

Ex-wife remains as sole trustee of estate

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KUALA LUMPUR: Tun Ghafar Baba's former wife will continue to be the sole trustee of the inheritance for their daughter Kartika Sri.

The decision was reached at an out-of-court settlement between D. Heryati Abdul Rahim and her two step-daughters Hamidah Abdul Ghafar and Salmah @ Sally Ghafar.

Syariah High Court judge Zulfikri Yaso yesterday allowed the request by Hamidah and Salmah to withdraw their application to be appointed as co-trustees of the inheritance.

"The court will not record the agree-

ment reached by both parties," Zulfikri said.

Counsel Kamar Ainiah Kamaruzaman, who represented the sisters, informed the court that the matter had been settled.

"The plaintiff has decided to withdraw the application," Kamar Ainiah said.

Counsel Muhamad Burok, who represented Heryati, said the respondents have also decided to withdraw the preliminary objections.

It is learnt that the agreement was reached a few weeks ago.

Kartika will now receive RM17,000 a month from a trust set up by her father, the former Deputy Prime Minister who

passed away on April 23 due to heart, lung and kidney complications.

"I am relieved that the matter has been settled," said Heryati, who arrived at the court after the hearing.

"As a mother, I will ensure that Kartika's needs are seen to. She will receive the best education possible."

Ghafar's two daughters had filed an application on May 22, seeking to be co-trustees of Kartika's inheritance.

Kartika is the only child of Ghafar and Heryati who were divorced on Jan 10, 2003.

Ghafar was awarded custody of Kartika although he agreed that if he was not in a position to look after the child, Heryati would be the girl's guardian.



Heryati says she will ensure that Kartika's needs are seen to