

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 Jedan Loke Yew, Kuala Lumpur. He expressed the hope that every home in this large block of flats will be turned into a happy Malaysian home in the true spirit of Tun Tan 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 slate 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

the drift to the towns by regenerating and revitalising the rural economy and so making life in the rural areas as equally attractive as life in the towns and by giving the rural dweller a chance to enjoy as high a standard of living of his own land as he would be able to enjoy living in the urban areas.

Considerable progress has already been made to alleviate the housing shortage in our main towns and it is estimated that about S850 million was invested in housing during the last five years by both the public and private sectors.



Tun Razak is unveiling the plaque to declare open the Tun Tan Cheng Lock Mansions- low-cost flats -at Jalan Loke Yew. Kuala Lumpur, on 18th April. 1966.

Low-cost housing is one of the major efforts of my Government and is given a prominent place in the First Malaysia Development Plan with particular emphasis to promote the welfare and better conditions of living of the lower income groups.

In addition to this expenditure for housing public employees over the next five years will be in the region of approximately \$25 million. Our Development Plan enables an intensified phase

of housing development to take place so that the most immediate problems posed by the present housing shortage will be met.

The provision of more and more houses for our people, particularly those of the lower income groups is to a certain extent a Government responsibility which my Government in this present First Malaysia Plan are tackling with vigour and with urgency of action.

But the provision of a house in itself is only the first stage in the development of a strong, stable and happy nation. More important is the provision of a good home and that is why today it is most appropriate that this project, of providing more Malaysian homes in our Federal Capital, is named after one of our most distinguished Malaysians who unfortunately is not here with us in person because he is no longer alive but he is nevertheless with us in our hearts and very deeply remains in our memories.

*Tun Tan Cheng Lock was at heart a true Malaysian and his way of life, his deeds, his actions, and particularly the way he ran his home and family, is and always will be an example to us all of what the true Malaysian home should be like.*

I feel it appropriate, as I stand here today to open these future Malaysian homes, that I should do so immediately on my return from Malacca which was the home of Tun Tan Cheng Lock.

And to anyone who has doubt about the blending of our various races and cultures which comprise Malaysia I suggest to them that they pay a visit to one hundred and one Jalan Cheng Lock in Malacca and see his home, which is a striking example of the perfect blend of the various cultures and traditions which are truly Malaysian in spirit.

It was within his historic home that Tunku, our Prime Minister and other national leaders planned not only the movement for the Independence of Malaya but also created the design a multi-racial Malaya which envisaged our future nation as a happy, progressive place and the blending of our various races, communities and cultures living in co-operation and harmony as a happy and prosperous country.

Harmony and understanding is first thought of in the home and it is my hope that each and every house in this large block of flats will be turned into a happy Malaysian home in the true spirit of Tun Tan Cheng Lock's own example and also that the many children yet to be born in these homes here will grow up as true Malaysians, irrespective of their racial origin and make their contribution to the unity of future Malaysia.

## "DEVELOPMENT IS A TRUST"

The development of our country, one might say, is a trust which is shown between the Government and you. as individuals The Government can plan and undertake a limited number of projects, but the real development of the nation automatical}} rests with young people like yourselves in the skills which )t» can give and in the effort which you put forward to take advantage of these opportunities.

The Government is providing you an opportunity here for training. If you have the determination to take advantage of ihb opportunity you will be able to make an important contribution to the development of our country. Should you view this opportunity merely as a right to a better job you will misunderstand the purpose of this school. When you finish your schooling. >ou will be better able to take advantage of the many industrial undertakings that exist in the country.

Should you grasp this opportunity with energy and determination the industrial development programme of our country will go forward. Should you accept the training programme as giving you a right to a better job rather than as an opportunity to t\* of greater service to your country, you will do yourself and our country a disservice.

—*Tun Ranik to RIDA Students in 1962*