



新聞稿 PRESS RELEASE

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PUBLIC LECTURE TO UNRAVEL THE MYSTERIES OF
EAST ASIA'S ECONOMIC GROWTH

The miraculous economic growth in East Asian countries has, in recent years, aroused intense interest in deciphering the Oriental formula for success and sparked off much debate about what part the Governments in Japan, Korea, Taiwan and Singapore had played.

In an upcoming public lecture entitled *"Unraveling the Mysteries of East Asia's Economic Growth"*, **Prof. Dani Rodrik** from the **Columbia University, New York**, will share his insights into this important topic. All are welcome to attend the lecture, to be held on May 17 (Tuesday) at 4 p.m. in Lecture Theatre LT3, Lady Shaw Building in the University's Shatin campus.

"Some have seen in the East Asian experience the vindication of market-oriented ideas, while others have emphasized the role of government interventions in the trade and industrial arenas. There has been little consensus," said Prof. Rodrik, whose visit to Hong Kong is sponsored by the Wei Lun Visiting Professorship/Fellowship Scheme.

In his lecture, Prof. Rodrik will argue that these Asian economies -- endowed with a comparatively skilled labour force and small income gaps -- had started off in a better position when compared with other developing countries. His lecture will also analyze why these Governments have been so successful in their economic interventions, and the role of trade policy.

Renowned for his expertise in political economy, Prof. Rodrik is currently Professor of Economics and International Affairs at Columbia, and has taught at the John F. Kennedy School of Government of Harvard University. Prof. Rodrik has consulted for numerous international organizations including the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations of the Government of Poland and the World Bank. Among other awards, he has been the recipient of the Raymond Vernon Prize of the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management.

Professor Rodrik has published widely on issues related to trade policy and economic reform in developing and transitional economies. He is the co-author of Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union in the World Economy and co-editor of The Economics of Middle East Peace.

The Wei Lun Visiting Professorship/Fellowship Scheme was established through the generous donation by the Wei Lun Foundation Ltd. The Scheme regularly invites eminent scholars in various academic disciplines to give public lectures at the University.

Dear Editor,

You are cordially invited to send a representative to cover the above lecture. Journalists interested in meeting Professor Rodrik should contact Mr Ali Li at 6098895 or Mrs Shirley Kwok at 6098897.