

## Citation for Prof Jao Tsung-i

Your Excellency,

Professor Jao Tsung-I is a distinguished scholar, whose works range from history to geography, from linguistics to paleography and from art and literary criticism to musicology. As a master of Chinese classical studies, his publications have received scholarly attention throughout the world for the last five decades. His research interests range over the entire span of China's cultural past, from neolithic times to the more recent past. If one had to single out a few key contributions from Professor Jao's several hundred articles and more than fifty books and collections, one might start with his early work on the *Chuci*, on the *Ci* poetry of the Tang and Song dynasties, on the *Wenxin diaolong*, and his work on the Chaozhou community in Guangdong. But one would have to continue with a much longer list of works of genuine academic distinction.

Professor Jao's foremost interest in the origins and development of Chinese culture led him to devote an important part of his scholarly work to the *jiaguwen*, the celebrated oracle bones from the Yin dynasty. His numerous contributions in this field have been much admired by several generations of scholars and remain to this day as significant sources for the study of early Chinese history. Professor Jao's expertise in archeology and his great concern for recently excavated materials are also seen through his widely admired work on the manuscripts and paintings from the Buddhist caves in Dunhuang.

In pursuit of these studies, he travelled extensively in the fifties and the sixties and compiled detailed accounts of the major collections of oracle bones and Dunhuang manuscripts in Europe and Japan. He made contact with European and Japanese sinologists and became a regular participant in international conferences. He was awarded the Stanislas Julien prize by the Collège de France in 1962. In the course of his Buddhist studies he also travelled widely in India and Southeast Asia.

When Professor Jao retired from The Chinese University of Hong Kong in 1978, it is clear that he saw his retirement as an excellent opportunity to increase the flow of his learned publications and to continue to teach advanced courses in a number of leading institutions in China, Europe and Japan. Between 1978 and 1980 he taught advanced courses in the history of Chinese religions as a Visiting Professor, first in Paris and then in Kyoto. Whilst in Paris, he was made an honorary member of the French Société Asiatique. After the award of his first honorary Doctorate by the University of Hong Kong in 1982, he was appointed as an honorary professor, both by the University of Hong Kong and The Chinese University of Hong Kong and was able to make a significant contribution to postgraduate studies in both institutions. He was also appointed to honorary chairs in Fudan and Zhongshan universities as well as in the Guangdong Fine Arts Institute and the Beijing Broadcasting Institute. Then, in 1993, Professor Jao was awarded his second honorary Doctorate of Letters, this time in Paris by the Sorbonne's École Pratique des Hautes Études on the occasion of the 120th Anniversary of that institution. At the same time, the French Ministry of Culture gave him an award in recognition of his outstanding artistic accomplishments.

In addition to being a highly productive and wide-ranging scholar and teacher, Professor Jao is an accomplished calligrapher, painter, poet and essayist. As a painter he exhibits regularly and his work is much in demand not only in Hong Kong but also in Japan and other Asian countries. As a calligrapher his reputation is virtually unrivalled in Hong Kong. This College is fortunate in having a number of his calligraphic works, each of them composed and written for us.

Your Excellency, I have much pleasure in presenting to you Professor Jao Tsung-I, a most distinguished scholar over a wide range of Chinese studies, who is also an outstanding calligrapher, painter, poet and essayist, for the award of the degree of Doctor of Humanities, *honoris causa*.

## 饒宗頤教授贊辭

總督閣下：

饒宗頤教授是一位傑出學者。他的嚴謹學術工作範疇廣泛，從歷史到地理，從語言學到古文字學，從藝術及文學批評到音樂研究。饒教授是中國古典文學與藝術研究的巨擘，五十年來其成就備受全世界學術人士的注目。他的研究範圍，從新石器時代到近代，涵蓋整個中國文化的過去，從他早年所主編的《潮州志》一書，便可見其知識面包涵之廣。饒教授著述等身，除了發表學術論文數百篇之外，著作及文集更超逾五十部，但卻幾乎無法從中挑選幾部著述作為主要代表，因為無論是從他早期對楚辭、唐宋詩詞及《文心雕龍》的研究，或是近年間有關敦煌學、甲骨文各方面的著述，皆可列為主要傑出成就。

饒教授的主要研究興趣在於探索中國文化的起源和構成，因而學術工作的一重要部分專注在殷代流傳下來刻在龜甲上文字的研究。在這一學術領域中，他貢獻良多，啓迪了後來數代的學者，迄今仍是研究中國早期歷史最可靠的原始資料。饒教授對敦煌佛窟的手稿及繪畫的研究備受推崇，正顯出了他在考古學方面的鴻才卓識，及對最近出土文物的殷切關注。

就上述有關研究，饒教授於五十年代及六十年代遍遊各地，搜集在歐洲及日本的重要收藏甲骨及敦煌手稿。他與歐洲及日本的漢學家聯繫密切，經常出席國際研討會。饒教授亦曾多次造訪印度及東南亞，從事佛學研究。一九六二年獲法蘭西學院頒授漢學儒蓮獎。

自一九七八年香港中文大學退休後，饒教授因而享有充份時間從事更深入的學術研究，並繼續在中國、歐洲及日本著名學府交流講授。一九七八年至八〇年間，他以客座教授身份，先後在巴黎及京都講授中國宗教史及文學史深造課程。在巴黎時，他獲選為法國亞洲學會榮譽會員。一九八二年他首次獲香港大學頒贈榮譽文學博士銜，後又獲聘為香港大學及香港中文大學榮譽講座教授，為兩所大學的研究院課程作出重要貢獻。其後，他更分別被復旦大學、中山大學、廣東文理學院及北京廣播學院等聘任為名譽教授。一九九三年，饒教授再獲頒榮譽文學博士銜，該項殊榮是巴黎法國高等研究所為紀念建校一百二十周年而頒授的；與此同時，法國政府文化部亦為饒教授頒授藝術勳章。

饒教授既是著名學者及教授，著述宏富，博識廣聞，又是一位卓越的書法家、畫家、詩人及散文家。他經常舉行畫展，作品在香港、日本及其他亞洲國家收藏者眾多。他的書法造詣在香港享有至高聲譽，本校得蒙饒教授撰寫若干妙筆卷軸，至為榮幸。

總督閣下，饒教授是一位對中國文化有廣泛研究的超卓學者，他同時又是傑出的書法家、畫家、詩人及散文家，現恭請閣下頒予榮譽人文學博士銜。