



# 新聞稿 PRESS RELEASE

The Symposium on Communication and Societal Development organized by the Department of Journalism and Communication of The Chinese University of Hong Kong was held yesterday and will continue through Wednesday on the Chinese University campus.

This three-day Symposium is the first time that Chinese communication scholars from Hong Kong, Mainland China, Taiwan, Singapore, Japan and the United States are meeting for an academic exchange on journalism and communication issues.

The opening ceremony was officiated by Prof Kuan Hsin-chi, Dean of the Faculty of Social Science, CUHK, yesterday at 9:30 am. In this three-day Symposium, Chinese scholars from different places would discuss the various roles of mass media and their changes in Hong Kong, Mainland China and Taiwan from political, economic, social and cultural perspectives.

In yesterday's presentations, Dr Paul Lee, Lecturer in Journalism and Communication of CUHK, focused particularly on the roles of the mass media in Hong Kong. He discussed the various factors, including colonialism, capitalism, market constraints, China factor and technological developments, that would affect the development of telecommunications and broadcasting industries in Hong Kong. Special attention was drawn to the roles of the Government, business conglomerates and the citizens in the process of the development. Dr Lee postulated that the determining factor for telecommunications and broadcasting developments in Hong Kong would be more political than economic when Hong Kong comes closer to the year of 1997.

In the discussion on Mainland China, Prof Gan Xi-fen, Director of Public Opinion Research at People's University of China, talked about the seven debates in the theory and practice of China's journalistic reform, as well as the advantages brought about by these debates. Prof Sun Xu-pei, Director of Institute of Journalism at Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, summarized the rapid development of the mass media in China during the past 10 years of reform.

Dr Leonard Chu, Chairman of the Department of Journalism and Communication, CUHK, critically reviewed the interactions between communication and national development from the perspectives of China's developmental experience, the new international information order, and the challenges brought about by new communication technologies.

Regarding the mass media in Taiwan, Prof Chin-Chuan Lee, Professor of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Minnesota, USA, specifically examined the political and economic environment that the press in Taiwan is facing after the lifting of the government's various restrictions on the press.

Other presenters at yesterday's Symposium also included Dr Sunny Li and Mr Clement So, both of the Department of Journalism and Communication, CUHK, Dr Flora Chang, Associate Professor of Broadcasting and Television at Taiwan's National Chengchi University, and Mr Liu Shu-tian, Head and Associate Professor of the Department of Journalism, Lanzhou University, China.

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Attachment: Speech by Prof Kuan Hsin-chi

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