

Mr Ho Sai-yiu

Mr Ho Sai-yiu's family was originally from Fujian Province and later settled in Guangzhou. Born in Hong Kong, he had been to Lingnan Elementary School, studied at Wah Yan College Hong Kong for his secondary education and graduated from Letchworth College of Technology in the United Kingdom. During his study in the UK, he was elected as the President of the Student Union. Mr Ho is currently the Director of several companies, including Fook Lee Construction Co., Ltd., Fook Lee Holdings Ltd., United Builders Insurance Co., Ltd. and Chi Fuk Construction Co., Ltd, etc. Over the years, Mr Ho has promoted the development of social welfare, culture, education and religious affairs in and out of Hong Kong. As early as the 1970s, Mr. Ho served as Director of the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals, and subsequently served as Director of the Ho Iu Kwong Charity Foundation, of the non-profit Chih Lo Lou Art Promotion Limited and Chairman of the Horai Association Hong Kong. Mr Ho also served as Executive Director and Deputy Secretary-General of The Hong Kong Bodhi Siksa Society Ltd., as well as a Management Committee Member of the Buddhist Tung Lam Aged Home and the Hong Kong Bodhi Siksa Society Ltd. Care and Attention Home for the Aged.

During the time Mr Ho served as Director of the Ho Iu Kwong Charity Foundation, he and his siblings undertook various charitable works, including the donation of Confucian Ho Kwok Pui Chun College, Ho Iu Kwong Building and Ho Iu Kwong and Kwok Pui Chun Square at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. In addition, his family foundation also donated over HK\$40 million to Guangzhou in projects related to education, culture, healthcare, child welfare, disaster relief, and so forth. These projects include the Mrs. He Guirong Welfare Institute, a retirement home, the school building at Guirong Middle School as well as a scholarship fund, the Ho Iu Kwong Rehabilitation Centre, facility upgrades at the Guangdong Charitable Hospital, the Ho Iu Kwong Civil Engineering Laboratory and the Ho Iu Kwong Academic Building at Jinan University. In 2011, the Ho family Foundation helped the Hong Kong AIDS Foundation to establish a headquarters in Mainland China so as to improve the medical care AIDS patients in China receive. Furthermore, they have donated three times since 2002 to support the establishment of scholarship for Southeast University, which is well-known for its School of Architecture.

Of all the charitable work that he has done, he had devoted the most time and energy to the Lifeline Express Hong Kong Foundation, which arranges for free surgery for cataract patients in remote and poverty-stricken areas. Since its establishment in July 1997, Lifeline Express has been equipped with ophthalmic medical equipment and supported by volunteer ophthalmologists. Lifeline Express also trains junior ophthalmic doctors and sets up microsurgery training centres in various regions. The Ho family foundation has been supporting the foundation for 19 years! One indication of that support is that the number of Lifeline Express trains, which transport patients needing emergency care, has increased from one to four. As at the end of 2016, 181,331 patients have received surgery with the help of the Foundation, which enables these patients and their families to regain hope for the future. To the pious Mr Ho, such boundless benevolence should come naturally to any Buddhist.

As a Lingnanian, Mr Ho has been a long-term supporter of Lingnan University. In 2015, with the support of Mr Ho's siblings, the Ho Iu Kwong Charity Foundation donated HK\$8m to Lingnan University to set up the China Economic Research Programme (CERP). CERP is dedicated to facilitating policy research on economic and financial development in Mainland China and Hong Kong, research collaboration between scholars in Hong Kong and Mainland China as well as entrepreneurial training for Lingnan students. CERP has helped Lingnan to both enhance its policy research and generate more social impacts through knowledge transfer. As a member of the Steering Committee since CERP's inception, Mr Ho has made tremendous contributions in guiding and promoting CERP's development.

Mr Chairman, for his outstanding contributions as a philanthropist in Hong Kong and Mainland China, his distinguished public service and passionate support of Lingnan University, may I now present Mr Ho Sai-yiu to you for conferment of an honorary fellowship.

Citation written and delivered by Professor Wei Xiangdong