

SPEECH BY THE PRIME MINISTER OF  
MALAYSIA, YAB DATO HUSSEIN ONN,  
AT THE DINNER GIVEN BY H.E. MR TENG  
HSIAO-PING, VICE PREMIER OF THE  
STATE COUNCIL OF THE PEOPLE'S  
REPUBLIC OF CHINA, AT RUMAH MALAYSIA,  
KUALA LUMPUR, ON SATURDAY 11.11.1978  
AT 8.00PM.

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Your Excellency, Mr. Teng Hsiao-ping,  
Vice Premier of the State Council of  
the People's Republic of China.

Madame Cho Lin.

Your Excellency, Mr. Huang Hua,  
Foreign Minister of the People's  
Republic of China.

Madame Ho Li-liang.

Honourable Ministers and Deputy Ministers.

Their Excellencies, members of the Diplomatic  
Corp.

Honourable Members of Parliament.

Ladies and Gentlemen.

I would like to thank Your Excellency and Madame Cho Lin for inviting my wife and I to this dinner. It was most kind of you both to visit our home this afternoon. The short time available has given my colleagues in the Government and I, valuable opportunity to know Your Excellency personally, and to hear Your Excellency's views and concern about trends and developments in the international situation.

2. Our two rounds of discussions on international and bilateral matters have been most useful and helpful to my Cabinet colleagues

and I. If I may say so, you and I have been very candid and forthright in expressing our views, especially with regard to matters affecting relations between our two countries. We did not indulge in diplomatic niceties or avoided discussions on matters which are of importance either to your country or mine. We are both pragmatists.

3. As Your Excellency is aware, Malaysia is a country of diversities. We are determined to create unity out of these

diversities;

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we are determined to create a united, strong and prosperous nation; we are determined to bring about economic and social progress for our people, especially those who are poor and less fortunate. The destiny of Malaysia will only be decided by the people of Malaysia. Others cannot and will not be allowed to make that decision. We appreciate the understanding and support which you and the other leaders of your country have given for the efforts which we are making to achieve these ends.

4. Your Excellency. China is a big and great country. It has a very long history. Its interests are wide and many. The policies it pursues will inevitably affect, directly or indirectly, many countries, especially its neighbours in Asia and South East Asia. In the same way, China cannot avoid being interested in the policies being pursued by other countries. Therefore, there is mutual interest in what China does and what other countries do. As I said last night, Malaysia supports the five principles of peaceful co-existence. Problems between countries

should be resolved peacefully. In the past, South East Asia had never been free from big power rivalries. We do not want this to happen again.

5. Your Excellency. We appreciate your country's support for ASEAN. ASEAN has its own identity; it has its own stand on many international issues and it is friendly with all countries.

6. Your Excellency. I am confident that your visit to Malaysia has given you some first-hand knowledge of the country, the people, their hopes and aspirations. We would like to have more trade with China. We will continue to encourage visits for sporting and cultural activities. We look forward to cooperation in other fields. We will adhere strictly to the agreements contained in the May 1974 Joint Communique. The relations between our two countries will prosper and be further strengthened in the

years to come. Let us make sincere efforts to remove every issue which may hinder the further strengthening of relations between our two countries.

7. Your Excellency. I wish to thank you for inviting me to visit your great country. I am very happy to accept the invitation. I will be looking forward to the visit. May I also thank you for the nice things which you have said about my country.

8. Ladies and gentlemen. May I request you all to rise and join me in a toast to the continued good health, happiness and success of His Excellency, Mr. Teng Hsiao-ping and Madame Cho Lin.

Thank you.

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