

BRIEF BIOGRAPHY

JOHANNES M M CHAN, S C (Hon) (陳文敏)

PROFESSOR JOHANNES M M CHAN is Chair of Public Law and former Dean of the Faculty of Law (2002-2014), being the longest serving Dean of the Faculty. He is also a visiting professor of University College London (2018-2023) and a number of universities in Europe and Asia, including being the BOK Visiting International Professor of Penn Law School, University of Pennsylvania (2014), Herbert Smith Freehills Visiting Professor of Cambridge University (2015), and a visiting fellow of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge University. In recognition of his distinguished contribution to legal development through both advocacy in courts and legal research and publications, he was honoured by the Chief Justice in 2003 by his appointment as the first (and so far the only) Honorary Senior Counsel in Hong Kong. In 2019, he was the recipient of the Hong Kong Research Grants Council Prestigious Fellowship in Humanities and Social Sciences.

Academic Work

He specializes in human rights, constitutional and administrative law, and is the author/editor of over 20 books/monographs and over 200 journal articles/book chapters/conference papers in these fields with distinguished publishers such as *Oxford University Press*, *Cambridge University Press*, *University of Pennsylvania Press*, *Hong Kong University Press*, and in top-ranked journals such as *International and Comparative Law Quarterly*, *Singapore Academy of Law Journal*, and *Human Rights Law Journal*.

His books include *Righteousness – The Rule of Law* (正道-法治) (2020); *Righteousness – The Academia* (正道-大學) (2019); *Paths of Justice* (2018), *Law of the Hong Kong Constitution* (with C L Lim, 2020, 3rd ed), *Halsbury's Laws of Hong Kong: Constitutional Law and Human Rights* (vol 16, with Mr Justice Bokhary and others, 2015); *Reflections at the Academia* (翰林隨筆: 在公義路上的反思), *General Principles of Hong Kong Law* (香港法概論)(with Albert Chen & Others, 3rd ed, 2015), *Hong Kong's Constitutional Debates* (with Lison Harris, 2005); and *Immigration Law and Policy in Hong Kong: An Inter-Disciplinary Study* (with Bart Rwezaura, 2004).

Professor Chan is also a regular speaker/keynote speaker in international conferences and fora, and an outspoken commentator on legal affairs. He is the editor of various international academic journals, one of the founding editors of *Hong Kong Public Law Reports* and an editor of *Hong Kong Law Reports and Digest* and *Hong Kong Cases*.

Public Services

He has appeared as counsel in many leading Bill of Rights/human rights and constitutional law cases. Internationally, he has worked on specific issues with many non-governmental

organisations (such as Amnesty International, Lawyers Committee, the International Committee of Red Cross, Article 19). He has also appeared in official international forum and acted as a trial observer in the Asian region.

Professor Chan has served on many government/public and professional bodies, including the Bar Council, the Consumer Council, the Broadcasting Authority, the Press Council, the Administrative Appeals Board, the Municipal Services Appeals Board, Law Reform Sub-Committee on Privacy, Council of the Hong Kong Red Cross, and the Central Policy Unit of the Hong Kong Government. He chaired the Bar's Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Human Rights. He served on the Consumer Council for 12 years and was the chairman of its Consumer Legal Action Fund for 6 years till 2010, during which time he oversaw, among other things, the test case involving the Lehman Brothers saga.

He is also the author of an influential weekly column in *Ming Pao*, a leading Chinese newspaper in Hong Kong since 2002. He served on the Civic Commission on Democratic Reform established by Mrs Anson Chan, the former Chief Secretary of Administration of the HKSAR in 2008, and joined Mrs Anson Chan again in 2013 to form a group known as 2020, the sole objective of which is to contribute to the political reform in Hong Kong.

In 1995, he was elected as one of the Ten Young Outstanding Persons in Hong Kong. In 1997, he received the Badge of Honour from the British Red Cross Society for his service. In 1999, he received the Human Rights Press Award. In 2003, he was appointed the first Honorary Senior Counsel. In 2011, he completed the Management and Leadership in Higher Education Program at Harvard University. In 2014, he was conferred Honorary Life Membership by the Hong Kong Law Alumni Association. In 2019, he was the recipient of the RGC Prestigious Fellowship in Humanities and Social Sciences.

December 2019

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