

# INAUGURATION TO HEALING THE NATIONS

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Article/Sam Shee 2020-05-20

***On the winning tickets Vice President-elect Dr. Lai Ching-te is a doctor. He used to heal people. But soon he will, on the inauguration date May 20, 2020, become Vice President, assisting President Tsai Ing-wen in healing own and other nations. President Tsai has said we, on anti-COVID-19 pandemic front, can help ourselves and Taiwan also can/is helping other countries as well.***



On October 17, 2019, Premier Lai Ching-te visited the United States and I wished to give him a piece of my artwork “pilgrimage Vase -Love, Peace, Hope” porcelain collaborated with Franz Organization. But he was too polite to accept such a gift. Therefore, I suggested donating it to a museum in Taiwan in his honor for public viewing. From left: Junior Hsu, Premier Lai, Shee. Photo courtesy of Shee

When Dr. Lai Ching-te visited Chicago in October 2019, the local American Taiwanese physicians' group and the entire Taiwanese community were very pleased. Shortly afterwards, I received a call from a local practitioner Dr. Tang Ming-lun, who was a schoolmate of Dr. Lai at the National Taiwan University School of Medicine. He asked me to pick up Dr. Lai at the airport with my Rolls-Royce. I could not have been happier and was excited for this unexpected assignment. My wife thought it would be better to hire a professional driver. I said I would be honored to serve as that driver, because Former Premier Lai Ching-te is one of my best friends and I would have been pleased to have the rare opportunity to serve him as his

chauffeur.

A few days later Dr. Tang called again and said Dr. Lai had declined to ride in a Rolls-Royce to avoid celebrity gossip. I understood his concerns and I respected his wishes. He arrived at the O'Hare International Airport on October 16. Because many people had gone to welcome him, I stayed behind.



Premier Lai declined to pick him up in my Rolls-Royce



Shee Highland Musée

On the next day, October 17, the fellow countrymen of Taiwan held a grand welcoming party for him. When we sat down at the main dinner table that evening, our conversation went smoothly, and we touched base on a variety of issues concerning our homeland. We had a wonderful visit and conversation. He was very low-key, attentive and humble but at the same time, very knowledgeable on both domestic and international issues. He was, obviously, a brilliant and kind individual, graced with honesty and integrity.

At that time, when the general elections were approaching, everyone was most concerned that President Tsai Ing-wen had not yet selected a running mate. The people knew that one of the most qualified and most popular candidates was Lai Ching-te. My Midwestern friends in North America also shared this consensus. Our goal was to take this opportunity to encourage Premier Lai to run. If the time came, and the situation arose, we hoped he would accept the invitation to run for Vice-President with President Tsai Ing-wen. I personally thought they would be the ideal pair.

Being an artist and a medical doctor like Dr. Lai, I desired to choose the most ideal artwork that

I had created in order to express our thoughts and love for him. With that in mind, I decided on a porcelain object for which I had collaborated with the Franz Porcelain Company, entitled "Pilgrimage Vase-Love, Peace & Hope". I thought this gift was meaningful and expressed our heartfelt love for him; I also felt it would be significant for Premier Lai to receive it in the name of the Taiwanese people. Fortunately, at that time the Tsai Ing-wen Support Committee had been established and the Director General was Mr. Junior Hsu. He immediately accepted my suggestion to use the name of the entire Taiwanese group to present this gift. Accordingly, I took this artwork to the party that night. Following Premier Lai's speech, I joined Premier Lai on the stage and presented to him "Pilgrimage Vase." He was too polite to accept such a gift. I understood his feelings very well, so I suggested donating it in his honor to a museum in Taiwan for public viewing. He immediately and enthusiastically accepted my proposal.



On 2019.10.17 at the grand welcome party  
From right: Junior Hsu, Premier Lai, Shee.



Pilgrimage Vase-  
Love, Peace, Hope

Shortly after returning to Taiwan, Premier Lai accepted the nomination to run with President Tsai Ing-wen as candidate for the vice-presidency. This team had virtually become the best presidential/vice-presidential candidates ever assembled in the history of Taiwan. I even made a special trip back to Taiwan to cast my vote for this tremendously important election. They won the election, held on January 11, 2020, by a landslide. The record-breaking number of votes was 8.17 million. With their overwhelming success in winning the election on January 11,

they not only lived up to expectations of the Taiwanese but by the high number of votes, made re-election history.

President Tsai Ing-wen, like vice-President Lai is also humble and low-key. She has a big heart which is as strong as steel. She is courageous and acts with determination to choose to do good. She can form alliances even with those who are more capable than herself. Sometimes this goes against public opinion, however, she insists to do so. For example, during the election period, Mr. Su Tseng-chang, once her rival, was appointed by her to the Position--Premier of the Executive Yuan in charge of domestic affairs. Premier Su is a political veteran and one of the rare exceptional politicians. With him by her side as her trusted assistant, she strengthened her position, and could be at ease during the election. As a result, President Tsai was able to concentrate on campaigning for re-election and won.

When the Covid-19 pandemic suddenly broke out in Taiwan, Premier Su very effectively and efficiently led a group of governmental officials, including the Minister of Health and Welfare, Dr. Chen Shih-chung, so successfully that the whole team became the darling of the media, as well as for the people of Taiwan and the world over. Currently the pandemic in Taiwan is under control and the number of cases and deaths are the lowest in the world. This remarkable story makes international news every day. For Taiwanese like us, living abroad, we are extremely proud of our homeland's achievements. We often encounter Americans giving us the "thumbs up", which makes us feel glorious. Many countries are now learning from Taiwan's success in anti-pandemic control and prevention strategies. Taiwan's diplomacy with COVID-19 and their successful control experience is benefiting mankind globally.

The iron triangle formed by President Tsai, Premier Su, and Vice President Lai will be an extraordinarily strong team. On May 31, 2015, when President Tsai visited Chicago as the Chair of the Democratic Progressive Party, the Taiwanese Association gathered a thousand people to welcome her. My wife and I had the opportunity to chat with her, making me feel that she would become a good president, due to her wisdom, capability, and affinity for good and talented people. She certainly understands the art of management in decentralization.



President Tsai (Chair of DPP) visited Chicago with Dr. & Mrs. Shee On.5-31-16

At the last inauguration ceremony on May 20, 2016, President Tsai's very first order was humility, humility and again humility, which was very touching and impressive. To announce her spiritual message on such an important platform shook up the entire audience. As an artist, I saw her posture and gestures in speaking with emphasis on these three words (Humility, humility and again humility) at that time, raising her arms and pledging to save Taiwan. She reminded me of Jesus Christ when He was preaching on the hill with arms open and raised in the air, in a gesture of saving the world. I, as a Christian, was so impressed and immediately used this life impression to portray her in a life-sized sculpture named "The Wise One" to commemorate the historical moment. This sculpture was installed in the sculpture garden at the Shee Highland Musée in the northern Chicago suburb of Highland Park, Illinois, for people to view and admire.



"The Wise One"  
humility, humility,  
and again humility

The foundation of the iron triangle of the President, Vice President, and Premier of Executive Yuan is to protect the people and the country of Taiwan. These are the core values of the Republic.

As public servants for the people, these leaders demonstrate the highest level of integrity, openness, and righteousness in order to protect freedom, democracy and human rights. That is what we call "Successful Governance". We the citizens entrust our leaders to guide Taiwan and the sovereignty of its islands. Toward this end I am convinced that we can count on them to work hard for us and we will finally and sincerely bless them with every success.

May God save Taiwan and protect His people.