The King of Norway receives honorary degree from Oxford University

http://www.friefight.cn 2006-11-28

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[摘要] 16 November 2006. King Harald V of Norway - awarded the degree of Doctor of Civil Law (DCL) by the University of Oxford at a special honorary degree ceremony on Thursday 16 November 2006. The King, who studied at Balliol College, as did his father, was honoured both for his role as statesman and in recognition of the close ties of friendship between the UK and Norway.

[关键词] *The King of Norway,honorary degree,statesman*

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During the ceremony in the Sheldonian Theatre the Public Orator, Professor Richard Jenkyns, spoke of the 'close ties of friendship' which exist between Norway and the UK. The Chancellor of the University, the Rt Hon Lord Patten of Barnes, said that King Harald had 'shown himself a staunch friend of the British people and a ruler of the Norwegian people distinguished for sagacity and humanity.

After receiving his honorary degree, King Harald addressed the audience which included senior University figures, academics with research links with Norway, and current Norwegian students. He spoke of the long line of Norwegian royals educated in England, stretching back to Haakon, the son of Harald Fairhair who was sent to the court of the English King Athalstan in 928.

He spoke about the need for lifelong learning, and the great benefits that communication technology has brought in spreading knowledge and breaking down old borders and barriers. He said: 'I regard all learning and education as a life

-long process. It is just as important to be able to learn when we are seventy -so in my case shortly - as when we are seven.'

The issue of economic co-

operation between Norway and the UK, in particular with regard to oil and gas discoveries in the North Sea, was another theme of the speech. He said: 'New technology will make it possible to extract more oil and gas from deposits that only a few years ago could not be exploited. Furthermore, new technological advances will make it possible to make new discoveries and safely develop fields where geology and rough waters have stopped us so f

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class technologies for the oil and gas industry, technologies which today are much in demand. In addition protection of the environment will be of utmost importance for all Norwegian exploitation and production of oil and gas in the years to come.

He added: 'Our further co-

operation in all these fields of politics, economy and technology require one fundamental common asset, and that is "Education".'

Following the ceremony, the royal party attended a private lunch at his old college, where guests included contemporaries who rowed alongside the King in his student days.

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