

DINNER IN HONOUR OF SHANGHAI JUDGES  
THE QUEENSLAND ROOM - EXECUTIVE BUILDING  
MONDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 1999  
OPENING REMARKS

Chief Justice Paul de Jersey

*Mr Yilong Teng, Chief Justice of the Shanghai Supreme Court*

*Mr Justice Xu Chen, Chief Justice of the First Intermediate Court of Shanghai*

*Mr Justice Xinlong Ying, Chief of the Commercial Division Second Intermediate Court of Shanghai*

*Ms Justice Meiying Liu, Chief of the Research Division, Supreme Court of Shanghai*

*Mr Qingshan Lin, Director of the Jurisprudence Society of Shanghai*

*Ms Biying Li, Assistant Judge, Supreme Court of Shanghai*

*Your Honours of the Supreme Court of Queensland*

*Mr Acting Attorney the Hon Rod Welford, MLA*

*President of the Bar, Mr Douglas QC and*

*President of the Law Society, Mr Carne*

*Ladies and Gentlemen*

Chief Justice of Shanghai, we are delighted to welcome you to the State of Queensland. We are further honoured that you bring with you such distinguished colleagues, the Chief Justice of the First Intermediate Court of Shanghai, the Chief of the Commercial Division of the Second Intermediate Court of Shanghai, the Chief of the Research Division of the Supreme Court of Shanghai, the Director of the Jurisprudence Society of Shanghai, and an assistant judge of the Supreme Court of Shanghai. You are all warmly welcome. This is a vibrant time for Chinese-Australian relations: you follow closely after President Jiang Zemin.

In this State of Queensland, we greatly value in particular our sister/State relationship with your wonderful city and province of Shanghai. As you know, our formal governmental relationship was recently renewed, and we were very pleased and honoured then to be able to welcome to Brisbane the illustrious Mayor of Shanghai, who incidentally also then opened the wonderful Shanghai photographic exhibition still running in our State Museum.

Last year it was a great pleasure and interest for us to welcome your Deputy Chief Justice and other Judges. I was also personally very pleased last year to be able to attend the Third Asia/Pacific Courts Conference in Shanghai, an outstanding success upon which you are to be enthusiastically congratulated. A number of Judges of our Supreme Court have, over recent years, had substantial contact with you and your colleagues in China: productive and distinctively friendly and

generous. All arms of the Queensland Government are now greatly honoured this year that Shanghai judicial officers at the highest level are again able to visit our great State, and especially, if I may say so, Chief justice Teng.

A mutual understanding of important aspects of our respective cultures must inevitably work to the betterment of our countries, and indeed all humanity. It is encouraging to see recent steps towards more lively interaction between the judiciary of your great city and ours. They must continue!

We greatly look forward tomorrow to your visiting the Supreme Court, where we will share the opportunity for fruitful exchanges. And now, I hope that we all experience an enjoyable and memorable evening.

May I ask you, ladies and gentlemen, to rise now while I propose two toasts:

First, may we drink to the honour of the President of the People's Republic of China:

"The President of the People's Republic of China!"

Second, may we drink to the honour of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second, Queen of Australia:

"The Queen!"

Chief Justice Teng, may I invite you to respond?