

Penyampai : TAN SRI DATO SERI AHMAD SARJI BIN ABDUL HAMID
Tajuk : MAJLIS PELANCARAN BUKU "ABDUL HAMID AROOP THE SKIPPER AND RAJA AZLAN SHAH THE CENTRE FORWARD"
Lokasi : NO. 4 JALAN EATON, KUALA LUMPUR
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Mengadap Seri Paduka Baginda Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Azlan Shah dan Seri Paduka Baginda Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Bainun, Ampun Tuanku beribu-ribu ampun, sembah patik mohon diampun, Patik serta ahli-ahli keluarga dan para hadirin sekalian, merafak sembah dan menjunjung setinggi kasih diatas keberangkatan Kebawah Duli-Duli Tuanku berdua ke kediaman rasmi patik yang tidak sepertinya ini. Majlis malam ini adalah bertujuan untuk memberi penghormatan kepada Kebawah Duli-Duli Tuanku berdua dan juga untuk mengucapkan selamat berangkat balik ke Negeri Perak Darul Ridzuan pada 25hb.

April ini. Majlis pada malam ini juga adalah merupakan majlis pengenalan dan pelancaran buku berjudul 'Abdul Hamid Aroop The Skipper and Raja Azlan Shah The Centre Forward' iaitu satu persembahan yang tulus ikhlas daripada keluarga patik dan juga beberapa orang well wishers kepada Kebawah Duli Yang Maha Mulia Tuanku.

Ampun Tuanku, Patik memohon limpah perkenan Duli Yang Maha Mulia Tuanku bagi patik menyampaikan ucapan kepada para hadirin sekalian.

Tuan Yang Terutama Tun Tan Sri Datuk (Dr.) Haji Hamdan bin Sheikh Tahir dan Toh Puan, Yang DiPertua Negeri Pulau Pinang, Yang Berhormat Tuan Haji Abdul Ghani Othman, Menteri Belia dan Sukan, dan Dr. Jamilah Ariffin, Yang Berbahagia Tan Sri-Tan Sri, Dato'-Dato', Tuan-Tuan dan para hadirin sekalian, "Ayah" (Abdul Hamid bin Mohd. Aroop) passed away in his sleep on 12th April 1990 at the age of 79 years, 3 months short of his 80th birthday. He left behind some old photographs. These photos are a treasure-trove for the family. Going through his albums, I could not find the press cuttings of his sporting days, except for one entitled: "A royal game of golf at Batu Gajah" (New Straits Times April 19, 1988). He treasured his friendship with 'Raja Azlan', his normal reference to our present Seri Paduka Baginda Yang Di Pertuan Agong IX Sultan Azlan Shah, who is also the Duli Yang Maha Mulia Paduka Seri Sultan Perak. Raja Azlan Shah played for the Perak Hockey Team in 1947, 1948 and 1949 when Abdul Hamid Aroop captained the team.

Turning the pages of his albums, and the microfilms and old newspapers and magazines in the National Archives and the National Library of Malaysia has been a riveting employment for me. And I have laughed, and I have felt the excitement of bygone days, and sometimes I have cried too, as I dredged up our family's past with 'Ayah'. Times remembered is grief forgotten. On the authority of Abu Usaid Malik Ibn Rubia Al-Saedi (may Allah be pleased with him), who said: While we were sitting with the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) a man of the Bani Salamah tribe came and said: 'O Messenger of Allah! Is there anything, I can now do in benevolence towards my parents after their death?' The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) answered: "Yes, by praying for them and soliciting (Allah's) mercy and forgiveness towards them, fulfilling their promises and undertakings, doing kindness to those who may be related to you through them, and respecting their friends." (Abu Daoud) I hope presenting this book to his friends constitute "doing kindness" that is meant in the said 'hadith'. All family albums seem to have a fascination for succeeding generations. This pictorial anthology of 'Ayah' (to his children) 'Ayah Alang' (to his nieces and nephews), 'Tok Mid' (to his grand children), 'skipper Hamid' or 'Pak Mid', or simply 'Hamid' (to his friends) and "Yeop Mid" to his younger brothers, sisters and cousins is my humble gift to his family members and friends.

Sometimes we like to visit the past from time to time, and this is what I have done in this pictorial anthology book.

Our hearts give immortality to those we love in memory.

Sekian sahaja persembahan ucapan daripada patik untuk malam ini.

Ampun Tuanku beribu-ribu ampun, sembah patik mohon diampun.