斷拓展，成為一家以建造業為主要的公司。戰前公司在廣州及上海均設有分行，承建之工程遍及廣州、上海、湖南等地，上海之永安公司商業大廈即為聯益建造公司所承建。

林博士幼承庭訓，對先翁訓誨之待人以誠及助人為快樂之本之做人宗旨銘記於心，並身體力行之。

林博士早歲在嶺南小學和嶺南中學接受教育，中學畢業後考入嶺南大學土木工程系深造，未畢業即轉往美國威名遠播之麻省理工學院繼續未完成之土木工程學業。林博士返港後，克紹箕裘，把家族企業進一步發揚光大。一九八七年，林植豪、林植宣昆仲依先翁之遺志將捐出之財產，成立“林護紀念基金有限公司”，以每年之孳息收入捐贈本港及內地教育、教會、社會及福利團體，迄今捐贈總額已逾五千萬港元，受惠之機構或地區包括醫院及香港浸會大學、香港大學、香港科技大學、嶺南學院、廣州中山大學嶺南（大學）學院及江門市等。林博士現為林護紀念基金有限公司之主席。

林博士一生熱心香港社會事業，公職方面，曾擔任太平洋戰爭後之接待委員及租務審裁處委員。日本佔領香港時，曾任香港基督教總會司庫，及辦理基督徒合作社，運送米糧至香港接濟香港的教徒及牧師等。此外，林博士亦擔任建造商紀律組委員，並曾任職業訓練局委員。教育機構方面，林博士是香港青年會中學創辦人兼校董；心光盲人院暨學校名譽會長、前任監督及執行委員；香港真光中學現任校董，校董會前任主席，期間推動籌建大坑道校舍；聖公會鄧肇堅中學之倡辦人及義務司庫、校董；以及聖公會小學監理委員會義務司庫、管理委員會屬下三十三間小學等，對本港教育的發展貢獻巨大。

林博士亦熱心推動本港社團及宗教團體之活動，其中職務包括香港中華基督教青年會前任會長、現任名譽會長及董事四十餘年；國際青年會協會執行委員、財政委員會主席；國際聯青社前任國際亞洲區副會長、東南亞地域及香港地區總監、香港聯青社前任會長；現任聖公會麥理浩夫人中心管理委員會主席逾廿載；香港保護兒童會委員及前任主席；以及保良局前任總理等。此外亦擔任聖公會港澳教區信託委員會義務司庫、前執行委員及聖保羅堂特選教區議員等多項宗教團體公職。林博士推動社會公益事業，任勞任怨，且數十年如一日。

林博士於戰後在促進及發展香港青年會務及社會服務的卓越貢獻，先後獲得英帝國員佐勳章（MBE）及香港政府太平紳士榮銜。美國麻省春田大學亦於一九六零年頒授植宣先生榮譽人文博士學位，予以表揚。林博士是第二位獲春田大學頒授榮譽博士學位的本港人士。

作為“紅灰兒女”的林植宣博士，對母校嶺南教育事業的發展關懷備至。長時期以來，廣州嶺南大學校友均有一個心願：復辦嶺南大學。一九六七年嶺南書院在香港成立是實現復校理想的第一步，林植宣博士以德高望重，被推選為第一屆校董會主席及管理委員會委員，為書院之發展籌劃獻策，肇奠始基。

一九九五年嶺南學院遷校屯門，林博士極力推動“林護紀念基金”捐獻巨款予母校，校方以校內主樓一個演講廳及南翼一座宿舍分別命名為“林護演講廳”和“林護堂”以誌謝忱。一九九一年，廣州中山大學嶺南（大學）學院成立，林博士為創辦人之一，現任董事會名譽主席及嶺南（大學）學院籌募發展委員會主席，並捐資興建“林護堂”等，其對嶺南教育事業之貢獻，可說六十多年來矢志不渝。

林博士除活躍於本港社會文教團體外，亦對桑梓貢獻心力，如在其祖籍新會市興建林護中學等。為表彰其對桑梓之貢獻，林博士受頒“江門市榮譽市民”及“新會市榮譽市民”等榮銜。

林博士一生秉持基督愛世人的精神，以恪守信約和力盡本份作為人生的宗旨，並以取諸社會，用之社會的精神服務社會，實為世人之典範。

監督先生，為了表揚林植宣博士多年來對社會所作出的巨大貢獻，謹請頒予今年八十八歲的長者林植宣博士榮譽社會科學博士學位。