

Conferment of Honorary Doctor of Laws to Hon Andrew LI Kwok-nang

12 November 2010



Mr Andrew Li addresses the congregation on behalf of the honorary award recipients.

City University of Hong Kong (CityU) conferred honorary doctorates on on 11 November. **The Hon Henry Tang Ying-yen, GBM, JP**, University Chancellor, presided over the ceremony.

The five outstanding recipients were **Mr Chung Shui-ming**, Director-General of the Democratic Alliance for the Betterment and Progress of Hong Kong; **Dr Barry Lam**, Founder and Chairman of Quanta Computer; **Dr Lee Kai-Fu**, Innovation Works Chairman and CEO; **Professor Jean-Marie Lehn**, winner of the Nobel Prize in Chemistry, and **The Hon Andrew Li Kwok-nang**, Hong Kong's first Chief Justice.

The Honourable Andrew Li Kwok-nang, Honorary Doctor of Laws, was the first Chief Justice of the HKSAR. He has played a pivotal role in ensuring that judicial independence as guaranteed by the Basic Law is firmly established in Hong Kong. Under his strong leadership, the Court of Final Appeal won the trust not only of the people of Hong Kong but also of judiciaries in other jurisdictions. During his tenure, Mr Li upheld the rule of law and the independence of the judiciary under the principle of "one country, two systems", at the same time guarding the essential values of the territory, for which he is widely respected. Mr Li has been a steadfast friend of CityU, and is a particularly strong supporter of the University's School of Law. The Chinese and Comparative Law programme, a unique feature of the School, has greatly benefited from his advice. Mr Li is also appointed the Honorary Professor of the School of Law.

In his note of thanks, Mr Li said, "CityU has grown impressively in size and stature and is now ranked among the best 150 universities in the world. The University must be congratulated for what it has achieved. I am confident that it will go from strength to strength and I wish it every success in its endeavours." He also said graduates should prepare for the uncertainty of the future by committing themselves to life-long learning, creativity and innovation, and achieving the inner strength to overcome adversity. "We must be prepared to do our fair share to serve the welfare of the community and help the underprivileged," he added.