

Speech at the Enrolment Ceremony of the 34th Youth Unit
of the Hong Kong Red Cross at WYHK
(Extract)

Humanitarianism is at the core of the Red Cross Association. I see this in great resonance with a signature approach of our Sponsoring Body, the Society of Jesus – that of its appreciation of and deep respect for the potential of human beings as manifestation of God’s love and power.

What is the ideal of a Jesuit Education? Freedom, many Wahyanites may say. Well a liberal approach is definitely at the core of Jesuit Education at Wah Yan. However, it may be more a means, than an end in itself. In fact, as pronounced a few years ago by the Society of Jesus, the goal of a Jesuit Education is to nurture among students the qualities of **Human Excellence**. And what is human excellence? Some of our students may remember the 4 Cs - **Conscience, Commitment, Compassion and Competence**.

Now the Red Cross is one of the flagship programmes at Wah Yan embodying all the 4 Cs of Human Excellence:

- By learning and practicing the many skills required in your volunteer to help others, you prove yourself to be **competent**.
- By having nurtured in yourself the big heart to serve those in need, you prove yourself to be **compassionate**.
- By turning up for trainings even when you are tired or when there are other demands/temptations on your time - games, homework, friends - you prove yourself to be **committed**. Our Youth Unit has won the championship of the drill competition (open) this year. This will be impossible without commitment!

- And by discerning that volunteer work for the Red Cross is the **right** thing to do for mankind, you prove yourself to be **a man of conscience**.

In sum, you have shown us what Human Excellence means and how beautiful / meaningful it is to realize this ideal in young men like you! And through this, you have given us educators **HOPE!**

Yes, we are hopeful because of you! And in the days and years to come, please continue to develop and serve for the HKRC YU34 with devotion, and through the fine things that you do as a member of the Red Cross, demonstrate to everyone around you what Human Excellence means and why we can all continue to be hopeful about the world!

YL So (14th May, 2016)