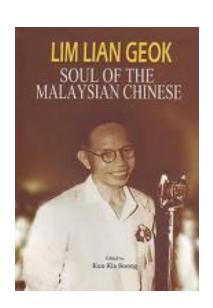
In Memory Of Lim Lian Geok



12 May 2011

Lim Lian Geok - the Great Defender of Chinese Education in Malaysia

An extraordinary man in our Chinese community had passed away on 18 December 1985. Remarkable by all standard, he was not a high-ranking Government official, nor was he a millionaire. However, the number of people turned up at his funeral was a record. For days, our Malaysian Chinese from the entire left their work behind, and rushed to the Selangor Chinese Assembly Hall to pay him their last respect. The funeral cortege was more than a mile long.

Every year near around the same time, members of the Chinese community turn up at his burial ground to worship him. By now, the date itself bears another meaning -- it is also celebrated among members of the Chinese community as the Chinese Education Day.

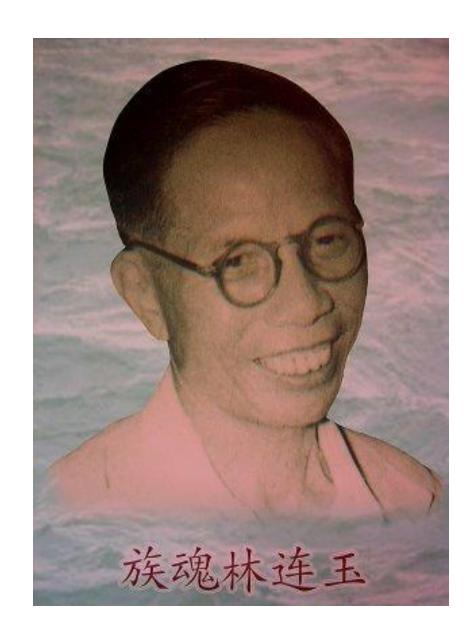
This great soul is **Mr Lim Lian Geok**. He is no Tun, Tan Sri or whatever Datuk at all.

With Mr Lim at the helm, the Chinese community stood firm to reject all unreasonable policies, saving Malaysian Chinese schools from the fate of extinction. Mr Lim's citizenship was stripped by the Umno-led BN federal government at the instigation of MCA leaders.

Mr Lim will always be remembered for his integrity, courage and righteousness. He is identified as the Ethnic Soul, because of the examples he has set for the Chinese community in Malaysia.

We now strongly urge the the Umno-led BN federal government to immediately restore the citizenship of our late Mr Lim Lian Geok and demand the MCA to publicly apologize to the family of the late Mr Lim for their instigation and role in having his citizenship stripped.

Source: http://viktorwong-socialaffairs.blogspot.com/2010/07/lim-lian-geok-great-defender-of-chinese.html



Life & Struggle

 "The history of the Chinese in struggling for a legitimate place in the country (then Malaya) and the history of Chinese education movement cannot be divorced from the work of this man, Lim Lian Geok."-The Star,23 Dec.1985

Lim Lian Geok (1901-1985), former Chairman of The United Chinese School Teachers' Association Of Malaysia (popularly known as Jiao Zong), was a great educationalist as well as a famous social activist.

He was born and educated in China, came to Malaya in 1925 as a teacher and became a citizen of this country in 1951. He actively involved in local social reformation after The World War II.

Life & Struggle[2]

• In 1945, he took charge of the rehabilitation of the Confucian Chinese School which was destroyed by the war. In 1949,he set up the Kuala Lumpur Chinese School Teachers' Association to look after the welfare of the then lowly-paid teachers. In 1951, he was one of the pioneers in setting up the now influential United Chinese School Teachers' Association Of Malaysia, and became its chairman in 1953, holding that position for 8 years until he was revoked of his citizenship and stripped of his teaching permit in 1961.

During his term as chairman of Jiao Zong, he was practically the spokesman of the Chinese community on issues of Chinese education as well as Chinese's civil rights in this country. He advocated the independence of the nation which before 1957 was under the British colonial rule. He strived incessantly for equality between all the ethnic groups. He believed that all races should work together to build and develop the nation;

Life & Struggle[3]

• The non-Malays should be royal to the country and the Malays should endorse the concept of "peaceful co-existences" and "sharing with other races". Prior to the nation's independence, he also started a movement to encourage the Chinese who chose to settle in Malaya to apply for citizenship, and through this effort, the number of Chinese citizens jumped from 120,000 to 700,000.

On issues of Chinese education, he led confrontations and tough negotiations with the colonial government and later the Government led by Tunku Abdul Rahman. In 1960, he led a movement to oppose the Rahman Talib Report which intended to abolish the Chinese Secondary Schools. However, he was forced to end this relentless efforts to have the clause removed as his citizenship was revoked on August 12 by the Home Minister, and, later, his teaching permit was stripped. He was since secluded from the society and spent time writing his memoir, and yet still paying attention to current issues until the last drop of his life

Life & Struggle[4]

• In 1985, he died of lung infection. The honour the Chinese community bestowed on him upon his death was to turn the Selangor Chinese Assembly Hall (recently gazetted by the Ministry Of Culture, Arts and Heritage as the National Heritage) into the funeral parlour, the first time this has been done in its past 60 years of history. People from all over the country, put aside their works and came all the way to pay their last respects to him, including high-ranking leaders of political parties such as MCA, DAP, GERAKAN and PAS. A fund in memory of him was set up, which was later registered as LLG Cultural Development Centre, a non-profit organization.

• Source:

http://www.llgcultural.com/eng/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=38&Itemid=72

Summary of Lim Lian Geok's Struggle

Fight for Chinese School Teachers' Welfare

• Lim Lian Geok was a teacher in Confucian Chinese school since 1935 until 1961. In 1945, he took charge of the rehabilitation of the school which was destroyed by the war. He was actively involved in the founding of the Chinese Teachers Association of Kuala Lumpur (KLCSTA) to fight for the welfare of the Chinese school teachers in the spirit of modern unionism.

Opposition to Barnes Report

• Barnes Report of Education 1951 which proposed to abolish Chinese and Tamil schools had caused strong revolt from Chinese and Indian communities. Lim Lian Geok, then the president of KLCSTA together with other Chinese educationists called a Pan-Malayan Chinese teachers meeting in August 1951 to oppose the Barnes Report. This had lead to formation of United Chinese Schools Teachers Association of Malaya (Jiao Zong, UCSTA, now UCSTAM).

Malacca Meeting and Razak Report

Lim and his associates attended a pre-election negotiation session, namely Malacca meeting, with the Alliance at the residence of Tan Cheng Lock on 12 Jan 1955. Lim compromised by promising not to raise the official language issue before the election in exchange for a verbal guarantee from Tunku Abdul Rahman that the 1952 Education Ordinance as an implementation of Barnes Report would be abolished. It helped the Alliance scored a landslide victory by capturing 51 out of 52 seats in the general election. In return, the 1956 Razak Report incorporated all four existing streams of primary schools into the national education system.

Malayanizing of Text Books

In those pre-Independence days, Lim Lian Geok had a Malayan perspective and advocated the Malayanizing of text books in the local Chinese schools in 1952. He said that: "The existing books were written and published by China, much materials do not reflect the real situation in Malaya, we should reform the outdated text books....This goes to prove that our younger generation is being imbued with a sense of loyalty to Malaya"

Summary of Lim Lian Geok's Struggle[2]

Citizenship revoked

Lim Lian Geok's citizenship and teaching license were revoked in 1961 due to his strong opposition against 1960 Rahman Talib Report and 1961 Education Act which required all secondary schools to teach in English or Malay. Eventually 54 out of 70 Chinese secondary schools had been converted to 'national type secondary schools' by accepting the government's financial assistance. Lim refused to return to China where he was born, he said that "Lim Lian Geok can withstand the test of crisis and hardship, I never surrender nor renege! I do not give up! I do not escape or leave my country!"

Manifesting a Malayan Mindset

• Lim Lian Geok was invited to address the readers of Utusan Melayu on Hari Raya Aidilfitri titled "Manifesting a Malayan Mindset" (published in Jawi script) on 4 May 1956. It is a tribute to the stature of Lim Lian Geok, at the time a Chinese community leader and a supporter of Malay mother tongue education

Passed Away

• In 1985, he died of lung infection. The honour the Chinese community bestowed on him upon his death was to turn the Selangor Chinese Assembly Hall into the funeral parlour, the first time this has been done in its past 60 years of history. At his funeral, the procession was the largest the capital had ever witnessed for any Malaysian Chinese.

Lim Lian Geok Cultural Development Centre

- The Lim Lian Geok Cultural Development Centre was formed in 1985 whose main objectives are to uphold the principles of democracy, human rights and respect for individuals and ethnic diversities. It also aims to cherish a culture of solidarity, friendship, cooperation and constructiveness. The Centre was formed in memory of the late Mr. Lim Lian Geok (1901-1985) who was a pioneer Chinese educationist and former leader of the Jiao Zong.
- LLG is relatively new in Penang. However the national body has been formed on 28 December 1985 by 15 leading Chinese organizations to commemorate Mr Lim Lian Geok, the most revered Chinese Educationist in Malaysia. Mr Lim Lian Geok was a teacher in Confucian Chinese School since 1935 until 1961. Due to his strong opposition and campaigning against the 1960 Rahman Talib Report and 1961 Education Act which required all secondary schools to teach in English or Malay, the government then revoked Mr Lim Lian Geok 's citizenship and teaching license. Mr Lim continued his fight for mother tongue education and equal status for all ethnic cultural rights till his untimely death in 1985. To date the Malysian government has not reinstated his citizenship status albeit posthumously.

Datuk Dr Toh Kin Woon, a well-respected former State Executive Councilor of Penang, is now the President of the LLG.

• The current chairman of the Lim Lian Geok's Cultural Development Centre is Dato Dr. Toh Kin Woon.

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Source:

http://sembangsembangforum.blogspot.com/2010_07_01_archive.html



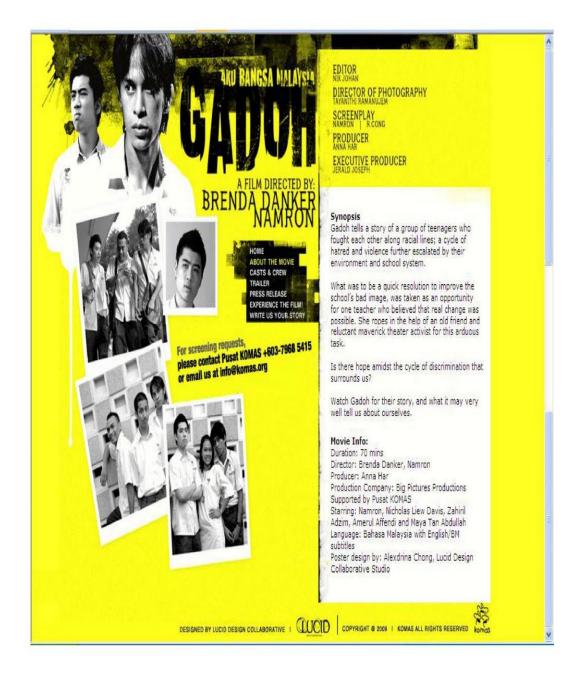
- LLG aims to promote the spirit epitomosied by Mr Lim Lian Geok which embodies:
 - Spirit of patriotism and love for the nation through upholding multiculturalism and minorities' cultures;
- Advocacy for racial equality, unity and friendship, mutual tolerance and assistance, co-existence and co-prosperity;
- Unwavering struggle and brave sacrifice for cultural rights and particularly the equitable status of mother tongue education.
- Source:

http://www.llgcultural.com/eng/index.php?option=com_content&view=ar_ticle&id=101:lim-lian-geok-cultural-development-centrellg-gadoh-movie-screening-session&catid=35:activities-2010&Itemid=57

"GADOH" - Public screening session

SUNDAY, JULY 25, 2010

Lim Lian Geok Cultural Development Centre, in conjunction with SUARAM and Sembang-sembang Forum Group, will be screening the highly acclaimed film "Gadoh" by KOMAS. The film tells the story of a group of teenagers who fought each other along racial lines, a cycle of hatred and violence further escalated by their environment and school system. The film screening will be followed by a sharing session by a group of youths on their experiences in "Living in a multi-ethnic and multi-cultural society".



Launch of 'Justice for Lim Lian Geok' [LLG] Campaign Friday, 06 May 2011 09:01

 In conjunction with the 50th anniversary of the revocation of the citizenship of Mr. Lim Lian Geok, a 'Justice for Lim Lian Geok' campaign will be launched this coming Sunday the 8th of May, 2011 at 11.00am at the Kuala Lumpur and Selangor Chinese Assembly Hall (KLSCAH).

Mr. Lim Lian Geok (1901-1985) was the most revered Chinese educationist in Malaysian history. A pioneer of the civil society movement, he was the President of the United Chinese Schools Teachers' Association (UCSTAM), often more popularly known by its acronym, Jiao Zong, since 1953. Throughout the greater part of his life, Mr. Lim dedicated himself towards fighting for the cause of social justice and equality, as manifested in his constant calls to the then Federal Government for fair and equal treatment of all language streams within the country's system of education. It was in line with this principled position of his that he strongly and consistently opposed the Federal Government's move to forcibly switch the medium of instruction of Chinese secondary schools from Chinese to English. This courageous and principled position of Mr. Lim led to his citizenship and teaching permit being unjustly revoked in 1961. When he finally passed away in 1985, the Chinese community bestowed upon him the singular and rare honour of 'The Soul of Malaysian Chinese'



Launch of 'Justice for Lim Lian Geok' [LLG] Campaign [2]

 The stripping of Mr. Lim's citizenship is undoubtedly one of the biggest injustices ever committed in the post-independence era. It has left a deep wound in the psyche of those who believe in a multi-lingual and multicultural Malaysian society.

Today 50 years on, we have decided to launch a campaign to right this historical wrong and to restore justice to a grave injustice. More specifically, this campaign has two main objectives: (1) to urge the Federal Government to restore Mr. Lim Lian Geok's citizenship that was in the first instance unjustly revoked, and (2) to promulgate an Education Equality Act with a view towards ensuring equal and fair treatment to all schools that use different media of instruction.. Under this proposed Act, vernacular schools are to be treated equally along with national schools and that all forms of discriminatory practices against vernacular schools should be stopped. The distinction between fully-aided and partially-aided schools, which forms the basis of such discrimination, must also be abolished.

Launch of 'Justice for Lim Lian Geok' [LLG] Campaign [3]

• The 'Justice for LLG' campaign will be jointly organized by 13 civil society organizations. They are Jiao Zong (UCSTAM), the KL & Selangor Chinese Assembly Hall, the Negeri Sembilan Chinese Assembly Hall, Persekutuan Persatuan-Persatuan Alumni Sekolah-Sekolah China Malaysia, the Federation of Alumni Association of Taiwan Universities Malaysia, the Federation of Hokkien Associations of Malaysia, the Federation of Eng Choon Associations of Malaysia, Nanyang University Alumni Association of Malaysia, Centre for Malaysian Chinese Studies, the Association of Graduates from Universities and Colleges of China Malaysia, the Federation of Lim Associations in Malaysia, Eng Choon Mei Shan Lim Association of Malaysia and LLG Cultural Development Centre.

As part of the campaign, we will be organizing a postcard signature campaign, public forum, exhibitions, movie screening and a theatrical performance, all of which are aimed at raising the awareness of the public as to the injustice done to a fine patriot and nationalist in Mr. Lim Lian Geok.

Launch of 'Justice for Lim Lian Geok' [LLG] Campaign [4]

 All members of the public are cordially invited to attend the campaign launch scheduled for this coming Sunday. Civil society groups that wish to participate in the 'Justice for Lim Lian Geok' campaign are also welcome. Already, as many as close to 260 organizations have either openly or through the adoption of resolutions called on the government to restore justice to the late Mr. Lim Lian Geok.

For more clarifications and information, please contact the joint secretariat at 03-26971971/2 or fax 03-26971970 or visit our blog at http://justiceforllg.wordpress.com.

Dato Dr. Toh Kin Woon

Chairman

Committee of Justice for Lim Lian Geok Campaign

Source:

http://www.llgcultural.com/eng/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id =129:launch-of-justice-for-lim-lian-geok-campaign&catid=49:press-statements-2011&Itemid=55



'Justice for Lim Lian Geok' campaign launched

BY KONG SEE HOH

newsdesk@thesundaily.com

some 600 people from more than 80 non-governmental organisations turned up at the Kuala Lumpur and Selangor Chinese Assembly Hall on Sunday for the launch of the "Justice for Lim Lian Geok" campaign, the Chinese press reported yesterday.

The campaign, held in conjunction with the 50th anniversary of the revocation of the citizenship of Lim, a revered Chinese educationist, aims to petition the government to restore his citizenship, which was unjustly revoked; and to ensure equal and fair treatment to all schools that use different mediums of instruction.

According to a statement issued last week by LLG (Lim Lian Geok) Cultural Development Centre, vernacular schools should be treated equally along with national schools and that all forms of discriminatory practices against vernacular schools should be stopped.

It said the distinction between fully-aided and partially-aided schools, which forms the basis of such discrimination, must also be abolished.

Initiated by 13 organisations, including Jiao Zong (United Chinese School Teachers Association) and LLG Cultural Development Centre, the campaign received the backing of 68 other organisations at the launch.

As part of the campaign, the Justice for Lim Lian Geok Campaign Committee is organising a postcard signature campaign, which aimed to collect 100,000 signatures for the petition.

At the launch, a number of groups have pledged to collect a total of 73,000 signatures among them.

Other activities included a public forum, exhibitions, movie screening and a theatrical performance, all of which were aimed at raising the awareness of the public as to the injustice done to a fine patriot and nationalist.

For most part of his life, Lim (1901-1985) dedicated himself towards fighting for the cause of social justice and equality, as manifested in his constant calls to the then federal government for fair and equal treatment of all language streams within the country's system of education.

It was in line with this principled position of his that he strongly and consistently opposed the government's move to forcibly switch the medium of instruction of Chinese secondary schools from Chinese to English.

This courageous and principled position of Lim led to his citizenship and teaching permit being unjustly revoked in 1961.

When he passed away in 1985, the Chinese community bestowed upon him the singular and rare honour of "The Soul of Malaysian Chinese".

Despite the belief by many that it is no mean task to get Lim's citizenship restored posthumously, committee chief Datuk Dr Toh Kin Woon, who is LLG Cultural Development Centre chairman, felt that all conscientious and righteous organisations should speak up against injustice without fear.

For more clarifications and information, please contact the joint secretariat at 03-26971971/2 or fax 03-26971970 or visit our blog at

http://justiceforllg.wordpress.com.

Tan Cheng Lock and the Chinese Education Issue in Malaya

By Tan Liok Ee

- These memorable words were spoken by Tan Cheng Lock, a man who did not speak any Chinese himself, when addressing a meeting of representatives of Chinese School Committees and Chinese School Teachers' Associations on 9 November 1952. Speaking as president of the Malayan Chinese Association (MCA), Tan went on in his speech to promise that
- At this critical juncture in the history of the growth and development of Chinese education and culture in Malaya ... its cause has the full support of the Malayan Chinese Association.
- Tan's speech, and the presence of three other MCA leaders at the meeting, were the first clear indications that the MCA was prepared to take a consolidated stand with other Chinese organizations, in particular the United Chinese School Teachers' Association (UCSTA), and the United Chinese Schools' Committees' Association (UCSCA), on the issue of Chinese education. The MCA's decision was greeted by a chorus of approval from the Chinese press which described the 9 November meeting as an unprecedented manifestation of Chinese unity and from leading shetuan, or Chinese social organizations, which expressed their full support for the meeting's stand on Chinese education.

Source: http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayAbstract?fromPage=online&aid=4425856

Vernacular News Mediaprint





Perkasa: Chinese demands for equal treatment of vernacular schools seditious

By Shazwan Mustafa Kamal May 10, 2011

- KUALA LUMPUR, May 10 Vernacular schools cannot be treated equally with national schools, claims Perkasa, as it "contravenes" the Federal Constitution.
- The Malay rights group said today that such a demand was seditious, adding that national schools still needed to be given priority as they promoted the national language Bahasa Malaysia, unlike vernacular schools.
- "The demand made by Chinese groups that vernacular schools be accorded the same treatment as national schools is against Article 152(2) of the Federal Constitution, and they can be charged with sedition," said Perkasa Wiranita chief Datin Paduka Norkhaila Jamaludin.
- Her remarks were aimed at a *Sun* daily report today that more than 80 Chinese NGOs turned up for the launch of the "Justice for Lim Lian Geok" campaign on Sunday.
- The campaign, held in conjunction with the 50th anniversary of the revocation of the citizenship of Lim, a revered Chinese educationist, aims to petition the government to restore his citizenship, and give equal and fair treatment to all schools that use different mediums of instruction.
- According to a statement issued last week by the LLG (Lim Lian Geok) Cultural Development Centre, vernacular schools should be treated equally along with national schools and that all forms of discriminatory practices against vernacular schools should be stopped.
- Perkasa lodged a police report against the campaign today.
- "The late Lim Lian Geok was stripped of his citizenship because he betrayed the country and the demands are a threat to national security and against the country's laws," said Norkhaila.
- Source: http://www.bonology.com/2011/05/pig-defender-perkasa-our-god-is-pig.html

Comments from the Blogs

written by Navigator, May 10, 2011 19:18:49

He is digging a big hole in BN's boat for the next GM. The Chinese are now determined to vote against MCA with all this Chinese bashing. We can all see that Perkasa will start a riot in the next election when PKR wins Selangor and the Federal Territory. It is very obvious the educated Malays are sick of UMNO and its antics: sex, corruption, murder, etc. Then they will have emergency rule.

The Chinese and Japanese will stop investing in this lawless country run by politicians who have no principles. We are going downhill all the way.

written by myhhlim, May 10, 2011 19:26:09

she is right. chinese school should increase the general proficiency in English and Bahasa. Then more other races will enrol in these school which are so good. See the chinese language is now not too far behind English in science and commerce. Reminbi is going to be an international currency. I cant stop this trend. can you? but I am certainly equipped with the chinese language skills.

written by JJFoo, May 10, 2011 19:41:46

Asking for equal treatment is seditious? Would the Malays like to be treated unequally? Stupid morons talking. Perkasa should stop insulting the Malay race or rather the Malay race should stop Perkasa from degrading them.

written by educationist, May 10, 2011 19:57:54

This racist and extremist group's opinion should just be consigned to the rubbish heap!!!

written by datuk tanah, May 10, 2011 20:38:03

As it is, Chinese in Malaysia has been deprived of their rights and opportunities by deliberate government design. UMNO through their NGO arm- Perkasa wants to put on the screws more on the Chinese. Ethical Chinese businesses and potential investors should revisit their investment intentions in this country. It is high time the Chinese seriously consider their position and be brave to take a strong stand against the government if they wish to remain in the country. Relentless Chinese bashing has to stop and it has to stop now if the country wish to avoid bloodshed on the streets.

• Source: http://malaysia-today.net/mtcolumns/newscommentaries/40329-perkasa-chinese-demands-for-equal-treatment-of-vernacular-schools-seditious

Perkasa dubs Bar Council racist for picking on Utusan

- By Asrul Hadi Abdullah Sani
- KUALA LUMPUR, May 10 Datuk Ibrahim Ali dubbed the Bar Council racist for picking on *Utusan Malaysia* for inciting racial hatred, saying today the lawyers' group should also focus on the Chinese media and others that "insult Islam, Malay Rulers and the Malay community".
- The Perkasa chief's rant came after the Bar Council joined other groups to condemn *Utusan Malaysia* for its front-page article on Saturday which claimed that the DAP was conspiring with Christian leaders to take over Putrajaya and abolish Islam as the country's official religion.
- "Why did the Bar Council not urge the police to investigate Chinese media, other bloggers, website and portals, tweets that carry news and statements which insult Islam, Malay Rulers and the Malay community.
- Read more: http://www.bonology.com/2011/05/pig-defender-perkasa-its-racist-to-pick.html

Malaysian Chinese

- Malaysian Chinese 【马来西亚华人】 is a Malaysian of <u>Chinese origin</u>. Most are descendants of <u>Chinese</u> who arrived between the fifteenth and the mid-twentieth centuries. Within Malaysia, they are usually simply referred to as "Chinese" in all languages. The term **Chinese Malaysian** is also sometimes used to refer to this community.
- Read more: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malaysian Chinese

Mother Tongue-based Multilingual Education

 Worldwide nearly 7000 languages are spoken today. Many languages are spoken by ethnic minorities who are educationally and economically disadvantaged because of limited language fluency. This language gap must be bridged if countries are to fulfill the Millennium Development Goals and Education for All aims. More than 200 million children globally live in homes where languages spoken are different than the ones used in school. These children are vulnerable to non enrolment, repetition and non completion.

More information on Multilingual Education in Asia and Pacific: http://www.unesco.org/bangkok/

The International Conference on Language, Education and the Millenium Development Goals, November 2010, Bangkok, Thailand: http://www.seameo.org/LanguageMDGConf... The UN Millenium Development Goals: http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/

Mother Tongue-based Multilingual Education

a key to quality education

http://www.llgcultural.com/eng/index.php?option=com_content&view=cat
egory&layout=blog&id=48&Itemid=76

UNESCO's Principles on Language and Education®

Principle I: //www.llgcultural.com/eng/images/stories/unesco1.jpg

UNESCO supports mother-tongue instruction as a means of improving educational quality by building upon the knowledge and experience of the learners and teachers.

- Mother-tongue instruction is essential for initial instruction and literacy and should be extended to as late a stage as possible.
- Literacy can only be maintained if there is an adequate supply of reading material, for adolescents and adults as well as for school children.
- 3) [All] educational planning should include at each stage early provision for training, and further training, of sufficient numbers of fully competent and qualified teachers of the country concerned who are familiar with the life of their people and able to teach in the mother tongue.

Principle II:

UNESCO supports bilingual and/or multilingual education at all levels of education as a means of promoting both social and gender equality, and as a key element of linguistically diverse societies.

- Communication, expression and the capacity to listen and dialogue [should be encouraged] first of all in the mother tongue, then, [if the mother tongue is different from the official or national languages] in the official [or national] language in the country, as well as in one or more foreign languages.
- 2) Emphasis should be given to the formulation of strong national policies designed to promote...languages teaching in cyberspace [and strengthening and extension of international support and assistance to developing countries] to facilitate the development of freely accessible materials on language education in the electronic form and to enhance human capital skills in this area.

Principle III:

UNESCO supports language as an essential component of inter-cultural education in order to encourage understanding between different population groups and ensure respect for fundamental rights.

- Measures should be taken to eliminate discrimination in education at all levels on the basis of gender, race, language, religion, national origin, age or disability or any other factor.
- 2) The educational rights of persons belonging to... minorities, as well as indigenous peoples, should be fully respected through:
 - the implementation of the right to learn in the mother tongue and the full use of culturally-appropriate teaching methods of communication and transmission of knowledge;
 - the teaching of and through, not only the MT, but also the national or official languages...so that minorities and indigenous peoples will have the opportunity to participate in and contribute to the larger community.
- Education should raise awareness of the positive value of cultural [and linguistic] diversity, and to this end:
 - Curriculum [should] promote a realistic and positive inclusion of the minority [or indigenous] history, culture, language and identity.
 - The cultural component of language teaching and learning should be strengthened in order to gain a deeper understanding of other cultures; languages should not be simple linguistic exercises, but opportunities to reflect on other ways of life, other literature, and other customs.

CHINESE EDUCATION: SINGAPORE, MALAYSIA AND INDONESIA

Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia, these countries have different patterns of Chinese education. Singapore with a Chinese majority population does not have Chinese schools but national schools where Chinese is taught as a mother tongue; Malaysia with 26 percent Chinese continues to have Chinese schools while Indonesia with 2 percent of Chinese population banned Chinese schools and Chinese language for 32 years. Only after the fall of Suharto, Chinese "language schools" are permitted. This panel intends to examine the recent developments in Chinese education in these three ASEAN countries using three case studies. The papers will take into account various forces, including globalization, democratization and rise of China, which contribute to the change in Chinese education.

Source: http://www.icassecretariat.org/node/232

Year	Progress
1957	Malay language was made compulsory in all government-aided primary and secondary schools
1958	Introduction of Malay-medium classes attached to selected English- medium secondary schools
1963	Establishment of the first Malay-medium fully-residential secondary school. Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Alam Shah
1968	First batch of Malay-medium students graduated from the University of Malaya
1968	Malay-medium classes introduced at secondary vocational schools
1968	Conversion from English to Malay as the medium of instruction for Standard 1 to III in national-type (English) primary schools
1973	All subjects in the Arts stream, from Form 1, in national-type secondary schools were taught in Malay
1975	The conversion programme from English to Malay as the medium of instruction in all national-type (English) schools was completed
1980	University first-year Arts courses were conducted in Malay
1982	Conversion program from English to Malay as the medium of instruction in national-type (English) secondary schools was completed
1983	All university courses in arts, science, engineering, medicine and etc, were conducted in Malay

Uphold on Citizens' Lawful Rights!

Press Statements by LLG Cultural Development Centre Source: http://www.llgcultural.com/eng/index.php?option=c om content&view=category&layout=blog&id=34&Itemid=5

Fully Support On Making Mother Tongue As Compulsory Subjects

- Press Statement by LLG Cultural Development Centre on 14 June 2010 in Kuala Lumpur
- LLG Cultural Development Centre welcomes the suggestion by Deputy Prime Minister cum Education Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin that the ministry would consider to make Chinese language and Tamil language subjects compulsory.
- LLG fully supports the suggestion and urges the education ministry to draft the guideline in detail and implement it as soon as possible as the matter has long been delayed. The proposed measure can prevent schools from denying students' right to learn their mother tongue with the excuse that number of student is less than 15. To emphasize its importance, LLG further suggests that mother tongue be made a compulsory examination subject.
- While preparing for the implementation of the new policy, the Education Ministry should help to solve the long neglected multiple problems currently faced by the mother tongue classes listed as below:
- (1) Education Ministry should issue circular that all mother tongue classes must be conducted within schooling hour, schools are prohibited to arrange mother tongue classes out of schooling hour;
- (2) (2) Education Ministry should train sufficient mother tongue teaching staffs. The current decreasing of Chinese language teachers in secondary national schools is worrying. We strongly suggest the government recognises and enrolls holders of UEC (Unified Examination Certificate Of Chinese Independent Schools) and Malaysian graduates from China and Taiwan universities into teacher training colleges, to resolve the shortage of Chinese language teachers;
- (3) (3) There was only 0.3% of students achieved A+ in 2009 SPM Chinese paper. It was extraordinary low if compared with Malay language (9%), English language (3%), and Tamil language (3%). Apparently this will discourage students to follow Chinese language class, the Education Ministry must study the problem and raise the percentage of A attainment for students taking Chinese language examination;
- LLG opines that other than learning one's own mother tongue, all students regardless of ethnic groups must proactively learn mother tongue of other ethnic groups, with aim to promote interaction and mutual understanding of each other's culture, and to promote the concept of "Abundance in Diversity, Prosperity in co-existence" in this multi-ethnic and multicultural society.
- Dr. Toh Kin Woon
- President
- LLG Cultural Development Centre

• Source: http://www.llgcultural.com/eng/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=74:fully-support-on-making-mother-tongue-ascompulsory-subjects&catid=34:press-statements-2010&Itemid=56

Ban Racism and Extremism to Promote Plurality of Society

- Joint Statement by KLSCAH & LLG
- 28 July 2010
- In response to Parti Cinta Malaysia (PCM) vice-president Huan Cheng Guan's decision to set up a non-bumiputra rights group, called "Perjasa" to fight for the rights of the non-Bumiputras in a non-extreme way, the KL & Selangor Chinese Assembly Hall (KLSCAH), together with Lim Lian Geok (LLG) Cultural Development Centre are standing firm on opposing the idea of racism, because only through promoting plurality in thinking that our civil society can be further strengthened.
- The political landscape after 2008 General Election has changed in a massive way, especially the mentality of the people which spurns racial politics. However, many of the politicians seem to be unaware and their mind sets are still far behind. "Perkasa", "Chinese Perkasa" or "Perjasa", all these are none other than politics which run in the framework of racism and they will never breakthrough the cultural, religious and race barrier among the people.
- Source: <u>http://www.llgcultural.com/eng/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=34&Itemid=56</u>

SJK(T) Sungai Salak Lukut Deserves School Land as promised

- We are appalled that the 6-acre school land allocated to SRJK(T)
 Sungai Salak, Lukut during Bagan Pinang by election was forced to
 share with district education department. The election promise was
 made in Oct 2009, but as soon as the by election was over, the
 Education Ministry sent a letter informing the Parent-Teacher
 Association that the education department would have to use 3
 acre piece of land out of that.
- This is clearly breach of trust, all election promise must be implemented. We can't help but deem that it was a trick to fish vote during the by election. The PTA claimed that they had spoken to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak's aide and soon they received the land. We urge the PM to give an explanation on this.

SJK(T) Sungai Salak Lukut Deserves School Land as promised [2]



- The SJK(T) Sungai Salak located at the Ladang Sungai Salak was closed in 2002 when the plantation company ended its operations. As the Government failed to provide any alternative location, the school was forced to seek refuge in the premises of a near by Tamil school, SJK(T) Springhill from 2002 until 2007.
- In 2007, due to space constraint the school faced its second eviction. Afraid of a permanent closure of the school, the determined PIBG was able to obtain a consent from the Ministry of Education to use a shop lot in Lukut town pending land allocation by the State Government. The school was assisted by Tamil Foundation to raise funds for the renovation costs of the shop lot. The PIBG raised funds to support rental and other costs involved with the ordinary operations.
- Source: <u>http://www.llgcultural.com/eng/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=34&Itemid=56</u>

Stop intimidating Suara Keadilan, Harakah and The Rocket

- Press Statement by LLG Cultural Development Centre (LLG)
- The government has rejected the renewal of the printing permit of Parti Keadilan Rakyat's organ Suara Keadilan and vowed it would take action against printer and distributor. LLG is of the view that the government has violated the principle of press freedom. Since Felda had decided to sue Suara Keadilan over the article "Felda Bankrupt", the government ought not prohibit Suara Keadilan from continuing publishing. It should let the legal system to complete the process, in line with the spirit of rule of law.
- The allegation by opposition that Felda's asset had dropped tremendously and possibly caused by corruption and squandering is obviously a topic relevant to public interest. The government's decision to ban Suara Keadilan after the revelation of the issue is dubious. Such move will deprive people's right to information and deem partial towards the interest of government.

SET UP ROYAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO TAIB MAHMUD'S DISPROPORTIONATE WEALTH

- COALITION OF MALAYSIAN NGOS CALLS ON GOVERNMENT TO SET UP ROYAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO TAIB MAHMUD'S DISPROPORTIONATE WEALTH
- Joint statement by COMANGO, 13 April 2011

From the widely publicized wealth and world-wide interests of Sarawak Chief Minister Taib Mahmud's family on the internet, the Coalition of Malaysian NGOs calls on the Government to urgently set up a Royal Commission of Inquiry to investigate Taib's disproportionate wealth that does not befit a civil servant's while Sarawakians are among the poorest in the country. Taib's unseemly wealth while so many indigenous peoples are living in abject conditions or have been unceremoniously displaced from their ancestral homes warrants a thorough investigation into how Taib's wealth has been accumulated during his 30-year as Chief Minister of Sarawak.

• Source: http://www.llgcultural.com/eng/index.php?option=com_content&view=se ction&layout=blog&id=5&Itemid=55

• If the opposition wins 35% of the votes, Barisan Nasional will win 90% of the seats. If the opposition wins 45% of the votes, Barisan Nasional will still rule with a two-thirds majority. If the opposition wins 50% of the votes, Barisan Nasional will still rule with a simple but large majority. If the opposition wins 55% of the votes, Barisan Nasional will still rule with a very slim majority. If the opposition wins 60% of the votes, then Barisan Nasional would probably lose the government. If the opposition wins 65% of the votes, then Barisan Nasional will for sure lose the government.

Read more: http://malaysia-today.net/mtcolumns/39824-love-is-more-powerful-than-hate

One from The Youtube

- WE DO NOT COMPARE OURSELVES TO MALAYSIA, BUT TO 1ST WORLD COUNTRIES
- By Crankster I was browsing youtube for some perspective on Singaporean politics. Youd be surprised how little we know about our own neighbours. It was then that I saw this comment. Thewongkahtatt believes that Singaporeans are lucky to have reasonably good governance and pretty good development in their nation. In one sense, I actually agree with him. Singapore...

"The Malaysia we fight for shall include you, even if the Malaysia you fight for may exclude us"

