

THIS IS HIS BIRTHDAY WISH

CONTINUED MAINTENANCE OF NATIONAL SOLIDARITY AND GOODWILL

On the occasion of his 46th birthday in 1964 Tun Razak expressed his birthday wish as a prayer for the continued maintenance and strengthening of national solidarity and goodwill among the multi-racial and multi-religious people of Malaysia. He recounted his personal belief that there could be no social equality unless there were equal opportunities for advancement for everybody.

What I am today has been largely due to the co-operation and help I receive from my colleagues, aides, government servants and the support I always get from the people of various races in our country. It has been a real pleasure to serve the country and Malaysians of all races with all I have.

I look forward to continue serving our people for as long as I am wanted by the Alliance Party, the UMNO and the people of this country.

I have been asked what is my birthday wish today. I do not ask nor wish for very much, not even on my birthday. What I am asking now is in fact my daily prayer the continued maintenance and strengthening of national solidarity and goodwill among our multi-racial and multi-religious people. Malaysia's record in racial tolerance and goodwill has few parallels in modern history; so let us resolve to keep this record and strive to improve it.

We will not be true to ourselves if we do not at the same time admit that as we strive along towards one nationhood, one loyalty and one country, we are being continually faced by many sensitive issues. But given the time and patience, adjustments and readjustments will and must be made from time to time until all barriers and prejudices which now separate our people are cast aside. This necessarily takes a long time.

We have attained some results in our twin duties to help our people. We have and will continue to concentrate a great deal of

our efforts in redressing the economic and social imbalance and help vitalise our society, because I personally believe that there can be no social equality unless there are equal opportunities for advancement for everybody. When there is social justice and equality only then can there really exist a just society for all Malaysians.

I would like to reiterate today what I have said before so that all Malaysians of various racial origins will fully understand this, that the Alliance Government has no intention now or in the future, to deny anyone opportunities for his own betterment. Rather it is our firm belief that we should help to extend these opportunities to all those who have been denied them.

TUN TAN CHENG LOCK SET THE EXAMPLE FOR MALAYSIANS

The example that the late Tun Tan Cheng Lock, the first President and founder of the Malayan Chinese Association, had set by his way of life, by his deeds and by his actions was recalled by Tun Razak when he declared open the Tun Tan Cheng Lock Mansions (Low-Cost Housing) at Jalan Loke Yew, Kuala Lumpur. He expressed the hope that "everyhome in this large block of fiats will be turned into a happy Malaysian home in the true spirit of Tun Ian Cheng Lock's own example"

One of the main problems confronting our nation's capital, Kuala Lumpur, and to a lesser extent other large towns, is the eradication of squatter settlements which have become more and more numerous in recent years. To a large extent this state of affairs is the legacy of the Emergency during which time there a substantial drift of the rural population to the urban areas.

In the first place the squatter and "drift to town" problem has been corrected to a considerable extent by the Alliance Government's Rural Development Programme which has helped to stop