

**SPEECH BY THE PRIME MINISTER AT THE DINNER
HOSTED BY THE GUANGDONG PROVINCIAL REVOLU-
TIONARY COMMITTEE AT GUANGZHOU (CANTON) ON
8TH MAY, 1979.**

His Excellency Mr. Shih Chong-Hsun, Chairman, Guangdong Provincial Revolutionary Committee, His Excellency Mr. Liu Tian-Fu, Vice Chairman, Guangdong Provincial Revolutionary Committee and Madam Chou Min Ling, His Excellency Mr. Liang Hsian, Vice Chairman, Guangzhou City Revolutionary Committee, Her Excellency Madam Liu Kui-Lan, Vice Chairman Guangzhou City Revolutionary Committee, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen.

The Members of my Delegation and I would like to thank His Excellency The Chairman and members of the Guangdong Provincial Revolutionary Committee, for the very warm welcome accorded to us on our visit to Guangzhou.

This is the last leg of our visit to China before we return to Kuala Lumpur tomorrow. My delegation and I have visited Beijing, Shanghai and Hangzhou. At each of these cities we were received with great warmth and friendship.

While in Beijing I met Premier Hua Guofeng and Vice-Premier Deng Xiaoping. I had very useful and frank discussions with them on matters affecting our two countries. Trade was an important subject in the discussions. As you know, trade has been a Traditional Link between Malaysia and China from ancient times. Your leaders and I agree that there is great scope and opportunities for us to expand the two-way trade between our two countries. This is especially so as China steps up her drive to Industrialise and Modernise herself.

Malaysia has such raw materials as Rubber, Palm-Oil and Timber which she can supply to China in increasing amounts to meet China's growing needs. At the same time we are also prepared to offer China Technical Assistance in developing her Rubber Technology, in the refining and processing of Palm Oil for edible purposes and in the Tin Mining Industry.

The development of our Trading Relations is a matter of great importance to both of us. The balance of trade has always been in

China's favour despite this, it is our intention to increase our imports as our own needs grow. We hope that China on her part will make every effort to narrow this gap. In this way we can expand our trade and widen the areas of co-operation for the mutual benefit of our peoples.

It is indeed fitting that my last stop in China should be Guangzhou. Guangzhou is one of the most famous cities in southern China. It has colourful and exciting history and to day the Guangzhou trade fair which has been held since 1957 is known throughout the world.

The province of Guangdong occupies a special position in the relations between our two countries. Many Malaysians of Chinese origin can trace their roots to this province.

At the same time we have had close trade ties with you. This trade existed before Malaysia and China established diplomatic relations. The first delegation from Malaysia to visit China was the one that attended the 1972 Guangzhou trade fair. Since then Malaysian and Chinese traders have met each other on a regular basis at the trade fair.

Your Excellency,

The friendly relations between Malaysia and China have grown steadily not only in trade but also in the sports and cultural fields. The Joint Communique of 1974, by which Malaysia and China established diplomatic relations, has been the basis of these relations. I am confident that, by continuing to adhere to the provisions of the communique, our relations will be further expanded and strengthened in time to come.

It now remains for me to once again express my very deep appreciation and gratitude for all the hospitality and the attention you have given to me and my delegation. This visit has added a bit more to my knowledge about China. My delegation and I will carry back with us pleasant memories of our stay here. The visit to Guangzhou has been an enjoyable one and an appropriate and to a happy and successful visit to China.

During our visit, there are many people who have been very kind, helpful and considerate to us. There are so many of them that it is not possible for me to thank them individually. However, I would like to mention a few and express our thanks and appreciation.

They are:

1. His Excellency, Mr. Huang Chan,
Minister of Culture and His Charming wife
Madame Chu Lin.

2. Mr. Wei Yong Ching,
Director of Protocol Department,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
3. Mr. Wang Ai Chin,
Staff Officer in Charge of Security.
4. Mr. Tang Long Bing,
Division Chief of the Protocol Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
5. Madame Shi Yiang Hua
(My Interpreter Throughout the Journey)
6. Madame Yuan Xiao (Shiao) Ying,
(Interpreter for Y.B. Datin)
7. Mr. Tang Kuo Qiang (Chiang)
(Interpreter during visit to Summer Place and Museum)

Ladies and Gentlemen,

May I request you all to rise and join me in a toast:

To the Health and success of His Excellency
Mr. Shin Chong-Hsun, Chairman of Guangdong
Provincial Revolution Committee,

To the Health and Success of His Excellency
Mr. Liu Tian-Fu, Vice Chairman of
Guangdong Provincial Revolutionary Committee and Madam
Chou Min Ling,

To the Health and success of His Excellency
Mr. Liang Hsian, Vice Chairman of Guangzhou City Revolutionary
Committee,

To the Health and Success of Her Excellency
Madam Liu Kui-Lan, Vice Chairman, Guangzhou City Revolutionary
Committee,

To the Friendship and Goodwill between the Peoples of Malaysia
and the People's Republic of China.

Thank You.