We have all had the experience of being overwhelmed by the grandeur of the universe and feeling our own smallness and insignificance. Evolution and creation are essential for examining the origin of the universe, even if they do not seem to offer final answers. Is there intent behind evolution? Rev. Louis Ha discusses this and more from the perspectives of religion and society.

It’s hardly a secret that speeches by political leaders and heads of organizations are often penned by ghost writers. What distinguishes an excellent speech from a run-of-the-mill one? H shares a tip or two with a young executive tasked with this important responsibility.

The desire to express is the fountain of creation. There are quite a number of creative minds among CUHK staff. Prof. Donna Chu of the School of Journalism and Communication shares with us her journey of creation and revitalization of the last two years. Perhaps after reading, you would want to embark on the same.
去
年10月，教宗方濟各在梵蒂岡宗座科學院演說時曾說：『宇宙大爆炸如今被視為世界的起源，但這理論與天主創世並不矛盾，反而需要有創世的假設。』又提到：『自然進化與創世論並不相悖，因為進化的前提是要有會進化的受造物。』教宗的言論引起各方關心，科學與宗教是否就此握手言和？教宗方濟各上任後大力推動改革，頻有開明之舉，是否意味着教會立場改變？《中大通訊》就此話題訪問了天主教研究中心主任夏其龍神父。

夏神父首先強調，天主教會一直知道本身教義與其他宇宙起源觀的差異，並不停加深對不同觀點的認識。教會的立場是，正如聖經記載，世界和人類始祖均創自天主意旨，這點是宗教範式，需要基督信徒的「信」。另一方面，進化論和宇宙大爆炸這類科學理論鋌屬科學領域，請求「證據」至上。教會一方面肯定信仰源於靈感與啟示，因而無需科學證明和理性證據支持；另一方面，教會認為信仰與理性可以合作，並且必須合作。上文提及的宗座科學院可推本溯源至十七世紀初，是教會努力與科學合作的好例子。

夏神父接著細述該如何理解聖經。聖經敘事，並不與事物發源之時並排進行。因此，研究聖經記載往往要考慮進行記敘的年代，配合當時的時間、空間、歷史和社會背景，才能更深入了解教義聖經。再者，聖經以口頭傳授的形式存在了很長時間，因此更需要充分考慮從口述傳授到文本產生的過程因素。聖經研究與聖經考古在過去二百年已有重大突破，利用學者深入理解聖經。就聖經學者認為，教會不是單單解讀宇宙意義，因為有太多其他因素可以影響經文的意思。

被問及世界與地球生物怎樣從無到有，夏神父解釋，有太多理論試圖給出答案；有人認為世界創自神性，也有人相信「造世者」的存在，即是一位並非創造萬物的造物主；有人認為人類起源自一個智能設計。夏神父說，涉及創世的議題太複雜，人類尚未有能力憑科學得出無懈可擊的解答——也許進化論解釋了許多，仍未說明，若不信天主創世，那麼進化的物種從何而來。

夏神父繼而從現今社會的角度討論基督教倫理。教會強調生命至上，只要關乎人類，即舉足輕重，尊貴不可侵犯。這就是教宗方濟各在教宗座談時的尊言，也與教會對人類始祖的觀點，是宗教範式。教會強調，尊重人類始祖的受造物，並創作者天主的恩典。在訪問末，夏神父表達了對教宗方濟各的期盼。他認同這位新教宗在精神與物質兩個層面，滿足現代教會的需要。

自文明曙光初現，無論是哲學家還是普羅大眾，均對宇宙起源和人類始祖的問題困惑不已。皇朝更迭，政權興替，人類對這兩大問題始終眾說紛紜。不過，教宗方濟各的言論和見解可說提供了一個思考的脈絡。教宗方濟各，在一位牧首的當今，是天主教會的最高領導者。他於上任後，大力推動教會進行改革，頻有開明之舉，教會是否因此改變了對立場？《中大通訊》就此話題訪問了天主教研究中心主任夏其龍神父。
primogenitors of the human race, are both created at the will of God as it is recorded in the Bible, and this view exists within the paradigm of religion, which requires the belief of those who embrace Christianity. On the other hand, scientific theories such as evolutionism and Big Bang belong to the realm of science, where proof reigns supreme. While the Church acknowledges that belief is derived from inspiration and revelation, and therefore does not need to be supported by scientific evidence and rational proof, she holds the view that faith and reason can work together, and must work together. The Pontifical Academy of Sciences referred to above, which could trace its origin to the early 17th century, would be a good example of the Church’s efforts in this direction.

Father Ha then continues to expatiate on the interpretation of the Bible, the sacred scriptures of Christianity. One has to understand that the narration of happenings and events in the Bible does not begin at the time when such matters actually began, but dates only from the time that such narration commenced. It thus follows that biblical records often have to be studied in the appropriate temporal, spatial, historical and social contexts for a more comprehensive understanding of the Divine Will. Furthermore, the books of the Bible had existed in oral traditions only for a very long time, which thus necessitates due consideration of the background and other intervening factors involved in the transition from an oral heritage to the written text. There were significant breakthroughs in biblical scholarship and archaeology in the last two centuries, which have also helped to facilitate a better understanding of the book among scholars. Thus, in matters concerning biblical exegesis, the Catholic Church does not insist on following the texts literally alone, as there are often so many other factors that can throw light on their meaning.

On the subject of how the world and the living creatures that inhabit it came into being, Father Ha explains that there are many theories which attempt to provide an answer: some hold that the world was created by a godhead, while some believe in the existence of a demiurge, or a fashioner of the world but who is not the creator of the matters and lives that make up the world. There are yet others who hold that things came into being through an intelligent design. Father Ha observes that the issues involved in the creation are too complicated and that man still has not been able to obtain a fully satisfactory explanation in science—evolution may explain a lot, but there is still the question of the origin of the matters from which evolution proceeds, if creation is not to be believed.

Father Ha then moves on to discuss Christian ethics in the context of the modern world. The Church emphasizes the importance of life above all else, and that everything concerning human life is therefore of inviolable significance and value. This is why the Church takes a stance against the death penalty and abortion, and views processes such as contraception and in vitro fertilization as unreasonable and unnatural interventions. The Church also regards procreation as a key factor in marriage and, in that light, cannot categorically accept same-sex unions, which are now being granted legal status in a number of countries. While these teachings would appear to go against the grain of modern society, the Church regards such precepts as of essential importance and therefore not amenable to concessions, because they have all stemmed from a respect for the value of human life.

Father Ha concludes his most enlightening session with us by looking forward into the pontificate of Pope Francis. He recognizes the newly elected pontiff as a man of progress and change who takes a practical approach to things. While he is burdened with traditions and institutions built up over the centuries, and a curia that, despite the reforming efforts of the last few popes, still functions with the vestiges of a medieval court, he is anticipated to do all he can, and where he can, as servus servorum Dei, to meet the needs of the modern Church, in both the spiritual and the material contexts.

The origin of the universe as we know it today, and the ancestry of the human race, have been fascinating subjects for philosophers and the man in the street alike since the beginning of civilization. From the days of Gilgamesh and Timaeus, the human mind has never been known to have professed a homogeneous view on these two subjects. While these questions will continue to work the human mind, Father Ha has given us a context in which they can be contemplated.
Behind the glass door, two massive walls of bookshelves over 15 feet tall climb all the way up to the second floor of the building. At the end of the hall of books is a raised platform carpeted with tatami mats and inviting cushions. A small terrace paved with white gravel just beyond the window amplifies the Zen-like atmosphere. Welcome to CUP Corner, a bookstore newly opened by the Chinese University Press.

Recalling why the Chinese University Press exists, the former Vice-Chancellor Prof. Ambrose King once said it is because, as the founding Vice-Chancellor Dr. Li Choh-ming believed, CUP is an organic part of CUHK in the first place. Established in 1977 as the publishing house of the University, CUP has been releasing quality scholarly titles and acting as a CUHK publications sales portal.

In this leisure reading area, CUP Corner showcases publications from the house and the Faculties as well as the research centres and departments of CUHK. Visitors will discover exciting content from over a thousand titles across subjects of interest, such as classic Chinese fiction, award-winning contemporary poetry, best-selling political biographies, historical and sociological studies, ancient and contemporary philosophical texts, bilingual editions of treasured literary works, art catalogues, as well as current titles on management, education, and natural sciences. Why not pay a visit on a warm winter afternoon, pick a book, and set your spirit free!  📍  🕒  💥
商學院校友與匡智會歡度聖誕
Business School Alumni Celebrate Christmas with Hong Chi Association

2014年12月6日，商學院校友及企業事務辦公室為匡智會小西灣庇護工場的智障學員舉辦聖誕聯歡會。二十五位商學院校友擔任愛心義工，為學員帶來半天的豐富節目，包括遊戲、魔術表演、聖詩唱頌，以及自助午餐。每位校友更為學員送上精心挑選的聖誕禮物。

On 6 December 2014, the Alumni and Corporate Affairs Office of Business School organized a Christmas party for Hong Chi Association’s intellectually disabled trainees at the Siu Sai Wan Sheltered Workshop. Twenty-five alumni spent time with the trainees through a fun-filled interactive programme featuring games, a magic show, Christmas carol singing, and a sumptuous lunch buffet. Each alumnus also presented a Christmas gift to his or her partner.

校長盃暨教職員同樂日
VC Cup and Fun Fair

兩年一度的校長盃暨教職員同樂日於2014年11月30日在大學體育中心舉行，今年參與的書院隊數最為鼎盛，加入了新書院隊和新舊書院聯隊。經歷幾星期激烈的初賽及決賽，最後由崇基學院勇奪全場總冠軍。同樂日的攤位活動有跳蚤市場、民間工藝製作、小食售賣、攤位遊戲、體能檢測等，吸引不少校友及教職員攜老扶幼到場參與。

The biennial VC Cup and Fun Fair were held on 30 November 2014 at the University Sports Centre. This year witnessed the largest number of participating teams not only from the traditional Colleges, but also from the new ones and from allied teams. After rounds and weeks of fierce competition, the overall champion went to Chung Chi College. The fabulous Fun Fair offered various attractions and entertainment, such as flea market, arts and crafts, food stalls, balloon toys, and physique test, drawing clusters of staff, alumni, and their families.

研究生宿舍晚宴暨品酒工作坊
PGH Dinner cum Wine Appreciation Workshop

研究生宿舍於2014年12月10日假大學教職員餐廳舉行晚宴暨品酒工作坊。大學品酒學會顧問兼校友陸耀文先生（後排左七）擔任嘉賓講者，介紹品酒常識及方法。參加者品嚐四款美酒，開業環節的三位得獎者獲贈由陸先生捐出的美酒禮品。

Mr. Raymond Luk (7th left, back row), CUHK alumnus and adviser to the Undergraduate Wine Society, spoke at the dinner cum wine appreciation workshop on 10 December 2014 at the University Staff Common Room. He introduced the residents to basic wine knowledge and wine tasting manners, and taught them how to taste four types of wine during the workshop. Three quiz winners were awarded with bottles of wine donated by Mr. Luk.
In 1967, the Chinese University held its first Intermediate Examination for undergraduates to test the candidates' working knowledge of the basic principles of their chosen fields and taken courses. The Intermediate Examinations were generally held in June and comprised two sections: language tests on Chinese and English, and subject tests on candidate's major and minor subjects, as well as elective field of studies. Students who had completed their second year in the University had to take the examination and passing it was a prerequisite for promotion to the third year. Students could be promoted to the third year even if they failed one of the language tests, but they had to pass both tests before being admitted to the fourth year. In January 1969, the University announced that the language tests would be administered by the Colleges. In addition, the test on elective fields would be eliminated. The Intermediate Examination was abolished in 1974. Since then, promotion to the third year has been subjected to students' coursework assessments and course examinations.

The Intermediate Examination Question Papers are now on display in the University Gallery.

**Information in this section can only be accessed with CWEM password.**

若要瀏覽本部分的資料，

請須輸入中大校園電子郵件密碼。

到任同仁 Newly Onboard
1. Login SSEs with your Staff ID and CWEM Password.

2. Choose 'Personal' then click 'Appointment'.

3. Choose the 'For Full-time Non-teaching Staff' PRDS/PLRS in the Staff Self-Service Enquiry System.

4. Login SSEs with your Staff ID and CWEM Password.

5. Choose 'Personal' then click 'Appointment'.

Starting from 21 January, full-time non-teaching appointees may seek information on their overall performance ratings and merit increment for the 2013/14 term.

The Personnel Office has adopted new fax numbers (3942 0945 to 3942 0949 & 3942 0954) for designated fax lines for the respective personnel services.

Tips for Automated Vehicle Access Control System (AVACS)

- To ensure accurate data storage, staff members must fill in the 'Staff Self-Service Enquiry System' via: perntc.per.cuhk.edu.hk/ssp/logon.asp.

- To check their personal data, staff members may use the 'Staff Self-Service Enquiry System' via: perntc.per.cuhk.edu.hk/ssp/logon.asp.

- For effecting the new investment option(s) on 1 February, please submit the Investment Option Change Form to the Payroll and Superannuation Unit on or before 22 January. For details, please call 3943 7244 or 3943 7236.

The CUHK Business School and AIA are collaborating to launch the 'E-device Collection Campaign'. The non-profit organization will erase old data from the devices and install new software before giving them to people in need.

The E-device Collection Campaign, written and directed by Prof. Donna Chu of the School of Journalism and Communication, will be shown for free at the Sir Run Run Shaw Hall at 7:30 pm on 27 January.
You have been so full of creative energy in the last year or so. First a film, now a novel. Why so?

We all have the need to express ourselves and communicate with others. It’s all the more natural for me, a teacher in journalism and communication, to have this energy, passion and curiosity for creative pursuits. During the past two years, I felt the urge to express some feelings through film and novel, and hence, the two pieces of work.

What prompted you to shoot a film like The Vintage?

Several years ago, I thought of giving myself a special birthday present instead of creating something materialistic. I examined what unachieved childhood dreams I had. To be a film scriptwriter or a director has long been on my wish list, but, what if you don’t even know what your dream is? Based on real encounters with people I know, I wrote the script which contains a lot of reflections on this issue by me and my student. CUHK was chosen as the background without much consultation. It’s just like being an exchange student there. I had the chance to exchange ideas with people from different universities. I was able to live my days leisurely and identified a new direction for research. I rested enough and identified a new direction for research. I rested enough and served to distract me from the even more fictional and ridiculous reality. The plot and my personal experience share nothing in common, only that the protagonist is a freelancer, and I also worked freelance for a long period of time before working at CUHK.

Prof. Joseph Chan’s photography has played a vital role in the published novel. How was the collaboration?

The greatest attraction of I CARE is teachers and students who love CUHK and who are never short of fascinating ideas. Take the cottage here as an example, it is full of dialogues between reality and imagination. I sent him an e-mail from Holland, together with my photographs, which is full of dialogues between reality and imagination. CUHK is the background without much debate. Pardon my favouritism, CUHK has the most beautiful campus in Hong Kong, not only in terms of the scenery, but also the unsophisticated nostalgic elegance and the unique ambition.

Is there anything autobiographical in the novel Now on the Run?

2014 was a very eventful year. I believe that many people felt the same as I did; powerless, anxious and suffocated. Creativity gives room for imagination and offers comfort. One evening in June, I was so fed up and depressed by the news. I turned off the television, turned on the computer and started to write the first chapter. If a man was given five chances for time travel, what choices would he make? Working all these out consumed much of my energy, but, what if you don’t even know what your dream is? Based on real encounters with people I know, I wrote the script which contains a lot of reflections on this issue by me and my student. CUHK was chosen as the background without much debate. Pardon my favouritism, CUHK has the most beautiful campus in Hong Kong, not only in terms of the scenery, but also the unsophisticated nostalgic elegance and the unique ambition.

You are one of the core planners and organizers of the University’s I-CARE Programme. Why is it worth your time?

The greatest attraction of I CARE is teachers and students who love CUHK and who are never short of fascinating ideas. Take the cottage here as an example, it is rootined in a primitive idea of building a structure on campus to echo the theme of the 2014 University Lecture on Civility with Professor Chan’s photography has played a vital role in the published novel. How was the collaboration?

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