



田家炳博士  
Dr TIN Ka-Ping

榮譽大學院士  
Honorary Fellow of HKUST

Dr Tin Ka-Ping is well known in greater China for two things: as a hugely successful industrialist and a selfless philanthropist. In the financial support of educational causes and institutions, he has few equals. In academic communities in this part of the world, he is a household name. He is also among the last remaining exponents of the Confucian virtues of honor and respect in all interpersonal relationships. He believes in the primacy of deeds over words. Above all, he believes in the universal sharing of good fortune.

No one gives away more than half of his personal wealth as happily as he does. But it is not merely wealth-sharing that makes him special. It is how deeply his giving reaches into his being. He practices a form of charity that stretches philanthropy to its limit: “giving until it hurts.” One episode that is now the stuff of legend may have been told elsewhere, but it is a story of such perennial value that it is worth repeating wherever and whenever people come together to celebrate exceptional people in society.

In the thick of the Asian financial crisis, in the midst of a slump in the housing market, Dr Tin unhesitatingly sold his magnificent mansion where he had lived happily for over 37 years, and to which he was deeply attached, so that he might use the proceeds to fund some 20 schools and honor his pledges to charities. His mansion sold, he moved contentedly into an ordinary flat with his wife. This story is one that is unlikely ever to re-occur, but it is likely to be told and retold as long as human beings honor supreme acts of self-sacrifice and heroic giving. He has patented the ideal of “giving until it hurts.”

Dr Tin has been the recipient of multiple honors, academic and otherwise. But today, we shall honor him in a unique way: Today in honoring Dr Tin, we also wish to indirectly honor his late father, Mr Tin Yuk-Wu with a special tribute.

Though only 15 when his father passed away, Dr Tin had learned well at his father's feet, as he witnessed daily the lines of widows and orphans who came to their house for food, clothing and other necessities. He shared his father's joy in coming to the aid of the destitute and the desperate.

To this day, after more than 70 years, he proudly acknowledges that he has inherited his father's compassion for those who suffer and the joy that acts of compassion bring. These private acts of charity from long ago deserve to be publicly praised, even though we are 70 years too late, for they have nurtured the giving person that we see in Dr Tin today.

Let us join together therefore in honoring the memory of the late Mr Tin Yuk-Wu. By doing so, we hope to make this a special day for the son and a proud day for the father.

With much greater financial success, Dr Tin's helping hand has reached much farther and wider than his father did. On the Mainland alone, he has funded 37 universities of

田家炳博士是大中華地區享負盛名的成功實業家，也是宅心仁厚的慈善家。在資助教育事業和教育機構上，很少人可以望其項背。在學術界，他的名字家喻戶曉。田博士也是儒家思想的追隨者，推崇儒家的道德倫常。他相信實事求是遠勝空談。最重要的是，他深信繁榮的果實，應人人共享。

沒有人可以像田博士那樣歡愉地捐出逾半家財。田博士廣受推崇，非因捐獻，而是實踐了生命的真諦。他將慈善公益的事業推至極限，“奉獻到底”。雖然他熱心善舉的故事仿似傳說般廣為流傳，但這份罕見的高尚情操仍是值得一再表揚、傳誦。

在亞洲金融風暴的高峰、樓市陷入最低潮的時候，田博士毫不猶疑地把居住了超過37年的心愛大宅出售，將收入捐贈20所學校，兌現捐款的承諾。出售大屋之後，他和太太僅租住一個普通單位，悠然自得。大家對這種自我犧牲的精神和高貴的情操，推崇備至。田博士只此一家的“奉獻到底”的信念，深受讚賞。

田博士過去曾多次獲頒授榮譽學位及其他名銜。今天，我們在表揚田博士時，並向田博士的先父田玉瑚先生致敬。

15歲時，他的父親溘然長逝。田博士自小受父親的良好教導，每當他看見父親濟貧恤孤，施仁布德，受恩者到家中拜謝時，他也分享到父親幫助貧困人士而獲得的喜樂。

70多年過去了，今天，每當田博士談起父親時，他對繼承父親關懷貧困人士，助人為樂的遺志，深以為傲。田父70年前的捐贈，今天仍然值得公開表揚，因為他孕育了樂善好施的田家炳博士。

讓我們一同懷念田玉瑚先生，向田老先生和他的兒子田家炳博士致以最高的敬意。

田博士事業有成，較之父親可以幫助到更多有需要的人士，惠澤的範圍更廣、更遠。至2006年6月，在內地已有37所師範大學、35所綜合性大學獲

education and 35 regular universities, founded over 120 secondary schools, 9 vocational schools for teacher training, 48 primary schools/kindergartens, as well as 1150 school libraries in rural areas, not to mention the numerous schools and universities in Hong Kong, Taiwan and Macau that are the recipients of his generosity. There are also hospitals, medical, arts and recreational facilities, science museums, homes for the aged, roads, and hundreds of bridges on the Mainland that bear his name or benefit from his benevolence.

It is his personal article of faith that education is the foundation of hope, and the cornerstone of social salvation. It is also partly in compensation for his own interrupted education when he had to drop out of school at age 15 because of his father's untimely passing, to become the provider for his family. He believes that as an ancient civilization, China's path to national prosperity lies in the education of its next generation.

Dr Tin belongs to that vanishing breed of human beings who live frugally so that others may live fruitfully. Despite age, and his social status, he still stands in line at the bus stop going to and from his office.

Known as the "king of synthetic leather", Dr Tin did something unthinkable that caught his business associates by surprise: He donated an entire production line, complete with the necessary technology transfer to a local government on the Mainland, so that local residents would have the means to earn a decent living, all without any regard for his own business concerns. His charitable giving is first and foremost predicated on what is now fashionably known as the promotion of sustainable development – that is, helping others to help themselves over the long haul.

In commerce, Dr Tin upholds the highest standards of business ethics, refusing any windfall, and never taking any unfair advantage. His word is his bond. That explains why in the depths of the Asian financial crisis, he was able to maintain close to 90% of occupancy of his commercial rental units. Such was the respect and loyalty he commanded in his tenants or those with whom he conducted business.

Unbelievably, recipient schools on the Mainland were so moved by his selfless generosity that they voluntarily requested a reduction in their share of his donations in order that more educational institutions might benefit. This deed of honor is unheard-of in the history of educational philanthropy anywhere in the world. It speaks to his supreme and spreading moral influence.

Dr Tin still travels frequently to the Mainland to visit the many institutions that benefit from his generosity, happy in the belief that "in giving there is much blessing." It is truly remarkable how one life can make a huge difference in the lives of tens of thousands far and wide.

Mr Pro-Chancellor, I have the honor to present to you, on behalf of The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Dr Tin Ka-Ping, for the award of Honorary Fellowship.

得田博士的資助。他捐辦了120多所中學、9所師範專科學校、48所小學和幼稚園，以及1150所鄉村學校圖書室。在香港、台灣及澳門，不計其數的學校和大學曾受惠於田博士的資助。內地的醫院、醫療、藝術及文娛設施、科學館、安老院、道路及數以百計的橋樑，也受到田博士的慷慨捐助，受惠其恩澤。

田博士堅信教育是希望的基礎，社會發展的基石。他少時父親不幸辭世，被迫輟學，挑起家庭的重擔，因此深明中途輟學對個人發展的影響。他深信，中國作為文明古國，邁向富國繁榮全賴提升下一代的教育素質。

田博士慈悲為懷，寧願節衣縮食，也要幫助別人。有這份情操的人已經愈來愈少。儘管已屆高齡，擁有社會名望，但他上下班仍跟很多人一樣排隊乘坐巴士。

擁有“人造皮革大王”美譽的田博士，曾作出一件令生意夥伴驚訝的事情。他不理會個人的生意，將整條生產線及相關的技術捐贈給內地一個地方政府，讓當地居民自力更生。這種創新的捐助模式，可冠以現今流行的詞彙——“可持續發展”，即長遠來說達到助人自助。

在營商而言，田博士恪守最高的商業道德，婉謝任何意外之財和不公平的利益。他言出必行，所以即使在亞洲金融風暴最嚴重的時候，其名下商業單位的出租率仍高達九成。這是他獲得商戶及生意夥伴尊重和支持的結果。

內地院校受到田博士無私奉獻的感召，寧願自行少收捐贈，也要讓更多學校可以受惠。在全世界的教育慈善歷史上，這種銘澤聞所未聞，田博士恩德深厚，廣澤四方。

田博士經常前往內地訪問受助的院校，樂善好施，深信“施比受更為有福”。一人善舉，萬人得福，無遠弗屆。

副監督先生，本人謹代表香港科技大學，恭請閣下頒授榮譽大學院士予田家炳博士。