

**The Education University of Hong Kong**  
**23rd Congregation**  
**Words of Appreciation by Dr Li Yulong**  
**(Session 2)**

Madame Chancellor, Council Chairman and Members, Professor Cheung, distinguished guests, fellow graduates, ladies and gentlemen, good afternoon!

This is a big day for everyone.

Congratulations to All!

You stand on this side of the stage as a graduand; but on the other as a graduate.

This walk is a short one; but every step taken has been paid for with great efforts and likely some pains. And, I am sure you would agree, we could not have come to this point without the support of our families, teachers, friends and our university. Therefore, today, rather than speaking about joy in our graduation, I am going to express my thanks to those people who have helped turn our dreams into reality.

I would like to begin by expressing my sincere gratitude to all the teachers at EdUHK; they are professional, endlessly supportive and caring.

I am thankful to the Graduate School. They have expended so much effort providing myself and my fellow doctoral students with wonderful opportunities to advance our research skills, to enrich our studies with international experiences, and to allow us to develop ourselves as future academic leaders.

Personally, I have benefitted greatly from the advice and support of my PhD supervisors. As academics, they are ideal role models; as friends, they have been both magnificently thoughtful and trustworthy. These teachers' faith in me gave me the freedom to carry out my research independently, which ultimately resulted in the successful completion of my PhD studies within 3 years. It is important for me to mention that I would not be here without the generosity, abundant resources and life-changing opportunities extended to me by The Education University of Hong Kong. Certainly, I am very thankful and indebted to my family - my parents have accompanied me on my learning journey; my grandparents on both sides offered me tremendous love and trust; and my wife who gives me the strength to go on with my research and allows me to boldly step into my new life.

These examples are just a few of the many unsung heroes behind our success, without whom we might become lesser men and women, and without whom we might have achieved less.

Therefore, may I suggest to all of our graduates today that they take a moment now to bring to mind all those who have offered them love and assistance on their journey.

Finally, could you please join me in giving them a round of applause?

Thank you.