

22 APR 2002

Chan-Clan

SARAWAK'S CHAN CLAN SEEKING MORE MEMBERS

KUCHING, April 22 (Bernama) - The Chan Clan Association of Sarawak wants more young people bearing the surname Chan to become members with a view to making the body stronger.

Making the call, its secretary Chan Chiaw Yam said the majority of its 480 members at present was above 45 and only a fraction was below 35.

"We really need the participation of young members of the clan to enrich the association with new ideas and activities," he told Bernama in an interview.

He hoped young people would emulate their forefathers who joined the association to stand united as a strong clan and contribute to the greater unity of the nation.

The association was founded in 1950 by Chan Joo Leong and Chan Chiok Soon, father of local prominent businessman and politician Chan Kian Hoe.

The association's Chairman is Chan Seng Hai who is also the Managing Director of the Sarawak Transport Company (STC) and has its headquarters in Jalan Ang Cheng Ho here.

Chan also said the association was very happy with the assurance given by the Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, that the government would not gradually abolish Chinese schools in the country.

"Over the years we believe that the Chinese schools had contributed much to the country in terms of human resources and have also taught children how to live in a multi-racial country like Malaysia," he said.

According to him, Dr Mahathir gave the assurance on March 11 when he met editors of Chinese newspapers including those from Sabah and Sarawak in Putrajaya.

--BERNAMA

TSY MT AAM