

..... **Mrs. Gennie Lee Lin Gen-hwa**

Doctor of Social Sciences *honoris causa*

Address

Chairman of the Council, President, Guests, Professors, Alumni, Fellow Recipients and Graduates:

I am most honored to be a recipient of this Degree, together with Professor Pai Hsien-Yung, a Chinese literature scholar of international renown. That the University has asked me to address this Congregation on behalf of all recipients only adds to this honour.

I am a confirmed Lingnanian. Five generations of my family have in some way received an education from this august institution. Some started at Lingnan Primary School, and continued to secondary school before finishing their studies at Lingnan University in Guangzhou. They continued to render life-long services to several Lingnan institutions in a variety of ways. I myself studied at Lingnan Middle School in Guangzhou after the Second World War. My experiences there are integral to what I have become, and have always guided how I lived my life. The congenial campus life, the caring attitudes of our teachers and the fraternal spirit of my fellow classmates nurtured lasting values, ones that I would like to share with you all at this time. These are "caring for others", "serving the community", "being truthful and honest" and "learning to forgive". Deep in my heart, I believe that these define the Lingnan tradition. My late father, Mr. Lin Yee Min, served Lingnan with dedication and deep love. His words and actions instilled in me the value and meaning of gratitude through the rendering of service to our alma mater. More than a decade ago, I was given the opportunity to join Lingnan Education Organization (LEO) and work with a group of alumni and teachers to enhance the educational service of Lingnan. At the LEO, when we encountered a problem we worked together to analyse, debate, consider -- and reconsider -- every aspect until we could come to an agreement. This has been a valuable personal experience for me, for which I am deeply grateful to Lingnan and the LEO. I hope that the graduates of this Congregation will consider my words and continue to carry on this proud and precious Lingnanian tradition of service to our alma mater and community in general.

Lingnan University in Hong Kong has upheld this tradition and ensuing values in providing an excellent liberal arts education to our students. We are fortunate to have some indication of this beyond our walls. For example, The Hong Kong Economic Journal Monthly published in early October of this year a survey, which compared the merits and strengths of the eight universities in Hong Kong. Lingnan received the highest marks in the areas of "Quality of Teaching", "Expenditure on Teaching Development", and "Quality of Teaching and Learning". Overall we ranked fourth, after the Chinese University of Hong Kong, the University of Hong Kong and the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology.

In another survey by Ming Pao last summer, Lingnan students gave credit to their University for the overall quality of teaching, administration and management, and the atmosphere of learning thus created. Lingnan's teachers were given a score of 90 out of a possible 100 for their teaching attitudes and nurturing relationships with their students. These scores reflect genuine feelings from our students about their day-to-day experiences at Lingnan, as well as reflect the continuing tradition of the special rapport between teachers and students.

Last year, the University Grants Committee (UGC) appointed a special panel to review the work of the University. This panel determined that Lingnan had taken the right course in adopting a liberal arts education. Lingnan has also succeeded in carving itself a distinctive niche within Hong Kong, one that has met with considerable success and is consistent with UGC's role. The panel especially remarked upon the strong sense of commitment by both teachers and students to the University's mission, as well as the caring relationship between not only teachers and students but also amongst the student themselves. These findings were consistent with previous conclusions made over the past, ones that we Lingnanians should treasure with pride.

"It takes a mere ten years to nurture plants or trees, but a hundred to nurture people." Besides the selfless dedication of hard-working professors and students, a successful university needs continuous financial support. In the past, universities in Hong Kong have been fortunate to receive complete financial support from the Government. However, the current shortage of public funds has necessitated the need for the eight universities to raise funds from the community to meet their needs. I would like to take this special opportunity to call upon not only to our alumni, parents, professors, friends and the community in general, but also every one of our new graduates to support Lingnan in the pursuit of its traditions and far-sighted mission. I have great hopes for the graduates before me today. When you are properly established in life, I hope that, in the future, you will continue to live by the spirit of our famous motto: "With united hearts, united virtues and concerted efforts, we serve God, the country and Lingnan". Your support and service will enable Lingnan to continue moving forward as well as spread the Lingnan spirit far and wide in the years to come. Thank you.

..... 李林建華女士
榮譽社會科學博士
致辭

校董會主席、校長、各位來賓、各位教授、各位校友、各位畢業同學：

今日，能夠與享譽中外的著名文學家白先勇教授一同領受榮譽學位，使我感到欣慰。承蒙大學囑咐，要我代表今天接受榮譽博士學位的人士向會眾致辭，更加是我的榮幸。

我是一個嶺南人，我的家族祖孫五代都和嶺南有密切關係。有些長輩更是從小學、中學以至大學都在嶺南接受教育，並且終身服務嶺南。二次大戰後，我在廣州嶺南中學就讀，從此嶺南便對我產生深遠的影響，成為我生命不可分割的一部份。昔日融洽的校園生活，師長無時或缺的關懷和教導，同學間互助互勉團結自立的精神，使我在耳濡目染的薰陶下，對立身處事有四點體會，即：要關懷別人、服務社會、做事要忠誠，以及把吃虧當作常理。我深深的相信這正是嶺南傳統精神的美德。先父林逸民先生也是一個熱誠的嶺南人，他的一言一行令我深深感受到回饋母校的價值和意義。十多年前，我有機會加入嶺南教育機構，與一群校友和老師在教育崗位上共同努力。大家都本著一份服務的熱誠，無分彼此，為嶺南的發展而奮鬥。在服務的過程中，我們學習了對事情的分析、爭辯、權衡、理解而至接受，這的確是十分寶貴的經驗。我很感謝母校和嶺南教育機構給與我這個服務的機會，希望在座的畢業同學日後也能積極參與，服務母校，回報社會。

香港嶺南大學一直秉承這些優良的傳統，自始至終為無數的莘莘學子，提供優質的博雅教育。剛剛在十月初發表的《信報月刊》2003年大學優勢比較調查公佈，嶺南大學在教學質素項目：學生評估、教學發展經費、以及教與學質素評估等三個範疇，都取得了最高分。在與本港各大學之間的整體評比中，嶺南大學名列第四，僅次於兩所歷史悠久的綜合大學及以科技為主的新晉大學。如果考慮嶺南在香港的復校背景，這項排名結果得來不易。一向以來，嶺大十分重視教學質素，這次有此成績，並獲得社會的充分肯定，令人欣慰。

一所大學能夠這樣的重視教學質素，師生關係必然是融洽而密切的。《明報》的一項調查發現，學生對所屬院校的綜合評分中，嶺南學生在教學質素、學習氣氛和行政管理質素方面給予大學的評分最高。在教師教學態度認真、以及師生關係融洽方面，學生給予的評分達到90分以上。這是嶺大同學從自己親身的經歷和切身體會所表達出來的感受，足可證明嶺南師生融洽的優良傳統已經在香港開花結果。我深信這優良的傳統必將成為嶺南教育日後立足香港，展望世界的基礎。

去年「大學教育資助委員會」的專家小組對大學作出評審。這個由國際知名學者組成的專家小組，以大學資源運用成效，教育模式及其推行成效作出評審和建議。小組認為嶺南大學推行博雅教育的大方向是正確的，而且亦已取得成績。由此可見，嶺南大學既履行了「大學教育資助委員會」對院校資助的要求，也對香港有所貢獻。專家小組特別表揚嶺南師生擁有強烈的使命感和承擔精神，學生與學生，教師與學生之間亦建立了真摯的感情。小組對嶺大的評審所作出的觀點比《明報》及《信報月刊》的兩份調查早了數月，但結果是完全一致的。嶺大的成就，是所有嶺南人值得珍惜和自豪的。

十年樹木，百年樹人。成功的教育，除了要有全力奉獻的教授和勤奮用功學生外，教學資源更需要源源不斷的補給。香港的公立大學教育全賴政府的資助，最近教資會屬下的八間大學已開始向外尋求社會資源，以彌補政府撥款的不足。我現在趁這難得的機會，除了向在座的校友、家長、教授、朋友和社會人士呼籲捐助，支持這所有優良傳統和滿懷理想的大學，並熱切盼望各畢業同學，他日事業有成，能夠本著「同心同德同志力，為神為國為嶺南」的精神，飲水思源，回饋母校，使嶺南大學得以承先啟後，邁步向前；嶺南精神，進一步發揚光大。多謝各位。