

Honorary doctorate for banking legend

PUBLIC Bank founder, chairman emeritus, director and adviser Tan Sri Dr Teh Hong Piow's banking acumen continues to be recognised through conferment of an honorary doctorate by Sunway University.

The "Honorary Doctor of the University" degree is in recognition of Teh's outstanding contributions in overseeing the evolution of Public Bank into a modern and integrated financial institution and the growth of the country's banking and finance industry in general.

The award was presented by Sunway University chancellor Tan Sri Dr Jeffrey Cheah in a ceremony held at Sunway Resort Hotel & Spa.

The event was attended by all Public Bank Group board members and 1,200 of its senior staff.

In his speech, Cheah said, "Tan Sri Teh's name was foremost in our mind when we were selecting an individual who personifies the ideals of the honorary doctorate.

"My hope is that his achievements, attributes and life journey will be an inspiration to our students".

"Sunway University is very pleased to be associated with Tan Sri Teh, a man of great stature, who built Public Bank from the ground up in 1966.

"Public Bank has not only become a household name, but it



Teh (left) receiving the honorary doctorate from Cheah.

has also held the record of over 50 years of unbroken profitability," he added.

Teh, in acknowledging the award, said, "I am deeply honoured and touched to be conferred such a high honour. It is not always that a man of 89 years gets to receive awards, let alone an honorary doctorate."

"In banking, I found my true vocation. For me, it was never just a job. It is, therefore, an uplifting experience for me to be recognised and rewarded for doing the things that I truly enjoy.

"There may be some truth to the

saying 'pleasure in the job puts perfection in the work'.

"Now as chairman emeritus of Public Bank, my passion for banking has not ebbed nor do I find its challenges any less exciting."

Teh added that his 53-year journey in bringing Public Bank to where it is today has been eased by a united team of committed, knowledgeable and dedicated employees.

He thanked the board, management team and staff for their perseverance in upholding the image of the bank.

This material may be protected by the Malaysia Copyright Act. It may only be used for private study or research. Downloading or reproduction in excess of “fair dealing” may constitute copyright infringement.