



Sang Ma Trust Fund

The Sang Ma Trust Fund "the Fund" was founded by Dr Cha Chi Ming in 1992, with its objective to support the development and advancement of scientific research for the textile industry in China. The word "Sang Ma" refer to mulberry and flax, two historically important plants in China's textile industry. Some 4,000 to 5,000 years ago in ancient China, mulberry trees were planted and silkworms were raised in order to produce silk and silk fabrics. Flax was planted, from which linen fabrics were made. With the invention of different dyeing and printing techniques for natural fibers, beautiful new patterns were produced. Besides fulfilling domestic demand, these fabrics were also exported via the Silk Road to the West. Using references to historical precedent, the Fund tries to impress upon industry participants, the importance of science and technology in the development of China's textile industry.

The Fund engaged prominent industry experts and entrepreneurs to act as trustees and senior consultants. They include (in chronological order of their date of appointments): Mr Zao Sing Fong (retired in 1998), Mr Cha Mou Zing, Mr Yeung Cheung Shing, Mr Wang Tian Kai, Mr Ji Guobiao, Mr Du Yansun, Mr Liang Shan, Mr Mei Ziqiang, Mr Wong Wah Sang (retired in 2005), Mr Wong Yue Shing, Mr Du Yuzhou, Mr Cha Mou Sing, Mr Kenneth Fang, Ms Wong Cha May Lung, Mr Li Luanxian and Ms Cha May Lee; it also engaged Mr Ji Guobiao, Mrs Cha Liu Bie Ju, Mr Chan Sui Kau, Mr Chen Din Hwa, Mr Du Yuzhou, Mr Wang Tian Kai and Mr Cha Mou Sing as senior consultants. Together, they form the trustee committee which supervises the management of the Fund and its daily operations.

Over the past years, the size of the Fund has steadily increased from HK\$2 million to HK\$30 million as a result of the continuous donations by Dr Cha Chi Ming. Since 2000, the Fund has been receiving subsidies from the Textile Council of Hong Kong, which has enabled it to set up new initiatives and increase the amount of its monetary awards. Ms Wong Cha May Lung succeeded Dr Cha as Chairwoman in 2007. She has stepped up the effort in supporting the Fund's development and the Cha Group donated another HK\$15 million in 2008, making the total size of the Fund to HK\$45 million.

From 1994, The Fund has set up scholarships for the following universities with the goal of developing talented individuals in the textile industry: Tianjin Polytechnic University, Donghua University, Zhejiang Sci-Tech University, Beijing Institute of Clothing Technology, and Xi'an Polytechnic University. To promote scientific research, the Fund set up a science and technology award for the textiles industry in 1997. The Fund has so far awarded approximately HK\$10 Million to over 4,000 recipients since its establishment.