

PRESS RELEASE

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PR/REF 1414-E

3 November 2014

Conferment of Decoration on Mr. Ronald Kee Young Chao

The Government of Japan has decided to confer a decoration on Mr Ronald Kee Young Chao, Vice-Chairman & Director, Novel Enterprises Limited, Founder & Honorary Chairman, Bai Xian Education Foundation Limited, The Order of The Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon.

This is to praise Mr Chao for his significant contribution on promoting mutual understanding and friendship between Japan and China, Hong Kong as well as Macau through economic exchange and support for students exchange.

Following is Mr Chao's brief biography and some of his main contributions.

Mr Chao studied at Faculty of Engineering, The University of Tokyo, starting in 1958. After graduated from The University of Tokyo and further study in the United States, he returned to Hong Kong and entered the business circle, participating in the managing of Novel Enterprises, his father's textile company, and Hong Kong Dragon Airlines Limited. Along with business activities, ever since he has been leading a life which is closely related to Japan. In recent years particularly, Mr Chao has been dedicating tremendous efforts to projects that are closely focused on Japan such as establishments of overseas student dormitories, scholarship schemes, etc. for many universities in China and Japan.

Promotion of economic exchanges between Japan and China, Hong Kong and Macau

Mr Chao entered the business world upon coming back to Hong Kong in 1965. It was the time when Japanese enterprises could not prosper in Hong Kong in the aftermath of the War. Since then, through active economic activities such as trade, joint venture, technical cooperation, he has ever been an important partner for

Japanese enterprises entering markets of Hong Kong, Macau and China, and has been playing a pioneering role in building up a foundation for a wider and closer economic exchange for half a century.

Establishment of Asian Youth Exchange Centres (Student dormitories)

Based on Mr Chao's own experience living and studying in an overseas student dormitory during his days at The University of Tokyo, and bearing in mind the long term relationship between Japan and China, he started a project of establishing student dormitories for Japanese and Chinese students to share experiences in five influential universities in China.

The project has been finalized one after another and is expected to become the foundation for promoting mutual understanding among the youths of Japan and China, as well as for further understanding between the two countries as a whole in the distant future.

The Establishment of "The Asian Future Leaders Scholarship Program"

A scholarship scheme has been founded in views of the need to foster Asian leaders and to promote cross culture exchange and understanding among Asian youths in May 2014. Thanks to Mr Chao's leadership and hard work to mobilize a maximum support from various directions of both Japan and China in addition to his own contributions, the scheme was finally launched under the participation of major universities in Japan, China and Hong Kong. It is anticipated that the scholarship will help to build an in-depth understanding of Japan for future leaders of Asian countries in the long term by strengthening exchanges and understanding among Asian youths. Moreover, it will facilitate the Japanese youths to have more globalized perspectives and foster future leaders with broad visions.