CJER Successfully Held the 10th Advanced Programme for Chinese Senior Judges

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The Closing Ceremony of the 10th Advanced Programme for Chinese Senior Judges held on 22 October 2016 concluded the intensive exchanging Programme. In the past two weeks, meetings and discussions in various forms were arranged for 31 Chinese senior judge participants who came from 27 provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions. Through these judicial exchanges, the senior judge participants conducted in-depth discussions with the Hong Kong legal community and thus further advanced their knowledge in common law and the difference between the two legal systems.
CJER has specially arranged four lectures on Civil Justice and Criminal Justice for the delegation of senior judges. Mr. Wesley WONG, SC, Solicitor General; Mr. Martin HUI, SC, Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions; Justice Wally YEUNG, Vice-President of the Court of Appeal of the High Court and Mr. Symon WONG, Teaching Consultant, SLW were the speakers of the four lectures. While Mr. Jimmy MA, the former Legislative Council Secretariat Legal Adviser introduced the role and the function of the Legislative Council to the senior judges. Through the five lectures, not only were the delegation presented a full picture of how the legal professionals and the entire legal system work in Hong Kong, their sharing of experiences also brought the information of the current judicial development in the mainland to the Hong Kong legal community.

With the support from various organizations, the delegation were able to have a comprehensive view of the Hong Kong Judiciary and other local judicial organs. During the two-week Programme, they visited the High Court, the Kowloon City Magistrates’ Courts, the Department of Justice, the Legislative Council, the Hong Kong Bar Association, the Law Society of Hong Kong, the Correctional Service Department, the Legal Aid Department, the Ombudsmen, the ICAC, the Hong Kong Customs and Exercise Department, the Audit Commission and the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data. Justice CHU Fun-ling, Justice of Appeal of the Court of Appeal of the High Court, Mr. LEE Hing-nin, Chief Magistrate, Ms. Winnie TAM, SC, Chairman of the Hong Kong Bar Association, Mr. Thomas SO, President of the Law Society of Hong Kong, and Mr. SUN Tak-kei, Director of Audit met the Chinese senior judges and gave them overview on their filed of expertise.
Judge MAO Zhonghua, President of the Jiangsu Intermediate People’s Court concluded at an interview during the Closing Ceremony that the Mainland was promoting a judgement-centred judicial reform. The two-week Programme was very meaningful to him. Through the Programme, he has had some new ideas on judgement and case management and the discussions with local judges were heuristic in nature and beneficial to his work.