

The Hon Andrew Li Kwok-nang CBE, GBM, JP

DOCTOR OF LAWS *honoris causa*

Address

On behalf of all the honorary graduates, I wish to express our deep gratitude to the University for the high honours which have been conferred on us and for the kind and generous citations. We are proud to receive the award which we shall treasure.

The University is committed to the provision of quality education distinguished by the best liberal arts tradition. It adopts a whole-person approach which enables students to think, judge, care and ultimately act responsibly in the changing circumstances of Hong Kong, the region and the world. I wish to express my warmest congratulations to all concerned on what the University has achieved. I am confident that under the able leadership of the Council and the President, the institution will go from strength to strength and I wish it every success in its endeavours.

To all graduating students, both undergraduate and postgraduate, I wish to offer my sincere and warmest congratulations. I am sure that they will agree with me when I say that you owe a great debt of gratitude to your families and teachers for their unstinting support and wise guidance. They must be very happy today and have every reason to be proud of you. To them, I also wish to extend my congratulations and best wishes.

The body of alumni is a most important stakeholder of any university and can provide it with invaluable support. You have received much from the University and I trust that you will do your part to contribute to the development of your Alma Mater in future years.

It is now some 40 years since I graduated from University. The last 40 years have seen the most momentous changes in the world. In particular, the revolution in information technology has brought all of us closer together. Today, sitting at our computers, we are linked in a matter of moments to the rest of the globe. We talk today, without poetic licence, of living in a global village.

Looking into the future, only one thing is certain. The pace of change is likely to accelerate. In order to be able to contribute to and indeed survive in the 'global village' in this fast changing world, we need to be 'global citizens'. But what does this involve?

First, global citizens should view life with an inquisitive and open mind. They should always ask 'why' and explore new answers and solutions to problems. They should accept and embrace change and they should not set limits to what can be achieved. They must never take things for granted, always striving to make improvements and prepared to challenge orthodoxy. They should be flexible and innovative, with the courage to try things out.

Secondly, global citizens should constantly educate themselves so that they would have the knowledge and skills required from time to time. They should understand that the means of survival lie in the life-long pursuit of education in all respects. Things taught at schools and universities are not an education but only a means to an education and there are no limits and boundaries to learning. Global citizens must therefore believe in and practise learning for life. And they must be keen to continue to learn from experience in the university of life.

Thirdly, global citizens should act with integrity, generosity and commitment. Understanding the importance of interdependency in all spheres of human activity and endeavour, global citizens must look beyond their self-interest to the pursuit of the well-being of the community at large. They must have a strong commitment to their families, their work and their fellow citizens. And they must abide always by the enduring values of honesty and integrity. They should always have the welfare of the under-privileged in mind. They should be generous and ready to share with others. And they should be earnest in working towards the betterment of mankind.

Finally, global citizens should face and overcome difficulties with faith and courage. Living and working in such a competitive environment, global citizens would be bound to experience ups and downs in life. Sometimes, the sun will shine on you. But at other times, life can be stormy. Sometimes, the sailing will be plain. At other times, the territory will be rugged. But there could be no turning back. It is important always to move on with faith and courage and tackle what life throws at you, with confidence in your own ability to overcome adversity.

For students graduating today, you have concluded a stage in your life's journey and will be embarking on your next stage. You are and have to be global citizens and as global citizens, you will find life challenging, exciting and rewarding. I wish you good fortune and every success and happiness. Thank you.

李國能先生

榮譽法學博士

致辭

本人謹代表本屆領受名譽學位的人士，衷心地感謝大學頒授這崇高的榮譽給我們，以及對我們的嘉獎。對於獲頒這項殊榮，我們感到非常自豪，並定必珍而重之。

嶺南大學致力提供優質教育，以推行文科教育聞名。大學以全人教育為方針，培養學生獨立思考、明辨是非、關心社群，而最終乃啓迪他們本着良知，在香港、鄰近地區及世界迭起變化的時刻，勇於承擔責任。我謹此為嶺南大學所取得的成就送上道賀，並有信心在校董會及校長的英明領導下，大學定會竿頭日上，教澤流長。

我衷心向所有本科及研究院的畢業生致以熱烈的祝賀。你們一定同意我這樣說：對於過往多年來一直給予你們無限支持和教導的家人和師長，你們定必畢生銘感。他們今天一定感到萬分欣慰，也定必為你們的成就引以為榮。我衷心向他們道賀，並獻上祝福。

任何大學的畢業生校友會，在推動大學事務的發展上，都擔任十分重要的角色，並能為大學提供重大的支持。對今天所有的畢業生來說，你們受教於嶺南大學，獲益良多，我深信你們他日必定會盡你們所能，為母校的發展作出貢獻，回饋母校。

我在大學畢業，距今已有四十年。過去四十年，世界經歷了重大的變化。隨着資訊科技革命，人與人之間的關係越趨密切。今天，我們坐在電腦前，只是彈指之間便可跟地球其他角落聯繫起來。請容許本人這樣說，我們今天生活的世界其實就是一條「地球村」。

展望將來，只有一點是可以肯定的：轉變的步伐很可能會加快。如果我們要為這個「地球村」作出貢獻或者說要在這個「地球村」生活下去，我們就要做一個「世界公民」。那麼，「世界公民」又應具備甚麼條件呢？

第一，世界公民應該以開明的思想和尋根究底的精神去面對人生。我們應時刻以追本溯源的精神，以不同的觀點和角度考慮問題，提出新見解。此外，我們亦應具備適應新事物的能力，打破局限，突破自我，不應固步自封。我們應本着精益求精的原則，敢於挑戰傳統，既要能靈活變通，又要能積極進取，勇於嘗試，不斷求新。

第二，世界公民要不斷學習，提高自己的知識水平和技能，以應時代所需。對我們來說，終身學習對加強我們在國際社會上的競爭力，至為重要。須知道學院教育旨在啓迪學員，所教授的祇是求取學問的門徑而非學問本身；學海無涯，世界公民必須秉持終身學習的信念，身體力行。人生本是一個不斷學習的過程，我們必須好好掌握其中的學習機會。

第三，世界公民必須正直不阿，推己及人和勇於承擔。人類社會各方面的活動和運作，相互依存，息息相關。明白了這個重要的道理後，我們便應以遠大的目光去為社會作出貢獻。

我們不僅要追尋個人的幸福，而且還要為社會大眾謀求福祉。我們必須要為家庭、事業和社會其他人士作出重大的承擔。同時，我們還須堅持奉行誠實正直這兩個恆久的社會準則，時刻關心弱勢社群。我們也必須擁有廣闊的胸懷，樂意與人分享成果，並要竭誠為改善人類的生活作出貢獻。

最後一點，世界公民必須以信念和勇氣去面對挑戰，克服困難。在一個競爭如此激烈的環境中生活和工作，總會有成敗得失。在人生的旅途中，有晴空萬里的日子，也有風高浪急的時候。有些時候我們會一帆風順，但又有一些時候我們會覺得舉步維艱。但無論所處的環境如何，我們必須奮勇向前，最重要的是懷着信念和勇氣走向未來，憑着自己的實力和信心，克服逆境，面對挑戰。

今天在座各位畢業的同學，你們走完了人生中的一個里程，並將展開另一個新的階段。你們是世界公民，你們也必須作世界公民。作為世界公民，你們會發現生命是充滿挑戰，令人振奮和非常有意義的。本人藉此機會祝願你們展翅高飛，鵬程萬里。多謝各位！