The "Professor Zhang Oun Memorial Public Academic Lecture" was established through donations from the family, alumni, and colleagues of the late Professor Zhang Qun, founding Department Head of the History Department at Hong Kong Baptist University, to recognize his significant contributions to the department. The History Department received the initial donations in September 2001 and established the fund in April 2002. The official opening ceremony and the first three academic lectures were held on February 7, 2004. The 22nd Zhang Qun Memorial Public Academic Lecture was successfully held on March 23, 2021. Due to the pandemic, this year's lecture had to be conducted via the Zoom platform. Professor Liu Haiwang from the Henan Provincial Institute of Cultural Relics and Archaeology and the History Department of Zhengzhou University in Henan delivered a lecture on the topic "From Smelting Copper to Smelting Iron - The Markers and Supports of the Unity in Diversity of Chinese Civilization." Over 80 faculty and students attended the lecture. Professor Liu specializes in archaeological research on metallurgy during the Han, Tang, and Song dynasties, as well as studies on the Yellow River and Grand Canal cultures. He has led field excavations at various historical sites, including Han-era iron smelting sites, ancient zinc smelting sites, and others related to metal smelting. Professor Liu's lecture traced the early origins and development of Chinese civilization, highlighting the progression from bronze to iron smelting technologies. He emphasized the importance of metallurgical techniques in the evolution of Chinese civilization towards unity from diversity. The lecture also touched on recent archaeological discoveries, such as artifacts from the Sanxingdui site, indicating the ongoing progress in Chinese archaeology. Professor Liu concluded by emphasizing the significance of science and technology as the backbone of civilizational advancement, both historically and in contemporary times. Prior to the start of the lecture, Dr. Liu Jian Shen from the History Department introduced the speaker and later moderated the Q&A session following Professor Liu's presentation.

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