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Editorial Assistants :

George Gobal
Y. Y. Tou

Supplement Co-ordinator : Wendy C.H.Hii
Creative Director: Nelson Chee

Advertising/Marketing:

Anthony Ting Kee Sung

Stephen Ting Jack Sing

David Loi Kwong Nang

R. Kulandaisamy

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Jonas Lau

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Education

Born in Bintulu on January 3, 1928, into a family of a poor Melanau fisherman in a country ruled by a colonial power, it was only natural that Datuk Patinggi Rahman should begin life as a fisherman too. His father, however, wanted his son to be a religious teacher.

So Datuk Patinggi Rahman began his early education at the Achi Malay School and later at the St. Joseph's, an English school both in Miri. His schooling at this point was interrupted by the war. It was not until the Japanese Occupation was over that he could continue Primary Six.

But his father, being a poor fisherman at that time who scarcely managed to make ends meet, could no longer afford to let him further his studies.

So, having no choice but to leave school, Datuk Patinggi Rahman took up a job with Shell at Lutong in Miri as an oil tester. He was paid \$2/- a day.

To supplement his income, he spend his free time teaching Malay to Shell employees.

He was at this work for a year when he decided to go to Kuching. In Kuching, he continued his education at the Maderash Melayu. He also managed to get himself accepted as a Student Native Officer.

Realisation

Immediately after the war, the transfer of power in Sarawak, from the Brookes to the British Government, took place. This made Datuk Patinggi Rahman keenly conscious of the poverty of the bumiputras and he realised that their wide-spread "sickness" could only be cured by education.

Since early in life, he had also realised the importance of education for progress and the next few years showed how correct this realisation was.

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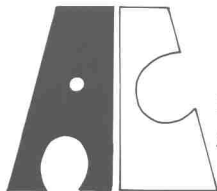
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Welcoming Deputy Prime Minister, Dr. Mahathir
Mohammad: Datuk Rahman has won admiration.

From an appointment as a Fourth Class Magistrate, through diligence and determination, he gradually improved his position until by 1952, he was appointed Temporary First Class Magistrate.

At this stage, he went back to school again to study for the School Certificate at St. Joseph's School, Kuching.

Despite his earlier interrupted schooling, he achieved a good pass. In 1954, he left on a Government scholarship to study for a degree in Law at the University of Southampton in England.

Five years later, he returned to Sarawak from England as a Barrister-at-Law. He was later appointed to serve the Government as a Crown Counsel and Deputy Public Prosecutor.

Political Awareness

For one who had experienced so much hardship it would have been easy to



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be happy with the status of a Legal Officer in the Colonial Administration. But not Datuk Patinggi Rahman.

He realised that the time of political change was well over due. So, he began to take an active and positive part in encouraging the new political awareness developing among the people of Sarawak. At that time, Parti Negara Sarawak was proposed to be formed in Sarawak. Datuk Patinggi Rahman took the opportunity and he assisted by drafting its Constitution. In 1961, he founded BERJASA (the Barisan Rakyat Jati Sarawak) and he became its legal and political adviser.

The year 1963 marked a turning point in his life when he resigned from Government service to take up politics.

After Merdeka in September 1963, he was selected as one of the first persons to represent Sarawak in the Federal Parliament.

His popularity in the Federal politics is a manifestation of the admiration with which others regarded the way in which he conducted his duties and responsibilities. He showed himself to be motivated only by the desire to bring progress to the country.

Responsibility

For the next six years, he served in increasingly responsible positions in the Federal Government initially as Assistant Minister for Rural Development and Justice and subsequently as Minister of Lands and Mines (1965-69) and Minister of Education (1969-70).

As Minister of Education, his responsibility was to introduce various measures to improve the education system in the State. Datuk Patinggi Rahman was responsible for the vigorous implementation of Bahasa Malaysia as the sole official language of the country.

With the approach of the first direct elections in Sarawak in 1969, his party, the Parti Bumiputera — formed through a merger of Berjasa and Parti Negara Sarawak, PANAS — nominated him to stand in both the State and Parliamentary elections.

He subsequently won the Parliamentary seat for Payang Constituency and the State Constituency of Kuala Rajang. He then resigned from his appointment of Minister of Education to become the Chief Minister of Sarawak. However, University students in Kuala Lumpur held demonstrations protesting his resignation. Datuk Patinggi Rahman was very popular among them and they liked him very much.

The Chief Minister had to fly to Kuala Lumpur to personally explain his reasons which they accepted.

First Coalition

On July 7, 1970, on appointment as Sarawak Chief Minister, he led the first Sarawak Coalition Government (the forerunner of the present Barisan Nasional State Government). It was also the first coalition government in Malaysia.

In the beginning, there was doubt as to whether such a government would ever work. But the question no longer arises for it had been proved beyond doubt that the coalition government not only can endure but can function extremely smoothly and to the satisfaction of all.

Datuk Patinggi Rahman's ability in leading the coalition Government and making it not only a growing concern but a truly dynamic one has won for him and his colleagues in the State Cabinet the admiration of many leading politicians and statesmen.

From the time he was in the Federal Cabinet until now, Datuk Patinggi Rahman, the Chief Minister of two terms and now starting with a third, had worked untiringly for the benefit of the people and Sarawak, to ensure that they may enjoy the fruits of true progress and prosperity.

Heartiest congratulation to YAB Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Abdul Rahman Yakub for completing 10 years as Chief Minister of Sarawak.



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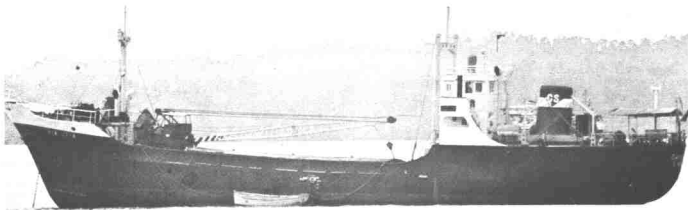


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Ten years at the helm



Datuk Rahman with the former Prime Minister: Working ceaselessly for the attainment of ideals and policies of the BN.

With the dynamic State Barisan Nasional Government, Sarawak has known political stability, peace, prosperity and justice.

Its achievements today, both tangible and untangible, stand as an undisputed testimony to the unswerving devotion to duty, courage and determination on the part of its architect, Chief Minister, YAB Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub and his cabinet colleagues.

This man sitting at the helm of the Government has worked ceaselessly for the attainment of ideals and policies of the Barisan, to fulfil the objective of making Sarawak a model state in Malaysia.

These include maintaining peace and security in the country; protecting the lives, property and rights of the people; strengthening and consolidating social and political stability; implementing fully

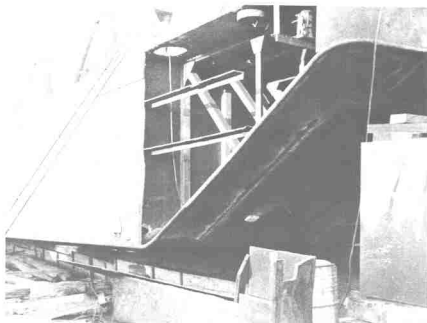
the New Economic Policy and establishing a just, united and prosperous society in accordance with the Rukunegara.

Problems

Sarawak was being left in a state of disarray by the former governments and it was besetted with a number of problems, big or small when Datuk Patinggi Rahman came to office as the Chief Minister on July 7, 1970.

The communication facilities during the pre-coalition government period came in at a slow and painful pace. It was so bad the Ministers of the previous government had a ready answer when the electorates asked why they did not make frequent visits to see them. They would reply: "Road and river communications were so poor, so we could not see you more often."

The education system remained



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Talking to his supporters in Kuching. The "architect" of Sarawak

unchanged, neglected since the colonial days.

Again, at that moment, Sarawak was up to its teeth in the security problem. The communist terrorists were constantly making life miserable for the innocent citizens. They caused havoc to the security forces.

A man less in stature and conviction than the Chief Minister would not find it easy to surmount the number of ills inherited.

Re-construction

But the newly set up Coalition Government, under the dynamic leadership of Datuk Patinggi Rahman began the task of national re-construction with gusto, with dedication and determination. It was a good start no doubt.

With all the encouragement and support of the Federal Government, then under the late Prime Minister, Tun Abdul Razak, the Chief Minister and his cabinet colleagues, as members of one united team, wedged an open war on problems besetting the state.

They are quite undaunted by the enormity of the difficulties and are not afraid of challenges before them. In fact,

they are attuned to accept the responsibilities entrusted upon them by the people.

The first two years under the Sarawak Coalition Government saw the state surging forward with its special brand of excellence and of constructive and meaningful nationalism.

And in response to this awe-inspiring leadership, the people were inspired to performance never before seen in the history of Sarawak.

Sri Aman

On October 13, 1973, the then Coalition Government broke the backbone of communist terrorism in the State with the declaration of Operation Sri Aman.

It was then hardly within three years of taking over office in Sarawak.

Operation Sri Aman is a unique way of successfully tackling an internal security situation and the person behind the success story of the Government versus the communist guerillas is of course Datuk Patinggi Rahman who is also the Director of Operations.

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Some of the key men who make Sarawak tick: Peace and stability



Welcoming the PM, Datuk Hussein Onn: Model state in Malaysia?

branches of the security Forces, the terrorists finally admitted defeat.

About 85 per cent of the communist guerillas in the State laid down their arms and returned to society.

The enemy's threat was thus reduced, so considerably that seven years later, today, the threat is negligible.

If at all, this was a fitting crowning glory to the exemplary development efforts of the Government, led by the Chief Minister.

Thanks to Datuk Patinggi Rahman, Sri Aman is a special significance to the nations of the world in their campaign against guerilla warfare.

Much international acclaim has been drawn by Sri Aman. At the same time, it boosted the image of Sarawak into the national limelight.

Medical and health Services

The Barisan Nasional Government led by Datuk Patinggi Rahman has shown



The Petra Jaya building : Undisputed testimony to the unswerving devotion to duty by CM

equal mastery in charting short and long term planning in the medical field. This is to ensure that the people in the State are made health-conscious.

It is continuing and improving existing medical and health services. The building of new hospitals, clinics and dispensaries are also being accelerated throughout the State.

The State also saw the introduction of a bold new system of rural health services to provide the rural areas with improved health services and facilities.

Sarawak is the first state to introduce in 1973 the Flying Doctor Service and it has become an important part of the Government's efforts to reach the people.

The service serves 121 places from three centres, Kuching, Bintulu and Miri. The service is utilised to organise health education talks to those living in rural areas, to diagnose and treat cases of illness and give immunisation.

This is another concrete indication of the Government's effort to see to the welfare of the people, however remote and however inaccessible they may be.



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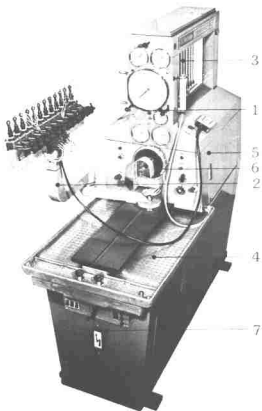


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In Bintulu with Tengku Razaleigh: Mastery in charting short and long term planning.

The Flying Doctor Service can be regarded as an achievement of the highest order for the Barisan Nasional Government in the State for not many countries in this region can provide this service to the people

Education

The Chief Minister put intensive efforts into thoroughly revitalising the educational field in the State.

The colonial system allows only 30 per cent of the primary pupils to be admitted to secondary schools after sitting for the Primary Six Common Entrance Examination.

The Coalition Government, under the leadership of the Chief Minister, changed the whole policy on education, whereby all children completing primary school will be automatically admitted to secondary school.

The Sarawak Barisan Nasional Government intended to promote an educational revolution. In this way every citizen gets his due share in knowledge and training and is prepared to play his role in strengthening and developing our economic structure.

To fulfil the objectives of the national system of education, the medium of instruction has also been changed by this Government from English to Bahasa Malaysia in all Government and Government-aided English Primary

schools in stages, beginning with Primary one from January, 1977.

Another example of the foresight of the Barisan Nasional Government is the setting up of the Sarawak Foundation or Yayasan Sarawak on May 29th, 1971, aimed at promoting the improvement of opportunities for education for the people of Sarawak in particular and Malaysia in general, both locally and in any institutions of higher learning throughout the world, especially the universities in Malaysia.

Infrastructural Development

Infrastructural development has also been speeded up at such an unprecedented pace that today, the construction of such facilities like roads, bridges, ports and airports, telecommunications, etc are given impetus.

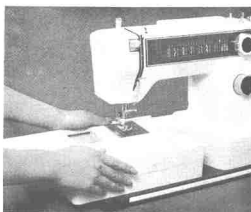
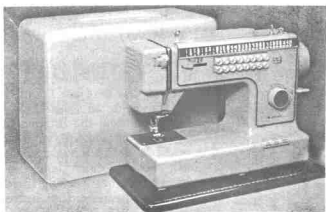
Existing roads in urban areas have been improved and constantly upgraded.

Important Events

The important events which occurred during the term of the Sarawak Coalition Government included the 10th anniversary celebrations of our Merdeka through Malaysia, the decision to change the Sarawak flag and State anthem - Sarawak Bahagia, the new State Crest and the Sarawak Motto - 'Hidup Selalu Berhidmat', incorporation of Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC), and implementation of the Ketua-Ketua Masyarakat Scheme, which is integrated into the Civil Service.

Under the Ketua Masyarakat Scheme, new chiefs were appointed by the Government on a uniform salary scale. Being civil servants, they will have no excuse for not discharging their duties fairly and thoroughly, or be distracted from their work by political activities. The end product is that they will be able to look better into the needs of the people.

The heart of the matter lies of course in leadership. Datuk Patinggi Rahman provides the strong and effective leadership in the Barisan Nasional Government and ensures its success.



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Woman behind Rahman Yakub



Datin Patinggi Puan Sri Hajjah Normah is a woman with strong ideas about her role.

Born on 26th January, 1935 in Miri, Datin Patinggi Puan Sri Hajjah Normah is a woman with strong ideas about her role, duties and responsibilities as the wife of a political figure, and as a mother.

And she is trying to ensure that these are carried out to the best of her ability.

Married to Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Haji Abdul Rahman Yakub about 24 years ago, Datin Patinggi Hajjah Normah, who although very much in the background, is the tower of strength and is constantly by the side of her husband to give encouragement, trust and confidence to him, come what may.

The Chief Minister and Datin Patinggi Normah are blessed with eight daughters. Their ages range from 7 to 22. They also have a son Encik Hussaini.

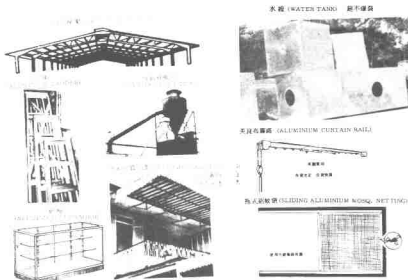
Education

At present, a few of her children are still young to be left too much to themselves. As such, Datin Patinggi Hajjah Normah is always around to supervise and to give advice. She is very concerned about their welfare.

Datin Hajjah Normah had her early education in Miri at the St. Joseph's. She has certain positive attitude about education and what 'to be educated' stands for.

In this modern day and age where women everywhere are clamouring and even fighting for recognition in the various fields of endeavour, she too, in her own quiet and unassuming way agitates for equality for her daughters, by providing them with what she thinks is the best guarantee for their future role in society - education.

She has set her heart on creating a home which is both warm and happy to



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enable her children to study and grow up in a wholesome atmosphere.

She wants her children to be successful. To her, success of the children is their ability to study hard and contribute their share in the nation-building effort.

She is in every way convinced that education will "equip the younger generation with the right type of preparation so that they will go out into the world poised and confident of a brighter and more secured future", and thus become "hopefully, wholesome personalities."

Supervision

Like her husband, she is also involved

in a great number of charitable works and is very active in political and welfare organisations.

Datin Patinggi Normah has clear-cut views of her role as a wife and she knows her responsibility to complement her husband's work, as Datuk Patinggi Rahman Yakub is seldom at home.

She is adept at 'holding the fort' and seeing that the domestic affairs are well taken care of.

She also deputises for her husband and entertains when people come to visit. She too attends weddings and receptions on his behalf.

Datin Patinggi Hajjah Normah is also

adept at supervising functions, both public and private.

In fact, she has really learned the mastery of hostessing. At most private functions, the guests will be able to taste her culinary talents, for her main concern are the supervision and choice of the menu.

Observation

Datin Patinggi Hajjah Normah is also a seasoned traveller and has accompanied her husband on visits abroad. They include trips to England, Switzerland, Indonesia, Japan, Thailand, Vietnam and the West Asian countries.

As she can speak a number of languages and dialects such as fluent Malay, English, Chinese and Melanau; throughout her travels she actually does not find much difficulties in conversing with the foreigners.

She spoke of her observation of the people concerned and their way of live. She was greatly impressed by the enthusiasm of the people to acquire knowledge and to be educated.

She notes that in western countries, for instance, even the very old had the desire to go for further studies at the universities.

She felt this thirst for knowledge and desire to be educated be an example for 'us Malaysians to follow'.

Role

In addition, Datin Patinggi Hajjah Normah has set ideas about her role as wife and mother.

To her, happiness is doing the marketing and to be at the vegetable-and-fish markets to chose the family's favourite food items.

This in itself is an exemplary attitude.

Ever so often women in her position and standing in society tend to regard things like marketing as bothersome and should be left to the servants to do, but not the calm, soft-spoken but very determined wife of Datuk Patinggi Rahman Yakub.



Always there : Portrait of an understanding wife.



Datin Patinggi Puan Sri Hajjah Normah in Muslim attire.

Datin Patinggi Puan Sri Hajjah Normah is really the woman behind this successful man, making true the saying that :

"BEHIND EVERY SUCCESSFUL MAN THERE IS ALWAYS A WOMAN".

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Tributes To Rahman

People of various races and standing in the State have openly come out with their full support and undivided loyalty to Sarawak Chief Minister, Datuk Patinggi Abdul Rahman Yakub. Several community leaders have given messages to this publication, voicing their opinion of the Rahman leadership.



MESSAGE FROM DATUK AMAR
WEE HOOD TECK, DA, PNBS

"The publication of this souvenir in commemoration of YAB Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub holding office of Ketua Menteri Sarawak for the past ten years is indeed a very fitting token of paying tribute to an illustrious figure.

Sarawak is most fortunate to have a son of the calibre of Datuk Patinggi Abdul Rahman Ya'kub to lead her since 1970 to great heights of advancement and progress. Endowed with talents, energetic and dynamic he had proved over and over again a real leader destined to be at the helm of the ship of state. No word is adequate to describe his qualities and virtues. In short, one could justly say he is great that no one else in Sarawak is his equal.

YAB Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub is well known in Malaysia and the neighbourhood in South-east Asia. In the Middle East, his name and fame are equally as wellknown as his person and the contacts he made amongst high personalities were something precious.

The tremendous development in Sarawak in the past 10 years had borne

testimony to the drive and efforts on the part of YAB Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub to improve the State and the lot of the people irrespective of class or creed.

The LNG project, aluminium, urea and other development at Bintulu and others elsewhere are cornerstones to a greater future in Sarawak. In the sphere of politics, YAB Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub had scored a triumph not known anywhere else. In the operation called Sri Aman, he had succeeded in achieving peace in Sarawak when hundreds of insurgents laid down their arms - a feat not duplicated in anywhere else.

Sarawak and her people owe a great debt to YAB Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Haji Abdul Rahman for what he has done and will continue to do. The future for everyone is well assured and in return the fullest support must be given to him in his endeavour for our good and well being. May Allah bless him always."



MESSAGE FROM MR. LING CHEE
HUAH, CHAIRMAN OF THE SIBU
CHINESE CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE.

"As Chairman of the Sibuan Chinese General Chamber of Commerce I am pleased to write a few lines for publication in your souvenir magazine.

First of all, on behalf of the Sibuan Chinese General Chamber of Commerce I

wish to express my heartiest congratulations to Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr.) Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub for his leadership in guiding Sarawak to what it is today.

It is thoughtful of your firm to compile a souvenir magazine to commemorate the 10th anniversary of Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr.) Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub's tenure as Ketua Mentri of Sarawak.

In a decade of stewardship in a multi-racial society particularly in Sarawak the task is a complex one. Luckily, Sarawak has produced a right person to steer the ship of State during the developmental stage. He is Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr.) Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub who appears to enjoy the confidence of the people.

For his political acumen, Sarawak now enjoys a stable Government. With Sri Aman, the most successful task of Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr.) Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub we are now able to see developments taking place here and there, particularly Petra Jaya enhancing the position of the State Capital.

Ten years of continuous leadership in Sarawak is very trying indeed. Because of his capability and farsightedness Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr.) Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub has been able to counter events, ventures and political up-heavals during these 10 years. All the best things have been said of him. There is nothing more I can add except to endorse what has been said.

I am sure your magazine will carry a success story of Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr.) Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub as the Chief Minister of Sarawak. I wish however, to voice the appreciation of the members of the Sibn Chinese General Chamber of Commerce to him for his help in the direct alienation of the land to the Chamber where its present building stands.

May good fortune attend his efforts for the State."



MESSAGE FROM MR. TAN CHONG MENG, PRESIDENT OF CHINESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, SIMANGGANG

"I am glad and thankful on being invited to write this message to be published in this magazine to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of Dato Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr.) Haji Abdul Rahman Yakub's tenure as the Chief Minister of Sarawak.

It is known that the Chief Minister of Sarawak, Dato Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr.) Haji Abdul Rahman Yakub is an able and dynamic leader who has led the State of Sarawak under the Coalition Government through the most difficult period with great skill and effort. As a result, peace and order prevail in the State. As residents of Simanggang particularly, we deeply appreciate the effort endeavoured by the Honourable Chief Minister to bring about peace and to establish this town as Bandar Sri Aman. On the other hand, the historic achievement in this respect of the Honourable Chief Minister has to be commendable.

Under his wise leadership, the BN Government continues to fight for a just, equal and peaceful society politically and economically. This will always meet the full support of our Chamber."



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MESSAGE FROM MR. HII CHING CHIONG, POLITICIAN AND PAST SARAWAK JAYCEES PRESIDENT.

"I don't agree with everything that our Ketua Menteri does nor do I accept everything he stands for. But we must agree that he is a politician, a class above the rest. He appreciates where the 'strength' is and he knows where the 'weakness' lies.

"I saw him in action in 1971 when I was asked to join the official team as the Divisional Education Officer of 2nd Division. For 3 days and 3 nights, we witnessed his dynamic personality in action in Pusa, Sessang, Kabong and other coastal villages. He combined reproach and praise and he stampeded through programmes which would be too demanding for any other man.

"He is 'colourful' and 'dynamic'. No one can dispute that. He has also done a lot. No one can deny that either."

These are other tributes to the Chief Minister, made mostly through the press. They indicate/demonstrate the respect shown him by the many community leaders and politicians in the state.



DATUK AMAR SIM KHENG HONG

Under the Chief Minister's wise leadership, Sarawak had achieved tremendous peace and progress as well as political stability, according to Datuk Amar Sim Kheng Hong, Sarawak Deputy Chief Minister.

The Chief Minister had sacrificed his very bright future in the Civil Service to take up politics to champion the cause of Sarawak and worked selflessly for its independence through Malaysia.

"With Sarawak in Malaysia, he never tires himself to strive for its development and to make it a real model state that others can also be proud of," Datuk Amar Sim said.

To Datuk Sim, the Chief Minister was more than just the leader of the Barisan Nasional Sarawak.

He described Datuk Patinggi Rahman as "that star in the vast sky which in the hour of darkness provides us the direction to our destination."

Datuk Sim said that when the Coalition Government was established in July 1970, he had doubts of its workability.

But knowing the Chief Minister now and his leadership qualities, "no more would I entertain any doubt if he leads the way."

His personal motto since then, he said, had always been "Have no fear, Rahman is here."



Goods of the company piled up for delivery.



The proprietor, Encik Mustafa in his office.



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A view of the two companies



Workmen unloading bags of rice.



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**DATUK STEPHEN KALONG
NINGKAN**

Datuk Stephen Kalong Ningkan, an Iban community leader and former Chief Minister described the Chief Minister as a man of wisdom and high calibre, who contributed tremendously towards the administration of the country.



DATUK ABANG HAJI MARZUKI NOR

The Malay Community is equally gratified and confident in the leadership of the Chief Minister. On the behalf of the community, the President of Persatuan Melayu Sarawak Datuk Abang Haji Marzuki Nor, described him as a "catalyst" in encouraging the bumiputras to participate actively in business.

Through the efforts and encouragement of Datuk Patinggi Rahman, the bumiputras were now making head-way in the field of business.

He also mentioned the popularity of the Chief Minister, who was wellknown not only in Malaysia, but also in the Middle East for the propagation of Islam in Sarawak.

IMAM HAJI DAWOOD C.M. TING

"An intelligent, witty and eloquent political personality a political personality who cannot be easily found in non-Arab countries"

This is how Taipei Grand Mosque Imam Haji Dawood C.M. Ting described the Chief Minister in an article published in a Chinese-Muslim Association of Taiwan journal last year.

DATUK DAGOK AK. RENDEN

Besides bringing progress in all fields in the State, the Chief Minister had also been successful in uniting the various races, particularly the Bidayuh community. Datuk Dagok ak. Renden, on behalf of the Bidayuh expressed to the Chief Minister their full support and love to him.



**DATUK AMAR ABANG HAJI YUSUF
PUTEH**

The State Secretary, Datuk Amar Abang Haji Yusuf Puteh has also paid tribute to the leadership and personal achievements in the State, particularly in his negotiations with the Federal Government.

The State Secretary has the happy privilege of knowing Datuk Patinggi Rahman personally for a long time, not just during the period of his Chief Ministership.

"He has shown enlightenment in all his dealings and his views are very highly respected by the Federal Government," Datuk Amar Yusuf Puteh said.

"As you know he was once a President of SGOU and his record shows that he is a fighter to the end. He is a gracious victor but he does not take losses lightly," he added.

The State Secretary also described Datuk Patinggi Rahman as a planner as well as a strategist in development - a fact already well-known.

"He is a practical reformer and an imaginative innovator. His administrative capabilities sometimes make us professional administrators feel small", the State Secretary said.

"As a leader he has visions for the future, foresight, conviction and he has plenty of guts. Above all his qualities, he is human," the State Secretary added.

As Head of the Civil Service, Datuk Amar Yusuf Puteh has also invited all the Civil Service Unions to pay tribute to this extraordinary man.

"Our gratitude for his contributions for the welfare of the Civil Service is simply indescribable," he also added.

Indeed, Sarawak has much to be thankful for.

In the past ten years under the inspiring leadership of the versatile Chief Minister, Datuk Patinggi Rahman has held his high post of great responsibility with courage, distinction and selflessness for the past decade and his outstanding political achievements have won the confidence and affection of the people.

The people of Sarawak owe him the deepest gratitude and the greatest debt.

Since he is still a comparatively young man it is the people's earnest hope that he will continue to lead us in the coming decade.



Haji Morni Bin Yusof, Managing Director of leading Bumiputra company in Miri, also gives us a message, but in Bahasa Malaysia. We print it as it is :

"Saya mengucapkan setinggi-tinggi tahniah kepada pemimpin yang kita kasihi, Yang Amat Berhormat Tan Sri (Dr.) Hj. Abdul Rahman Yakub yang telah berjaya memperlihatkan keupayaannya untuk memimpin negeri Sarawak yang tiada tolak bandingnya. Beliau telah membuktikan kewarasannya di dalam usaha untuk memajukan negeri Sarawak samada dari segi fizikal, sosial maupun mental rakyat jelatanya.

Rakyat haruslah bersyukur ke hadrat Allah S.W.T. kerana telah dikurniakan seorang pemimpin yang tiada mengenal penat lelah, meneliti dan mengambil perhatian terhadap masalah yang dihadapi oleh lapisan masyarakat di samping berusaha untuk mengatasinya.

Seorang pemimpin yang progresif lagi denamis cergas lagi cerdas, disanjung, disegani dan disayangi oleh rakyat.

Semoga beliau senantiasa berada di dalam kandungan sihat walafiat agar beliau dapat memimpin negeri dan rakyat Sarawak untuk sepuluh tahun yang datang lagi."

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Hub of industry and commerce

Top priority has been continuously given to the setting up of more manufacturing industries in Sarawak by the State Barisan Nasional Government, under the dedicated and experienced leadership of the Chief Minister, Datuk Patinggi Rahman, with the hope of making the State less dependent on the export of our basic and primary commodities.

It also hopes to provide greater employment opportunities for the State's increasing labour population and is actively encouraging and promoting the processing of the local agro-products as well as other natural resources.

This strategy has been carried out as early as 1972 by the then Sarawak Coalition Government in the form of the creation of the Sarawak Economic Development Corporation or SEDC as a major Government Agency.

SEDC has clear-cut policies and functions and is working closely with Government Departments and other agencies.

Among its many functions, its main task is to promote industrial and commercial growth, either on its own or on joint ventures with others in line with the Government's strategies and the New Economic Policy.

Since its inception in 1972, SEDC has committed a total of about \$70 million in its various projects. Six subsidiary and seven associate companies have been set up by SEDC. These companies cover manufacturing, trading, services and construction/realty sectors.

MANUFACTURING SECTOR

The major projects of SEDC are in the manufacturing sector such as cement and motor vehicle assembly plant, flour and feed mill, manufacturing of polythylene bags and reinforced concrete products and sago refining.



Meeting of the two leaders : Datuk Rahman with the PM, Datuk Hussein Onn.



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They are all in operation and a total of 1,620 direct employment opportunities have been created in these projects.

Cement & Clinker Manufacturing

Sarawak and Sabah can now depend on local source to meet their cement requirements at least for another two years with the CMS or Cement Manufacturers Sarawak Grinding Plant in Kuching.

It started production in early 1978 with raw materials, clinker and gypsum which were imported from Japan and Korea.

The plant is currently the biggest single investment of SEDC. The \$40 million plant with an annual production capacity of 400,000 tons - the total requirement for the two states is about 230,000 tons per year - is a joint venture with SEDCO Sabah.

The cement plant was described by CMS Managing Director Encik Amin Satem as a "brain-child" of Datuk Patinggi Haji Abdul Rahman Yakub.

It was first mooted in 1972 at a meeting between the Chief Ministers of the two States in Miri. Encik Amin had pointed out that it would have been difficult to set up the plant without the initiative of Datuk Patinggi Rahman.

Meanwhile, a clinker manufacturing plant, as a backward integration of this cement plant, is nearing completion.

An international consultant, Holderback Management and Consulting Limited has identified an area about 14 miles from Kuching, where there are plentiful supply of quality limestone, shale and sandstone for the manufacturing of clinker.

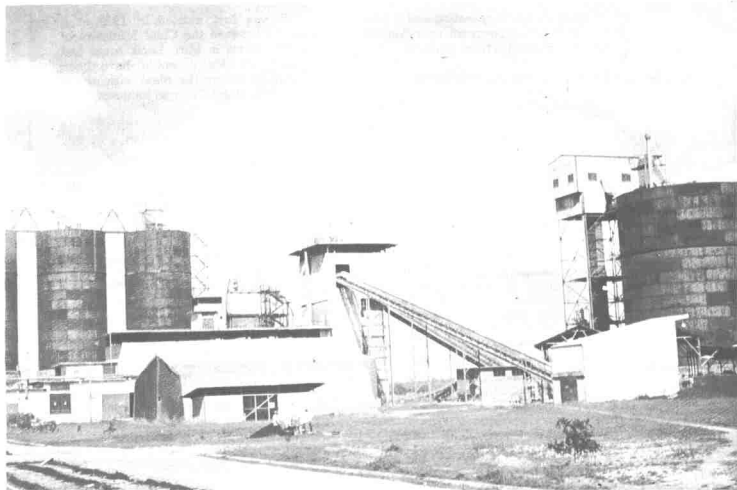
The proposed clinker plant, costing about \$132 million, will have a production capacity of 500,000 tons per annum.

Flour and Animal Feed Production

Another of the two initial joint projects with SEDCO Sabah is the \$32.8 Flour and Feed Mill Sendirian Berhad at Labuan to produce flour and animal feeds.



Truck assembling plant: Government is out to promote industrial and commercial growth.



Sign of the state's growing industry : Clear-cut policies for SEDC.

The Flour Mill started production in June 1979 and is capable of producing 54,000 tons of flour per annum. The Feed Mill was started in August the same year and it has a production capacity of 72,000 tons of animal feeds per annum.

Vehicle Assembling

Sarawak Motor Industry or SMI is a subsidiary company of SEDC and is fast becoming a powerful and largest motor group in Sarawak. There is an assembly plant in the State capital owned by SMI and has a production capacity of 22 units a day on a single shift.

The plant started operation in April 1974. Currently, Hino trucks and buses, Toyota Land Cruisers and Mitsubishi Colt Vans, BMW 320 series are assembled here.

In terms of performance, SMI has shown excellent results over the years. In

1978 alone, SMI assembled 2,155 units of vehicle of various models and makes with its sales turnover reaching \$69.7 million the same year. In 1979, 2,606 units were assembled and that year, its sales turnover increased to \$107 million.

Concrete Products Manufacturing

The Hume Industries (Sarawak) Sendirian Berhad, which is a joint venture industrial project between SEDC and Hume Industries (Malaysia) Sendirian Berhad, operates a manufacturing plant at Pending in Kuching to manufactures prestressed concrete products such as precast reinforced concrete spetic, tanks, box culverts, Hume Spun-pipes and fittings, etc. This plant started operation in 1977.

Polypropylene and Polyethylene Bags Production

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Kutex Sendirian Berhad is another manufacturing company, engaged in the production of polypropylene and polyethylene bags. These bags are mainly used by animal feed and fertiliser manufacturers.

This company started in 1974 with six weaving looms. In 1977, it purchased six additional looms and a year later, another two were purchased, resulting in the production capacity to about 3.3 million bags a year. About 60% of these bags are sold to the Singapore and Peninsular markets.

Sago Refining

Raw sago in the State is being processed in Sibul by Sarawak Chemical Industries Sendirian Berhad. This company is a joint venture between SEDC and local entrepreneurs including Bumiputras.

Lementak is bought from Oya/Dalat area for processing into refined sago flour. The refined sago flour is for export, mainly to Japan.

TRADING

Hardware and Building Material Trading

Now a leading distributor of hardware and building materials in the State is Perimat Sendirian Berhad, a wholly-owned subsidiary company of SEDC.

Perimat is one of the only two distributors of steel bars in Sarawak for Malayawata and one of the major dealers of cement for the Cement Manufacturers Sarawak Sendirian Berhad.

At the moment, its trading operations are mainly in Kuching. The company will expand its activities to other centres such as Sibul, Miri and Bintulu.

Selected Consumer Products Marketing

The biggest importer and distributor of selected consumer products such as Nestles, Lever Brother, ICI and Guinness in the State is Sebor (Sarawak) Sendirian Berhad.

This is a joint venture between SEDC and Inchcape and it started operation in 1974. SEDC together with local Bumiputras holds 51% of the shares while Inchcape holds 49%.

Trading centres in all major towns in Sarawak with about 3,200 outlets have been established by Sebor.

Pepper Grading

In 1974, SEDC established Ekspot Utama Sendirian Berhad to assist the pepper industry in this country.

This is a joint venture between SEDC and local Bumiputras and Chinese businessmen and it engages in the buying and grading of black and white pepper for export.

During the illipenut harvesting seasons, illipenuts are also bought and exported by this trading company.

Sebor has also been very successful and its sales had increased from \$8 million in 1976 to \$18 million in 1978.

Wholesale Trading

Wholesale trading of essential commodities such as rice, sugar and flour is being undertaken by the Perina Sendirian Berhad, another wholly-owned trading company of SEDC.

This company was incorporated in 1973 and during its formative years, it went into retail trade with the intention of providing assistance and basic training to Bumiputras in retail trading business.

Today, Perina limits its activities to dealing in the wholesale business in Kuching and Sibul.

SERVICES

Hoteling

In an effort to enhance modern hotel facilities for visitors, tourists and businessmen coming to Kuching, SEDC and its joint venture partner, Inchcape has started operating a 165 - room hotel, Holiday Inn in 1976 in Kuching under a management agreement with Holiday Inn International Incorporated. SEDC controls 51% of the shares and Inchcape 49%.

The only international standard hotel in town, Holiday Inn has a restaurant, a coffee house, a bar, a banquet room, shopping arcade, beauty saloon, a swimming pool and other ancillary facilities.

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Padi growing is being encouraged.

The hotel under the ownership of the Kuching Hotels Sendirian Berhad employs about 230 people and has shown a most encouraging performance. Under the Fourth Malaysia Plan period, SEDC and Inchcape have planned for the extension of the existing hotel. With the new extension and the increasing influx of people to the State, Holiday Inn will perform even better and is poised for a very bright future.

Insurance

Through its Perinsuran (Broker) Sendirian Berhad, which was formed in 1974, SEDC provides the services for insurance cover to all these projects, be they industrial or commercial.

Perinsuran, a joint venture between SEDC and the Heath Langeveldt Rollins Sendirian Berhad is a pioneer in the field of insurance, brokerage and consultancy services in the State.

The clients of the company are from both the private and public sectors. Amongst them, the major ones are SESCO, Water Board, Brooke Dockyard, Arab - Sarawak Timber Industries

Sendirian Berhad, Holiday Inn, Cement Manufacturers Sarawak Sendirian Berhad, Housing and Development Commission and SALCRA

Perinsuran has been very successful in performance. With the growing awareness for insurance cover and increasing tempo of development in the State, its prospects are very bright.

CONSTRUCTION/REALTY SECTOR

Realty Development

A company engaging in the construction activities and realty development is Perbena Sendirian Berhad, incorporated in 1974.

Perbena, a wholly owned company of SEDC also undertakes earth-filling works.

Timber Extraction

SEDC has a timber holding company, Syarikat Tingan Lumber Sendirian Berhad, incorporated in November 1977, in order to meet some of the Corporation's heavy financial commitments in carrying out its various industrial and socio-

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economic projects.

Timber extraction by the Company started operation in 1978 and the income of the company are being utilised for reinvestment in SEDC operations and new projects.

INDUSTRIAL ESTATES DEVELOPMENT

SEDC not only promotes and directly undertakes the various manufacturing industrial and commercial projects in the State.

The Corporation is also directly responsible for the overall development and administration of industrial estates in Sarawak. SEDC aims to provide all intending industrialists - local and foreign-with planned, orderly and suitable industrial lands plus the necessary infrastructure and facilities.

In this way, it is hoped that industrial growth in the State will be greatly facilitated as well as being accelerated.

At the moment, SEDC either managed or directly developed and managed four major industrial estates: at Pending in Kuching, Upper Lanang in Sibu, Piasau in Miri and Limbang in the Fifth Division.

Pending Industrial Estate, located about 4 miles away from the Kuching town centre, is among the largest developed estate in Sarawak. This estate is in close proximity to the current two major ports in Sarawak - the Tanah Puteh and Datuk Sim Kheng Hong Ports.

It occupies a gross area of about 1,200 acres. SEDC directly managed 640 acres out of the total while the rest are either allocated to other Government Departments and agencies or reserved for specific government projects.

So far, industrialists have been allocated 570 acres for approved projects out of the 640 acres under the direct management of SEDC.

In operation are 49 industrial establishment/factories including cement plant, timber and wood-based industries, shipyard, food processing and metal and chemical products and oxygen plants.

To-date, there are 12 other industrial establishments still under construction. When all the industries are in full operation, it is anticipated that 12,500 employment opportunities would be created within the Pending Industrial Estate.

Upper Lanang Industrial Estate, located about 5 miles from the Sibu township, is the biggest industrial estate directly developed and managed by SEDC.

This estate covers a gross area of 865 acres. Under Stage I, a total area of 70 acres had been developed by the end of 1979 while under Stage II, another 70 acres are under implementation.

Piasau Industrial Estate, which is about 4½ miles from Miri town, Fourth Division, covering a total area of 83 acres, is also managed by SEDC. The total area has been completely taken up for 33 approved industrial projects. Ten of them have been in operation and 4 under various stages of implementation while the rest are pending Land Titles to be issued by the Land and Survey Department.

The management of the Limbang Industrial Estate which was developed by the Land and Survey Department will be taken over by SEDC.

The estate, located about 3½ miles from Limbang town centre, covers a total area of 24 acres and it will be sub-divided into 31 industrial lots with sizes varying from 0.2 to 0.3 acre mainly for light industries.

There is the problem of not sufficient industrial lands available at the existing industrial estates. As a result, there are plans by SEDC to develop about 688 acres at Petra Jaya in Kuching for industrial estate development. Under the Fourth Malaysia Plan period, about 440 acres will be developed. In addition, under the Plan, another 150 acres of land in Miri have also been proposed.

Industrial Buildings

On the development of industrial buildings, 22 units of ready-built factories have been completed by SEDC at Pending in Kuching in 1979. All had been sold - 3



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Miri. Tel: 31671, 33031

Residence:

No. 168 Jee Foh Road.
Miri, P.O. Box 1135
Tel: 36756

to Bumiputras and the rest to non-Bumiputras.

Another 35 units of similar factories have also been taken off the ground at Pending since late 1979. 27 units are scheduled to have been completed last year and the remaining 8 units this year.

Commercial Shophouses

Apart from developing industrial estates and industrial buildings, SEDC also undertakes the construction of commercial shophouses and 3 units of 3-storey shophouses in Bintulu had been built and completed by SEDC.

Two units had been sold to Bumiputras while the remaining one is being reserved for SEDC own use.

In Limbang, two similar units - sold to Bumiputras - had also been built and completed while in Kuching, another unit at Batu Lintang was also completed in late 1979.

Plans to develop more than 100 units

of similar commercial shophouses at various urban centres in the State during the end of the Third Malaysia Plan period are being subsequently continued into the Fourth Malaysia Plan.

Residential Houses

To cater for the needs of industrial workers, the Corporation also undertakes the construction of low-cost residential houses, and plans to construct about 1,000 units of two-storey residential houses at Pending in Kuching has been finalised.

This project will include 50 units of 3 storey - shophouses, one unit of 2-storey market and an area of five acres for a primary school cum playground.

At the Upper Lanang Industrial Estate in Sibul, another similar project for 1780 units, acquiring a piece of 120 acres of land, has also began during the end of the Third Malaysia Plan period jointly by SEDC and BDC or the Borneo Development Corporation. The project is subsequently continued into this Fourth Malaysia Plan period.



Congratulations and best wishes to YAB Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Abdul Rahman Yakub on his tenth year in tenure as Ketua Menteri, Sarawak.

KAPT. ABU BAKAR BIN MOHD. SAID
(General Manager)



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Sarawak on threshold of rapid development



The BN government has brought about peace — and prosperity.

During the colonial times, Sarawak was still an isolated and backward state — thickly covered with virgin forests and there were abundant acres of suitable land awaiting exploitation.

But thanks to independence, Sarawak is able to reap the fruits of development.

The majority of the people in the State agreed that under the present Barisan Nasional Government, Sarawak is progressing well.

It is a welcome sight and it is hoped that the progress achieved will be further continued.

Unlike in those days, Sarawak's Iban community's longhouses now boast of modern upholstery, well-equipped with radios and television sets and basic amenities such as water and electricity supplies.

Most of the Ibans are now enjoying the wealth derived from the rich sources of the jungle. With the introduction of modern techniques of cultivation and better seedlings, they are now able to enjoy a higher level of income.

In addition, the availability of modern health facilities resulted in the tremendous improvement of the health of the



Pretty girl has good reason to smile and dance : 70% of rural dwellers have benefitted from Government's medical services.

people.

About 70% or 700,000 rural dwellers have benefitted from the Government's medical services in the State.

It is hoped that by 1990, all the people in the State will benefit from such services.

Model State

Sarawak has supreme confidence in the wise and dedicated leadership of its Chief Minister, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Haji Abdul Rahman Yakub.

Datuk Patinggi Abdul Rahman hopes to make Sarawak a model state in Malaysia - to be the forefront in every field, and his vision of the Sarawak he hopes to develop is as big as the State itself.

His idea of making Sarawak into a model state was not confined to physical development but also to change the people's mental attitude, especially among the Bumiputras.

The Chief Minister will strive to further reorganise the administrative machinery for a smoother running of all giant projects in Sarawak for the benefit of the people.

Turning back the pages of history, the Seri Aman Operation has played a major role in shaping the political and development patterns in Sarawak.

On March 4, 1974, 500 communist terrorists in the State returned to society under the Seri Aman Operation.

Intensify

Sarawak, known as the Land of the Hornbill, is stepping up its tempo of development to fully utilise its oil reserves and the enormous quantity of timber available.

The present Government will intensify its efforts to give her people a new life and to raise their standard of living.

One of the Government's impressive efforts is the implementation of the successful Petra Jaya project.

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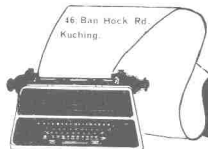
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In the plant of Sarawak Motor Industry, a project by SEDC.



In a factory: Thanks to independence, Sarawak is on the march forward.

Petra Jaya was once swampland and old rubber estates but under the Government Development programme, almost half of the land has already undergone development.

Within the next fifteen years, Petra Jaya will become a satellite town in Kuching similar to that of Petaling Jaya of Selangor.

Two colleges - the Datuk Patinggi Abang Haji Abdullah College and the Tun Abang Haji Openg College - have already been set up in Petra Jaya, Kuching.

For any developing area in the State, housing schemes are a must. A

total sum of \$10 million and 69 acres of land in Petra Jaya had been allocated for housing purposes.

Estimates show that 627 units will be set up in the housing area, which will be renamed "Kampung Malaysia Jaya".

Datuk Patinggi Abdul Rahman said that the plan to develop Petra Jaya was in his mind the moment he was appointed Chief Minister on July 7, 1970.

Pride

With the completion of the \$61 million State Secretariat Building, it has become the pride of Kuching.

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The 20-storey building will serve as the State's nerve centre.

There is also a three-storey State Assembly Building where the rulers and the Yang Di-Pertua Negeri conference was held last October.

Education facilities in the State are also given a fair share in the cake of development.

The Education Ministry planned to set up a polytechnic in Sarawak at a cost estimated at \$10 million and \$15 million under the Fourth Malaysia Plan.

A suitable site in the State will be

earmarked for the project.

In addition, the Tourist Development Corporation, MAS and members of the travel industry are focussing in resorts and hotel development, airport development, tour packages and the expansion plans of MAS to further promote the tourism industry in the State.

More will be done to speed up development progress and every project undertaken is solely meant to improve the people's socio-economic standards and quality of life.

However, priorities are given to the basic and necessary projects which will be of beneficial to the people before covering those which are not so fundamental.

**CONGRATULATIONS FOR MAKING
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BINTULU BATTLES THE BOOM



Bintulu's vast area of land being opened up for development.

Bintulu is now a 'cowboy town' and the wheels of progress are set in motion that will eventually transform this backwater into a version of Petaling Jaya - complete with crop plantations, residential clusters and an industrial zone.

Today, the pace of change in this booming town is much faster. Some argue the change is coming too fast and its development boom imposed on it a host of problems as well. This article is a honest view of the problems that are existing. But most of them are expected of a boom town, and would be temporary.

The population has exploded with people from outside the area rushing to this fast-developing centre in search of high paid jobs.

This has put a strain on available facilities and amenities like housing shortages, inadequate rubbish dumping facilities and an overtaxed bus services.

The current problems and their by-products, which have been given extensive publicity and highlighted by the mass media, are painting an ugly picture on Bintulu.



Our heartiest congratulations to Ketua Mentri, Sarawak on celebrating his tenth year as Chief Minister of Sarawak.



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The old shophouses in the booming town.

But they do not stop the investors, contractors, engineers and workers equipped with various skills, both overseas and local Sarawakians to flood to Bintulu in search of new opportunities and employment.

Many are not disappointed. Job opportunities are plentiful and wages here are comparatively higher.

At present, there are already about 300 South Koreans in the area while expatriate Europeans and Indians are also pouring in.

The latest figures record a 50 per cent growth in Bintulu population in the last few years from 13,315 to 19,977.

For the district as a whole, the percentage has been slightly less, the population having grown from 28,223 to 53,533.

Boost Rents

One of the most serious problems facing this boom town is accommodation, with owners taking the opportunity to boost rents to such dramatic heights that many of the poorer recent arrivals had little choice but to build their own houses along the north bank of the Kemena River which flows past the town only 50 yards from the Main Bazaar.



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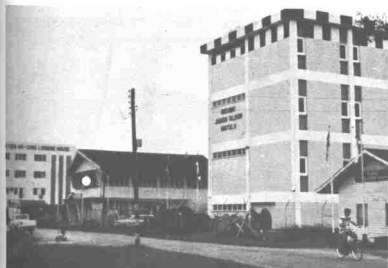
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The Talikoms building is one of the newer government structures here.

Their action was completely illegal but, despite this, the first shanties have now grown into a full-fledged riverside squatter settlement.

Yet even a room in a squatter's shanty is far from cheap. Such accommodation usually costs about \$100 a month while the "house" itself can be sold for \$4,000.

On the other hand, a room on the outskirts of town will fetch anything from \$180 to \$200 a month, excluding water and electricity costs.

One owner of a semi-detached house can easily earn \$1,000 or more a month for it while rents for detached houses start at \$2,500 a month and in some cases top the \$4000 mark.

The cheapest room in the "best" hotel in town is \$65 a day, while a suite fetches \$190 a day. And even the prices are low compared to the Aurora Beach at Tanjung Batu.

Here, one has to pay \$90 a day for a single small, prefab metal room. A small double costs \$120 a day.

Other hotels, which used to be rock-bottom cheapies at even \$10 a single now have their prices double.

Given these sort of prices it comes as no surprise to learn many people simply cannot afford to pay for a roof over their heads.

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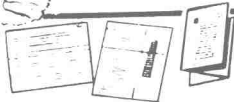


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Oil tanks: High rents, and problems aplenty.

As for shops in the town proper, the rent for the ground floor only is about \$1,200 a month. In some cases, shops are rented by auction, with the highest bidder "winning".

Plans now exist to provide a solution to this most serious problem. Bintulu Development Authority's low-cost housing scheme involves the construction of 450 houses for poorer families. A good start no doubt, but supply is far too few to meet the demand.

Most Expensive

The inevitable consequences of high rents has been rapidly rising prices and unofficial statistics indicate the rise has been so rapid, Bintulu has now displaced Miri as the most expensive town in Sarawak.

One has to pay 10 cents for a solitary chilli and an outlay of \$1.40 is required for a kati of longbeans. Even Kangkong, one of Asia's most humble vegetables which grows wild just anywhere costs a dollar a kati.



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**FROM : PRESIDENT,
Committee members of Orang Ulu National Association**

JLN. JAWA, P.O. BOX 497, KUCHING. TEL: 25897



Deeper into the jungle: Land development at a fast pace.

The supply of fish is again insufficient to meet demand and the cost of fish is extremely high.

The skyrocketing cost of food has the greatest effect on most low incomes families. One group who find the prices in Bintulu a bit hard to cope with are the government officers transferred there from other towns.

Although, many of the government employees are provided with flats for free accommodation, their earnings which are sufficient for a comfortable life in Kuching finish much quicker in Bintulu.

Amenities shortage

Another problem faced is electricity rationing and to some extent, the need to install high tension cables is the cause.

One furniture factory along the Bintulu end of the road to Miri has been forced to close down temporarily last April as a result of a power cut.



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The housing boom in Bintulu: Squatters are a problem.

Bintulu's development boom has also resulted in a critical water shortage since projects like the LNG construction at Tanjung Kidurong require large amount of water.

In addition, development spin-offs from this scheme mean a rash of new

buildings has sprung up during the last few years boosting water consumption significantly.

With the LNG project still at an early stage and other giant programmes, such as the Reynolds aluminium plant and the urea scheme planned, water demand is likely to skyrocket in the next four or five years.

The present shortages have been aggravated by deliberate water supply cuts made to enable the Sarawak Electricity Supply Corporation to install cables.

In Bintulu, the present daily output is about a million gallon. It is not sufficient to meet the demand of existing consumers, let alone the proposed development projects.

According to Bintulu residents, even the minimum quantity of water needed is virtually impossible to get between 12 noon and 7 p.m., despite the installation of water tanks on roof tops. This is especially true of occupants of the first, second and third floors where water pressure becomes virtually non-existent in the afternoon.

CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU, YAB DATUK PATINGGI TAN SRI ABDUL RAHMAN YAKUB, ON THE OCCASION OF YOUR TENTH YEAR IN OFFICE AS CHIEF MINISTER.



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Outsiders are equally dismayed. When they arrive in the town hot and tired, they are anxious for a shower. But the trickle which flows from the hotel tap is hardly enough for a free wash, let alone a shower.

The shortage of water is not confined to hotels and private houses. Owners of hair-dressing saloons, for example, complain they are unable to get enough water to run their businesses.

And things are likely to get worse.

Extension

To prevent so, efforts are made to overcome the present critical water shortage and cater for future demand. Plans to boost the Bintulu water supply have been drawn up by the Public Works Department.

As a first step, extension of the town's water treatment plant at Sabian will be carried out. It is estimated that it will cost \$2 million.

When completed, the plant will provide approximately two million gallons of water a day. However, this amount would still not be enough to meet the long-term demand.

To cater for this, the whole supply system will be expanded to produce 8½ million gallons a day and the Public Works Department hopes this will be well under-way by 1983.

Dispute

Another difficulty arising is congestion at Bintulu Wharf, where loading and unloading of goods recently came to a halt over a dispute about which ships should be unloaded first.

In addition, the amount of cargo shipped to Bintulu have increased greatly leading to a subsequent increase in demand for docking space, wharf labour and storage areas.

Medical and hospital services in this booming town are also being strained to the limit.

WE JOIN THE PEOPLE OF SARAWAK IN CONGRATULATING YAB DATUK PATINGGI TAN SRI ABDUL RAHMAN YAKUB ON HIS TENTH YEAR IN TENURE AS CHIEF MINISTER, SARAWAK.



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To this end, a long-term plan has recently been announced to build a regional hospital in Bintulu to serve not only the local population but also people from the north-eastern region of the State. A 200-acre site has been earmarked for the new hospital.

Meanwhile, work is in progress to improve the existing hospital to cope with the growing population in the area.

Strain

The population influx has also put a strain to the town's rubbish collective service. It is becoming increasingly difficult even to cope with the extra refuse which clogs the gutters in front of the town's shophouses.

Many of the suburban areas, and the squatter settlements in particular have no rubbish collection at all.

Then there is the problem of transportation. Bintulu has only one bus and it is inadequate to cope with the demand. Most of the time, it is broken down.

People are disappointed. They argue it spends more time in the garage than on the road.

Nor are those with cars much better off. There is the serious shortage of parking spaces.

In addition, the ever increasing number of cars has created more potholes, ditches and other road hazards.

The authorities concerned are stepping up road maintenance work. In spite of this, the wear and tear on the town's road network continues to increase as vehicle registrations push ever upwards.

Out Of Turn

There is, once again, the problem of getting fuel, be it for a car or home appliance.

When it comes to getting fuel in Bintulu, anyone trying to get petrol out of turn is likely to be roundly cursed. And if he does not make a rapid tactical withdrawal, he could find himself suffering the indignity of being manhandled out of the way.

So pressing has the shortage of these essential commodities — the availability of petrol and kerosene — become, policemen often have to be posted at the town's two service stations for the time being, just to keep the crowd in order. Without their presence, queue jumpers become a problem.

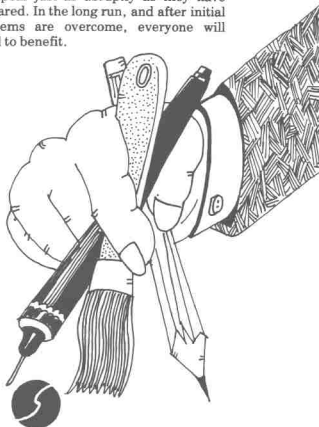
Recently, a rationing system has been introduced by one of the two petrol stations to prevent the public hoarding petrol and to ensure each vehicle has a fair share of the available fuel.

A person arriving with a container will have to present his identity card. This will entitle him to \$10 of petrol a day. The same procedure allows those who drive their vehicles to fill their tanks.

As for the success of the system, only time will tell.

Which brings full circle the sorry story of a town battling to cope with an economic boom.

But state leaders like the Chief Minister are confident the problems will disappear just as abruptly as they have appeared. In the long run, and after initial problems are overcome, everyone will stand to benefit.



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RAHMAN SPELLS OUT THE PRIORITIES



The Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Abdul Rahman Yakub bridge linking Kuching with Petra Jaya

Chief Minister Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Haji Rahman Yakub has stressed that the Barisan Nasional Government realises the importance of delivering goods to the people and that it has and will continue to work ceaselessly, making one of infrastructural achievement after another.

Datuk Patinggi Rahman had listed out some of the major projects which would be implemented and completed during the Fourth Malaysia Plan period. Millions of dollars have been dumped into these projects reflecting the seriousness and commitment of the State Government to the socio-economic development of the State and these projects were meant to improve the quality of life of the people of Sarawak.

On road, the Chief Minister pointed out that \$200 million would be earmarked for the trunk road system and for the construction of other roads to complement the trunk road.

Special Attention

The State Government is ever mindful of the importance of a well-developed transportation and communication system, both for industrial growth as well as to accelerate the development of agriculture and natural resources of the State.

Datuk Patinggi Rahman pointed out that under the Fourth Malaysia Plan, the Government will be paying special attention to infrastructure in Sarawak.

At the same time, ports in the major towns like Kuching, Sibul and Miri as well as the deep sea port at Bintulu were being upgraded. Construction works at the Bintulu Deep-water Port are broken into five tender packages or contracts.

The contract for site preparation was awarded to a Korean firm at a contract sum of \$16.4 million. The site was handed over to the contractor in October 1979.



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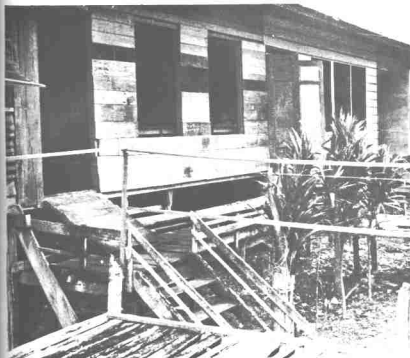
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Not very attractive housing, but many have to make do with this as there is a shortage of housing

The contracts for quarry operation and dredging were finalised by the end of 1979 while tenders for the construction and completion of the Breakwater and the General Cargo Wharves were closed on November 19, 1979. The preparation of tender documents on buildings and utilities is nearing completion.

The whole port project is due for completion by December 31, 1982 and should be in time for the first shipment of Liquefied Natural Gas or LNG currently scheduled for January 1983.

On airport, the Chief Minister said new ones would be built in Bintulu and Sibu while improvements were being made to those at Kuching and Miri.

The runway extension at Kuching had been completed and so was the design of the terminal complex. Work on the terminal building had begun and the whole project is expected to be completed early this year.

As for the Miri Airport Extension, the runway extension and the enlargement of the existing taxi-way and parking apron had been completed.

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Labourers working on a road: Government ever mindful of importance of well-developed transportation.

At the moment, work on the new Miri Airport terminal site, parking apron, taxiway and access road is nearing completion.

On telephone and telex communication, the Chief Minister said at least \$300 million was expected to be spent on improving these facilities.

Power Potential

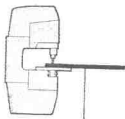
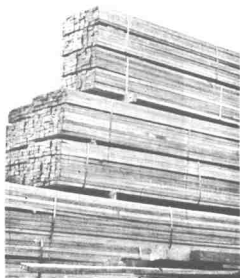
Datuk Patinggi Rahman said Sarawak was rich in hydro-electric power potential and the first hydro-electric power station now at the designed stage, the Batang Ai Hydro Project is expected to be commissioned by 1985-86.

Even during the interim period before this project becomes operational, the Sarawak Electricity Supply Corporation will be installing additional diesel engines to its present power station in Kuching in order to meet the ever increasing demand for power.

The feasibility of a second such station, the Pelagus Hydro Project was also being studied. It was being financed under a technical aid programme by the Federal Republic of Germany who selected four internationally well-known consultant groups in West Germany and Switzerland.

The construction of the Pelagus Hydro Project will commence by 1984-85 and this project is mainly to meet the

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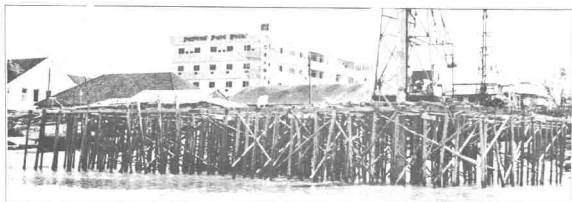
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The new wharf at Sarikel when it was in progress. More expansion projects in the pipeline.

power needs of the proposed Aluminium Project and other heavy industries earmarked in Bintulu such as the Iron Ore Reduction Plant and possibly, a fully integrated Steel Mill.

"So enormous is our potential in this respect that we are even toying with the idea of transmitting the excess power to Semenanjung Malaysia through the High Voltage Direct Current or HVDC Link," the Chief Minister said.

"In our negotiations with the Government of the Federal Republic of

Germany and the Economic Planning Unit on the terms of reference on the Pelagus Hydro Project Study, we emphasised on the need to give priority to the study of the HVDC Link to Peninsular Malaysia which is economically relevant to the overall study," he added.

And for a project of this magnitude of about 1400 mega-watts, its construction and commissioning will take another four or five years.

Datuk Patinggi Rahman pointed out that it could be possible that with a

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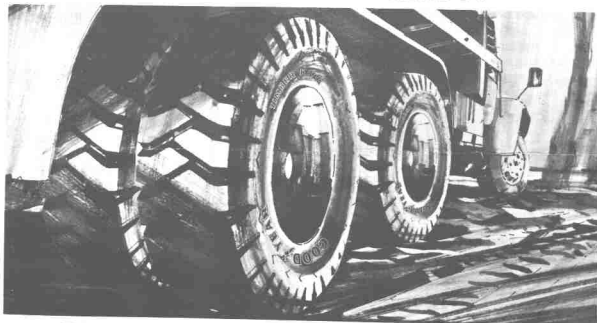
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relatively cheaper source of power available from the Pelagus Hydro Project, the Aluminium Project would be expanded and, as such, there might not be any excess power available for transmission to Semenanjung Malaysia.

However, the Chief Minister said, the overall demand structure from the Pelagus Hydro Project can only be confirmed when the Study has been completed.

Housing Needs

With industrialisation, the SEDC or the Sarawak Economic Development Corporation had been instructed with developing industrial estates and \$75 million was being proposed for the project under the Fourth Malaysia Plan.

The housing programme under the SEDC is meant primarily for industrial workers, the purpose of which is to ensure that the workers are accommodated near their place of work.

Two housing schemes, one in Kuching and the other in Sibul, had been

planned. The scheme in Sibul, however, is a joint-venture project with the Borneo Development Corporation. It comprises 1780 units of houses and was implemented last year.

The scheme in Kuching is located at the Pending Industrial Estate. About 1,017 units, comprising detached, semi-detached and terraced houses, will be constructed in 2 phases to meet the requirements of the industrial workers.

Site preparation was carried out in 1978 and layout plan and building design were undertaken in 1979. Construction of about 440 units in Phase I was undertaken in early 1980 and this phase is expected to be completed this year.

The whole scheme will take five years to complete. The Chief Minister assured the people of Sarawak that the State Government will spare no efforts to increase the tempo of housing development in this Fourth Malaysia Plan.

However, he pointed out, it is impossible for the Government to meet

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the needs of every individual in the State but the Chief Minister said that he would assure that the State Government will, within its financial resources and capability, make every effort to meet the housing needs of the people of Sarawak, particularly the lower income group who deserve assistance from the Government.

Key Role

On Bintulu, Datuk Patinggi Rahman stressed that the State Government itself will play a key role in its development.

The Bintulu Development Authority or BDA had been set up to co-ordinate all development activities for the area besides the SEDC and the Industrial Co-ordination Committee formed to co-ordinate industrial development with Federal Government like MIDA.

Datuk Patinggi Rahman assured that the State Government would not "unnecessarily and unreasonably place any obstacle in the bringing of qualified personnel from overseas in implementing the big projects in Bintulu."

He said the State Government would hold meetings with the Federal Government as and when needed to ensure that these projects would not be delayed.

The Chief Minister called on potential investors to match the seriousness in the commitment to social-economic development in the State, and told them that they should plan the investment to help the State Government in its task of restructuring society.

Datuk Patinggi Rahman said he also reiterated that the State Government would provide all the necessary assistance and incentives to potential investors in order to promote economic development in the State.

The Chief Minister also reiterated his call to the contractors concerned to give preference to local workers and to use local materials if these were available.

He also said that they must do their best to co-operate with the authorities and to ensure that their foreign employees do nothing to arouse the anger of the local people.

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RAHMAN'S VIEWS ON EDUCATION



Students in a jovial mood: this modern world is full of temptations.

The Chief Minister, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Haji Abdul Rahman Yakub takes a keen interest in the educational field. He strictly believes that schools and teachers play a very important role in shaping the future of our young generation.

Which is why he has on numerous occasions during the past few years given his opinion with regards to education.

Datuk Patinggi Rahman said that schools should create the conditions by which the students can develop their spiritual "muscles" as much as his physical muscles.

Otherwise, in this modern world where life is so full of temptations and moral choices, the youths may fall by the wayside.

Datuk Patinggi Rahman pointed out that one of the most tragic aspect of modern living is the tendency to addiction, which may take many forms like addiction to drugs, alcohol, gambling, accumulation of wealth, pleasure, cigarettes and so on.

"When the spirit is empty, addiction develops to fill its emptiness, drives away its boredom and camouflage its desperation. All this comes about because we accept the world we see around us - its conflicts, its evils, its wars, its injustice - and think we can do nothing about it, except to escape from it through one form of addiction or another," the Chief Minister said at an annual conference for all secondary school principals in the State in the early quarter of last year.

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Experimenting in a class: Pretensions rubbish doled out by the mass media.

Main Antagonist

The Chief Minister called on the headmasters to try to ensure that their schools do their best with the human material which enter the schools.

Principals are the recipients, and often the targets of an enormous variety of values which are bombarded at them from so many different quarters - from Government, from educationists, from parents, from the man-in-the-street and, nowadays sometimes from their own students.

The home - a place where the main instruments of the mass media like the television set, the radio and the daily newspaper - is becoming the school's main antagonist.

The pretentious rubbish doled out by the mass media including values and attitudes of violence, sensationalism, obscenity, prejudice, distortion, divisiveness and apathy often conflict directly and sometimes the children may be misguided; this is where the headmasters act as arbitrators of educational values, selecting those which they consider from a professional standpoint, to be most needed in schools, most required by their students, most necessary for their society and most helpful for the future, the Chief Minister added.

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He thought that in the first place at least all secondary schools must try somehow to inculcate in their students a kind of healthy scepticism with regard to the mass media.

For it is quite clear that children cannot be left to the mercy of programmes which are often entirely without any ethical content whatsoever.

Responsible Youth

He also called on the principals to help develop and encourage the value of responsibility among the students in the schools.

He pointed out that the responsible youth is one who at all times lives up to his obligations to his school, to his family, and above all to himself.

As such, a student's sense of responsibility is more important than mere cleverness. He warned that cleverness without a strong sense of responsibility can be dangerous.

The Chief Minister added that calmness, sobriety, loyalty, reliability and honesty are all qualities associated with responsibility.

Datuk Patinggi Rahman urged educationalist to focus their attention towards strengthening attitudes that would encourage greater unity among the students as well as between students and teachers.

Morally Unwise

He also stressed the need to stimulate and encourage in our school environment the awareness of the higher self of a human being and the need for development in this respect.

He believed that it was not appropriate to use a streaming system from primary level by which the best students go to the "A" class, the second best to the "B" class, the third best to the "C" class and so on, as this sort of grading, according to his opinion, is both morally and academically unwise.

He pointed out that it only helps to develop and increase feelings of competition and comparison between student and student, leading to conflict, discrimination, prejudice, arrogance and intolerance.

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A home away from home



The Chief Minister officiating at a function at Cheshire Home, while Datuk Ang Lai Soon looks on: CM touched by enthusiastic efforts.

Sarawak is honoured to support the one and only Cheshire Home - a place of hopeful endeavour for incurable handicapped folk who can mix together as a family, in mutual hopefulness, self-development and respect.

The veritable Home, which was officially opened on November 1, 1969 at 2.30 p.m. by the then Deputy Chief Minister Datuk Abang Haji Abdul Rahim on behalf of the Governor of Sarawak, may well be responsible for changing the pattern of life of physically handicapped and disabled people in Sarawak.

No Discrimination

It is and forever will be a non-racial organisation and there is no discrimination whatsoever in this Home.

There are people of all races and creeds in the Home - the majority of them are from lower-income group.

They come from all corners of the State.

Before the establishment of the Home, the care and particularly the rehabilitation of the Handicapped of our community was a matter of no concern. And the voices raised in warning were like cries from the wilderness.

Today, most people in Sarawak - be they from the longhouses, the kampongs, the farms or the towns - are quite aware that a disabled person can be properly cared for, and rehabilitated by this organisation so that he can lead a more meaningful life.

Closely Associated

It is impossible to make mention 'Cheshire Home' without linking it with its Patron, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Haji Abdul Rahman Yakub, who has been associated with the Sarawak Cheshire Home for nearly nine years.

A gentleman at heart, he has always shown a keen interest in the welfare of the less fortunate and under-privileged people.

The Chief Minister is touched with the enthusiastic and staunch efforts of the President of the Home, Datuk Ang Lai Soon - one who has also been very closely associated with this Home, in fact, even years before the first building was put up.

The Chief Minister and Datuk Ang, with the support and co-operation of a lot of dedicated committee members and other helpful friends and volunteers, and also voluntary organisations have helped to build this Home to what it is today.



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Major Expansion

Since the opening of the Home, it has been expanded a couple of times.

First, two years after its completion, the Chief Minister commissioned Borneo's first and only hydrotherapy pool at the Home in 1972.

Datuk Patinggi Rahman stressed that this an essential fixture, and not a luxury, as hydrotherapy will help committee members greatly in the treatment of the disabled.

Eleven months later, with the help of the generous public, two new blocks have been added as part of its major expansion, to enable more residents to be admitted.

In recognition of the encouragement and staunch support of Datuk Patinggi Rahman to the handicapped people especially those looked after by the Home, the executive committee named Sarawak Cheshire Home building after the Chief Minister.

With effect from April last year, the complex was called Bangunan Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Haji Abdul Rahman Yakub.

Appreciation

The executive committee felt that it is the most appropriate way to show its appreciation and thanks to the Chief Minister.

At the same time the Chief Minister also laid the foundation stone of the new extension project of the Home. Costing \$130,000 the extension, Datuk Patinggi Rahman says, will enable the Home to take in more physically handicapped persons.

This will be the last extension as it is not the intention of the executive committee nor those of the founder, Group Captain Leonard Cheshire to turn the Home into an institution. Otherwise, this will lose the homely and personal touch which they provide today, the Chief Minister points out.

The population of the Home has grown from 5 in 1969 to 60 today.

Moral Support

At present Cheshire Home comes to the rescue of the mentally retarded children who are abandoned by irresponsible parents.

There is a call for the immediate setting of a home for these children.

Datuk Patinggi Rahman urges all those big business houses and public-spirited people in the State to continue to give their financial and moral support to the Cheshire Home, in whatever way they can.

While the Government can continue to provide every assistance, the people themselves must play a bigger role in helping this Home to function well, he adds.

"There is nothing more satisfying than to be able to help fellowmen in need, without expectation of rewards," he says.

The Chief Minister congratulates those who have made contributions generously to help the handicapped and the infirmed, in response to his appeals.

He adds that these are people in the State who are not only concerned over the well-being of their less fortunate brothers and sisters, but are more than prepared to give their time, money and personal attentions.

He appeals for more to follow the fine examples set by these kind-hearted people.

Change Attitude

Datuk Patinggi Rahman also calls on Muslims to change their attitude of looking after handicapped relatives.

He said the Muslims are reluctant to send their relatives away because they felt it was improper to send them to homes to be cared for.

He states that they do not like to leave their loved ones elsewhere because they felt it was their responsibilities to look after the handicapped relatives.

The Chief Minister hopes they will change their attitude and send handicapped to institutions like the Cheshire Home where they can take up some form of vocation training.

He stresses: "We promise no miracles. We cannot do wonders. But we can only try to lead them to lead a more meaningful and stimulating life."

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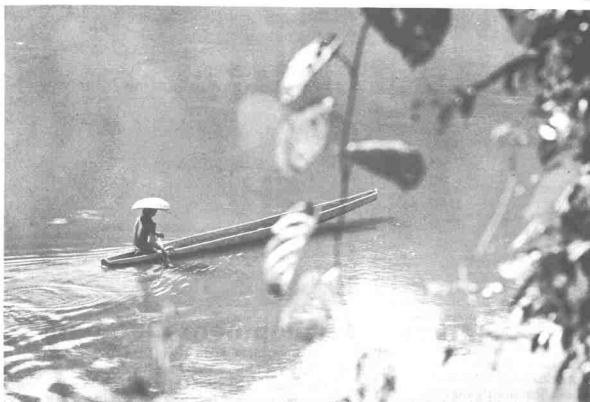
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Place where peace prevails



A slow morning river scene: Ducks, chickens, mousedeer and the lot.

To reach Kampong Plaman Nyabet, the simple world of the Bidayuhs, land-rovers from Baki Bazaar operating a passenger service charges a dollar for a bumpy ride of 32 miles by dirt road from Kuching daily. On the way, they were to pass through Kampong Tai-i.

Water-Supplies

Kampong Nyabet does not have piped water. Water has to be carried in large plastic containers by the women and girls from Sungai Rison, the stream that passes the outskirts of the village. A bark belt slung on the forehead is attached to the container. A little fishing is also done in this stream.

Poultry

Ducks and chickens are reared and kept for festivals like Christmas and Gawai Dayak.

Ducks are put in small bamboo huts with the roofs made of sago palm fronds while chickens are kept in bamboo cages. Pigs that the villagers have are allowed to rum freely underneath the longhouse.

Hunting

The village hunter can go after pelandok (mousedeer), musang (Civet-cat), tupu (squirrels), porcupines and wide cats.

Dogs are often the victims of porcupine long needles covering their bodies. A porcupine needle may be up to six inches or longer and is about half an inch thick at its widest.

The outer part of the needle is white or yellowish. If it penetrates the body of a dog, it will not be able to walk.

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Brother bathing kid brother. A number of traditional beliefs.

If any part of the black inner half of the needle which contain poison penetrates the body, the wounded victim will die. Human beings are seldom - if ever - heard of being attacked by a porcupine.

Festivals

Bidayuhs celebrate the new rice festival. During the season of the new rice which is in February, the farmer invited everybody to taste the newly harvested rice, Passerbys are called from doors and windows and everyone is invited to partake of the new rice.

The Bidayuhs also celebrate the Gawai Dayak Festival Day on June 1, after the padi harvest festival. During Christmas, the Headmaster of the village primary school has house-warming feast and a handsome goat is killed for the feast. Its skin, later dried on a circular frame would make an excellent gendang drum.

Large quantities of food are consumed. Tuak and chap lang kau (a clear fiery rice wine with a very high alcohol content sweetened with sugar) flowed liberally. The men were urged and some were even forced to drink the fiery stuff.

Two gendang drums were then brought out by two women who sang Malay pantuns skilfully to the beat of the drums. They beat the drums with their hands, sitting with legs to one side on the rattan mats.

The men jumped onto the floor and eagerly did the joget which is a Malay dance and the female partners were just as happy dancing to the exciting beat of the gendang.

Education

The only village primary school in Kampong Nyabet is called the "All Saint School", housed in two-timbered-buildings. It has primary one, three, five and six classes. Just next to the school is a sports field for the people.

Recently the villager's Saberakas clubhouse with a small stage and a high ceiling for a badminton court was completed. It was built with a grant from Saberakas, the State's youth club organisation.

Traditional Beliefs

Whenever anyone was sick, the gong was beaten in the house of the inflicted.

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The longhouse: Scene of "collective life" in Sarawak

This was a sign of sickness in the house. The dukun or the village witch doctor was of course consulted. A gawai or feast has to be held for the whole village. Pigs and chickens had to be slaughtered and everyone fed. It was believed that such feast would placate the spirits inflicting the victim. They would go away after the feast and leave the village. The family of the inflicted victim had to bear the expenses of feeding the village during the feast.

When a person is sick, a pantang is observed. Nobody is allowed to leave or enter the village. To break the taboo would be to incur a fine, sometimes in the form of a pig.

Bidayuhs also believe that certain thorny plants are very effective in keeping evil spirits at a safe distance. These thorns which might be placed on the doors of the baris will frighten the evil spirits away.

They also believed that rice has a soul. This belief also extended to all other food and drinks. If a Bidayuh does not want to partake of the drink or food offered to him, he will respectfully touch it. The Bidayuhs believed that offending the rice spirit will have adverse consequences.

The Bidayuhs, like many of the natives in Sarawak have a great reverence for rice. They refused to sell the leftover from the family's needs. The rice had to be stored. Otherwise their padi harvests would be bad. There might even be famine.

The tradition of storing all the rice harvested had been kept to this day. Thus the rice piles up, collected in bins, year after year. When a rice hut or Bari is full, a new one is made, the best and largest of which stand on legs of belian (ironwood) about ten feet tall and their walls are made of wooden plants.

Small ritual spears are also placed on the doors of the baris to prevent the evil spirits from eating the household rice.

Bidayuh also believed that it would be folly to throw away the hard-earned rice, the product of loving care and much sweat and toil throughout the year. So any leftovers from meals and fed to the chicken.

Pinang (betel nut) and sireh are still popular among the women. Life in the village may be hard but folks here smile all the time. There is always company and concern. Everyone gives a helping hand. Life is simple and the people are contented.

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WE MUST STICK TOGETHER:CM



Datuk Rahman speaking to supporters asking him to stay on as Chief Minister.

Chief Minister and State Barisan Nasional leader, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Haji Abdul Rahman Yakub has always believed that the people must strengthen the political stability without which no nation-building and socio-economic development could be possible.

In a message to mark the 10th anniversary of his tenure in office in July 1980, the Chief Minister said the strengthened political stability could only be realised through the strengthening of the united multi-racial leadership of the Barisan Nasional.

"Our first and most important duty is, therefore, to defend and strengthen the Barisan Nasional Government both at Sarawak and Federal levels," he said.

"If we strengthen it, we strengthen the nation and ensure its progress. If we weaken it, we weaken the nation and ensure its defeat," Datuk Patinggi Rahman added.

Urgent Task

"We all agreed that security is top of the list," he said.

That was why the Sarawak Coalition Government, set up in 1970, led by Datuk Patinggi Rahman, began the urgent task of tackling the problem of security and many other problems which could win the peoples' hearts to support the government.

Datuk Patinggi Rahman recalled that at first, Tunku Abdul Rahman, the ex-Prime Minister did not want him to come back to Sarawak.

The Tunku told Rahman personally that Rahman's future was in Kuala Lumpur as a national leader. In fact, Datuk Patinggi Rahman was offered a parliamentary seat in Kedah by the Tunku.

Congratulations to you, YAB Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Abdul Rahman Yakub, on the occasion of your tenth year in office as Chief Minister.



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The best of friends: (from left) Datuk Amar Dunstan Endawie, former President of SNAP, Datuk Rahman, and Tan Sri Ong Kee Hui, President of SUPP.

But Datuk Patinggi Rahman was firm and felt that he must come back to Sarawak to redeem himself.

"I cannot run away from Sarawak. I lost the election in 1963 although it was a municipal election. So I must go back to the people of Sarawak to ask for their mandate whether they wanted me to represent them or not," he said.

"Only with the mandate of the people can I claim to be their true leader. Otherwise, whatsoever good I do will be marked by the stigma when I was not elected by the people," he added.

Elections

So Datuk Patinggi Rahman came back to Sarawak. But because of the conditions then, (the late) Tun Abdul Razak asked Rahman to make every effort to settle the security situation in the State.

So, without the knowledge of the Tunku, Rahman stood in both parliamentary and state elections.

Many of his colleagues in Kuala Lumpur would have preferred that Rahman lost the State election but won in the Federal election so that he could go back to work in Kuala Lumpur.

However, Datuk Patinggi Rahman thought that if Sarawak was in trouble, then Sarawak could become a very big problem for the Federal Government. Then, instead of spending money on useful purposes to develop Sarawak economically and socially, it could be a burden. Money would be wasted on fighting the communist guerrillas.

Rahman thus stressed that it was not only the interest of the nation that the Sarawak terrorist problem must be settled.

Negotiations

Datuk Patinggi Rahman had also agreed with Razak that he come back to assist the then Alliance Party (Parti Bumiputra Pesaka Bersatu or PBB) in 1963 to win the election.

He was told that the former government was without PBB. Thus, Rahman and his many friends in those days travelled the length and breadth of Sarawak to win the support of the people. The Alliance Party managed to win the election.

The then Alliance Party, at the time when Party Negara pulled out, was without proper organisers and was later left to Rahman, Sim Kheng Loong (the late), Sylvester Chai and several others.

Then there were Datuk Amar Ling Beng Siew in Sibu, Ting Tung Ming, Datuk Chia Chin Shin, Wan Shazali and many others to get things organised elsewhere.

It was a tough battle with the Sarawak United People's Party (SUPP) and the Opposition Sarawak National Party (SNAP) as they were very well organised with plenty of voluntary workers against the Alliance that was divided after the withdrawal of Party Negara.

This is history now.

From the Sarawak Coalition Government, the idea later developed into Barisan Nasional Government.

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Tears of joy: Datuk Rahman is so grateful for the overwhelming support he gets that he burst into tears.

In September 1970, the Chief Minister had a long discussion with Tun Razak at the latter's house, together with UMNO vice-president who is also Barisan Nasional's Secretary General, Ghafar Baha and other leaders as to what should be the name of this coalition.

They all agreed that it would be the Barisan Nasional.

Razak was at that time taking steps to bring in PAS and other parties, and he and the Chief Minister shared the common aspirations of the government, namely to do less politicking and more work on development, to make every effort to unite the people.

Another Milestone

In July, 1974, the parties of the Sarawak Coalition Government consisting the PBB, SUPP and Sarawak Chinese Association became part of the confederation of parties under the banner of

the National Front led by the then Prime Minister Tun Abdul Razak.

In 1976, when SNAP was accepted into the National Front, another milestone in the history of the State Government was created.

Political Maturity

Datuk Patinggi Rahman described the coming together of the major elements of democratic leadership in Sarawak as proof of the political maturity of all the leaders concerned.

It was also a recognition that in the absence of unity, serious problems might arise in this part of the world, should the anti-national and anti-democratic forces decide to intervene more actively in our internal affairs.

Cordial Atmosphere

The Chief Minister said that there had always been a cordial atmosphere in his Cabinet.

The administration of the State by the component parties has always been carried out with a strong spirit of co-operation as well as give-and-take and there never was an occasion when tables were banged or threat used to get things done as alleged by some people, he said.

He was confident that he and his colleagues would be able to work better and contribute more to the well-being of the people in Sarawak by continuing to nourish the present understanding and comradeship.

Datuk Patinggi Rahman was also grateful to the Assistant Ministers and Members of the Dewan Undangan Negeri who had played their part well in ensuring the smooth running of the Government.

A Trial

The Chief Minister also made a special mention of Datuk Stephen Yong, who was his Deputy, for his hard work in proving that a Coalition Government could work contrary to the belief of many people.

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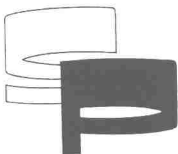
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Tan Sri Ong Kee Hui, SUPP President.
Component parties must stick together.

In his first contact with Datuk Yong (the present SUPP Secretary-General) before the Coalition was formed in front of the late Razak, Datuk Yong told Rahman that it was difficult for the Chinese community to accept him.

Could Rahman, Datuk Yong asked, find somebody else to be the Chief Minister, then Rahman could work under him.

Rahman told Yong that none of his party members would want to be the Chief Minister and have Rahman work under him.

He asked Yong to give it a trial for about half a year.

"If we could get along then all would be well. If we couldn't, then I would be prepared to step down," Rahman told Yong.

Datuk Patinggi Rahman also recalled that at the time, Tunku Abdul Rahman was against his becoming the Chief Minister of Sarawak.

Datuk Rahman approached the Tunku in 1973 and asked him why he was against his coming back to Sarawak.

The Tunku told Rahman he thought at that time that Rahman would not be accepted by the people of Sarawak.

After the function in the Istana one night during the 10th anniversary (celebration of Sarawak's independence

through Malaysia), Datuk Patinggi Rahman and the Tunku were motoring in a car when the Tunku said to Rahman:

"Rahman, I am an old man. I don't speak much but it is sufficient for you to know that I am happy with what you are doing now in Sarawak. Because you make the ordinary people happy and then I see that you have done the right thing. Don't ask me more."

"I didn't ask anything more from him," Datuk Patinggi Rahman recalled "and I was very much encouraged by his words."

Opposition

Datuk Rahman had faced many political problems as a political leader in Sarawak but none of them so far was unsurmountable.

He said he was aware of many rumour-mongers going round in the State and there were those people who wanted to show themselves as 'Champions of the People.'

"Their anti-Government propaganda is based on the smearing campaign against the Government. They are trying to turn the clock back to the old days," the Chief Minister said.

Therefore the problem of smearing by the opposition was quite understandable as they had no other subject to bring up except to smear me, Rahman said, especially PAJAR and SAPO.

Confidence

Datuk Patinggi Rahman expressed happiness for having worked very well so far with the Federal Government, from the Tunku's time to that of Tun Razak and Datuk Hussein.

One of the federal Ministers told the Chief Minister one day in Parliament while they were having tea:

"I am sorry I have not accepted the invitation to go to Sarawak as frequently as you want us to go. But, you see, you don't have many problems that you need my attention. So let me go to other States where there are many problems."



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At the polls, and the CM meeting a happy supporter.

This is what Datuk Hussein Onn did at the beginning soon after he became Prime Minister.

He told Rahman: "Your problems are not very urgent. You can tackle the problems, so allow me to tackle problems in other States which are pressing, which need immediate attention."

But his not coming to Sarawak as often as to other States has been twisted by the opposition leaders to mean that he had no confidence in the State leadership.

So Datuk Hussein had to clarify that when he came to Sarawak during the 1979 Election.

"I don't want to disturb them too much. They are busy, working Ministers. If I invited them to come, just to have dinner, meet the people, it will be a waste of their time. But they do realise that they must go to the longhouse, to the rural areas in order to have dialogue sessions with them. They said they would do so when they have time," the Chief Minister said.

Stick Together

The other problem Rahman has is to ensure that the three parties in the Coalition Government will stick together through thick and thin. There must be an understanding not only among the top leadership but also at the lower level.

Datuk Rahman said: "And we have to be very sincere to all. One should not make a big issue over a number of seats."

"Who should lead the government depends on the support he gets. Today, I am still the leader of the Government. As a leader of the Government, I want to groom the young people. I don't want to remain in the seat until I am too old. There must be time given to me to look after my family and to do welfare work voluntarily. That way, I can serve the country after I have quit my job," he added.

Rahman does not regard himself as the Chief Minister of the bumiputras alone. He regards himself as the Chief Minister of the State whose duty and responsibility is to help everybody. That, essentially, is the secret of his success.



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SUCCESS OF THE SARAWAK FOUNDATION

The success of the Sarawak Foundation or the Yayasan Sarawak is mainly due to the leadership quality to be found in the Foundation and a sense of commitment and involvement by all concerned, from its Board of Trustees, its Chairman and Director to all members of the Staff.

Its achievements are a tribute to the man behind it, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub.

Due to the personal dynamism and leadership provided by its architect, the Chief Minister, who is also the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, the Foundation has been planned and shaped by him into what it is today - a symbol of all things good about Sarawak.

The Foundation marks a fulfilment to the promise of the state Barisan National Government to the people of Sarawak - to lay a solid Foundation stone for the building of a truly united Malaysian nation.

Objectives

Established on May 29, 1971, the Sarawak Foundation has played a major role in "Malaysianising" Sarawakians through its education programme.

The major objectives of the Sarawak Foundation can be categorised into four broadlines:

First and foremost, the Foundation is aimed at promoting a healthy and harmonious growth of a truly Malaysian national consciousness, national loyalty and national unity, characterised by multi-racial tolerance, goodwill and understanding, through its programme and activities. The organisation is national in character, though its priority is to meet the requirements of the state.



The headquarters of the Sarawak Foundation: Achievements a tribute to CM.

Heartiest congratulation to YAB Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Abdul Rahman Yakub for completing 10 years as Chief Minister of Sarawak.



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Students in a classroom scene: Fund for educational purposes.

Secondly, it sets out to promote the improvement of educational opportunities of the people of Sarawak in particular and Malaysia in general, both locally and in any institution of higher learning throughout the world, especially the universities in Malaysia. In this way, the Government's efforts will be supplemented by the organisation through scholarships and other forms of assistance.

Thirdly, the Foundation will assist in a more equitable distribution of economic wealth amongst the people of Sarawak. By doing so, it actively contributes towards the implementation of the New Economic Policy. The organisation has embarked on several economic development projects, and is planning new ones.

Lastly, it will provide a source of assistance and relief, whenever considered necessary, to families of Government officers, members of the Armed Forces and the Police and others who died in the service of the country.

Sarawak Foundation Fund

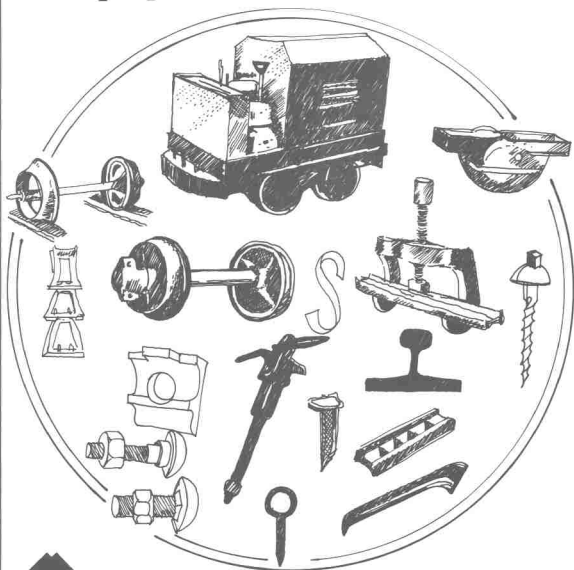
A Fund called the Sarawak Foundation Fund has been established by the organisation to enable it to carry out its various functions.

To manage, administer and control the Fund, a Board of Trustees has been formed. The Board consists of a chairman, appointed by the Yang Di Pertua Negeri, four members who are appointed by the Chief Minister in consultation with the Chairman and two members who are nominated by the Federal Government and appointed by the Chief Minister.

The appointment of the Director of the Foundation is made by the Board. The Director, State Secretary Datuk Abang Haji Yusuf Puteh is the Executive Officer of the Foundation.

If the amount of money spent by the Foundation for educational purposes is any yardstick to measure its performance in the field of education, then it can claim to have achieved a spectacular success.

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Youths at work in a factory: Promoting healthy and harmonious growth.

Since its inception in 1971 to September 1977, over \$6,442,000 of a total expenditure of \$8,399,000 has been spent on education. For the period 1976 to September 1977 alone, the Foundation's education expenditure amounted to over \$2,530,000. The budget this year alone is \$2.7 million.

Student Exchange Programme

The student exchange programme is important as "an exercise in nation-building" which helps to bridge the gap between Sarawak, Sabah and Sememanjung Malaysia students.

Under its auspices, the programme between the States in Malaysia has brought closer the goal of a Pan Malaysia unity and understanding.

Since 1972, the Foundation had sponsored 1,046 Sarawakians to study in secondary schools (up to Sixth Form) in Peninsular Malaysia and Sabah and 614 in universities and colleges.

Though Sarawak has many good schools, students were sent to Peninsular Malaysia as "goodwill ambassadors" as well as to get rid of the feeling of "regionalism". Sememanjung students are also sent to Sabah and Sarawak schools while students from Sabah are now also studying in Sarawak and Peninsular Malaysia.

A greater flow of students from Peninsular Malaysia into Sarawak is expected, as it can accommodate at least 1,000 students in its schools.

The Federal Governments in Peninsular Malaysia are not "reciprocating Sarawak's move" because this "Triangular Student Exchange" Scheme will be instrumental in fostering closer rapport and understanding between the States in Malaysia, thus giving fuller meaning to national unity.

Already there are indications that the scheme has brought forth good results.

Performance

The performance of the Foundation in the field of education can also be best illustrated in the results of the various examinations undertaken by the Foundation sponsored students in Sememanjung Malaysia.

For instance, the result to the 1976 SPM examinations showed that 87.2 per cent of the 94 Foundation students in 17 schools passed the examinations. In the two years preceding that, a record of 99 per cent pass in the LCE examination in Sememanjung Malaysia.

In Sarawak itself, the Foundation's emphasis on education is no less felt in the towns as well as in the rural areas.



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Young pupils at their desks: Impressive record by Foundation-sponsored students.

It has offered local scholarships to 42 students from Peninsular Malaysia to study in secondary and residential schools in Sarawak.

Todate, it has offered 2,727 scholarships to students in Sarawak schools, particularly those in need of assistance. The total cost of the local scholarships is \$738,320,000.

Tertiary Education

The Sarawak Foundation has an equally impressive record in the field of tertiary education.

Between 1971 and 1973, 92 students were sent for further studies at institutions of higher learning in Malaysia and overseas under the Foundation's Scholarship Scheme.

From 1974-1977, a total of 234 students have benefitted from its Student Loan Scheme. Out of these, 168 are under-going degree and 66 diploma courses.

So far, more than 187 graduates had studied on foundation scholarships and have returned with degrees and diplomas on completion of their studies. There are others who have yet to complete their studies.

"Adoption"

Young children from the age of 12 years upwards are exposed to the Malaysian way of life, hoping they will achieve a totally Malaysian outlook when they grow up.

For instance, during the short vacations after the first and second terms, the children are "adopted" by local families, -- from Menterī Besar to the rubber-tappers -- and live the way they do.

The children are always impressed upon the need to absorb as much of the local culture as they can and integrate into Malaysian society. The students now living and studying in each other's states are becoming more conscious and more appreciative of each other's way of life, cultures, traditions and problems.

During the end-of the year school vacations, Sarawak students studying all over the 11 states in Peninsular Malaysia are brought under one roof.

Finance

The Foundation depends on various sources to finance its multi-faceted projects and activities.

These sources include the direct grants from the Government, revenues from its forest areas and other property and donations from the public.

Since its inception, all strata of society have given the Foundation their wholehearted support - for hardly a day passes without a group, an organisation, a team or an individual donating to the Fund.

The rakyat of Sarawak from the rich to the very poor contribute towards the Sarawak Foundation.

But just what has prompted the people, the man in the street to identify themselves with and give so generously to the organisation?

The answer lies, perhaps in the organisation itself.

In line with its motto 'Maju' which means to march forward in progress, the Foundation is forward looking and constantly strives for excellence and progress.

Besides being an all community organisation designed to benefit all Malaysians, the organisation has a national make up in the true sense of the word, thus enabling the people to identify themselves so closely with it.

The Chief Minister, Datuk Patinggi Rahman has described the Foundation as "an embodiment of a sizeable slice of the good things that I have dreamed and schemed for the people of Sarawak."

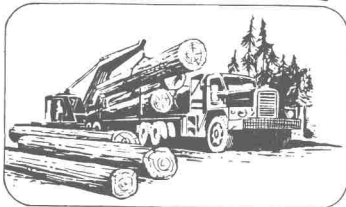


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WE'LL MAKE IT IN BINTULU:CM



Datuk Rahman and Malaysian Finance Minister Tengku Razaleigh briefed in Bintulu.

The State Government adopted a flexible policy to ensure that development in the new cross area of Bintulu is not interrupted.

The creation of a special government agency known as the Bintulu Development Authority (BDA) in October 1978 to co-ordinate, regulate and initiate orderly and effectively the overall development in the Bintulu region marks the take-off point, in a big leap and dynamic manner, in the implementation of the Bintulu Development Plan.

Sarawak Chief Minister, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Haji Abdul Rahman Yakub had said he was confident that the gigantic schemes, such as the Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) plant and the deep-sea port at Tanjong Kidurong, which are underway, would be completed as scheduled.

The other massive development projects earmarked for the area include an ammonia-urea plant, an aluminium smelter and a new airport to name a few.

Smooth Implementation

"Judging from the ways things are being speeded up, the projects in Bintulu should be on time and if there should be delays, such delays would only be slight," he said.

Datuk Patinggi Abdul Rahman said at the Federal-level, the Prime Minister, Datuk Hussein Onn, was personally concerned and anxious to see that the projects were smoothly carried out.

At the State-level, he added, he would continue to do everything possible to ensure their smooth implementation.



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At site inspection: Implementation gaining momentum.

The Chief Minister thanked the Prime Minister who had personally assured him of financial support for the projects in Bintulu.

He declined to give the exact amount but assured that it was substantial.

Armed with a pool of local professional expertise including a number of engineers, economists, town planners, architects, environment, land, legal and corporate finance officers and a Board of Directors from various State and Federal Government agencies, BDA is going about its gigantic task with zeal and determination under the chairmanship of the Chief Minister, Datuk Patinggi Rahman. A former Malaysian High Commissioner to India, Datuk Jumaluddin bin Bakar was General Manager until he left recently to take up a new appointment in Peninsular Malaysia.

Fast Momentum

Since the creation of BDA, project planning, strategies and implementation processes have gathered fast momentum.

A successful conclusion of a US\$550 million syndicated loan to finance the LNG project was made in January last year. With a consortium of major international and local banks and financial institutions with the Lead Manager being Bank Bumiputra (Malaysia) Berhad.

An American-Japanese joint-venture, JGC-Kellogg has been awarded the main contract for the LNG project while for the deep-sea port at Tanjong Kidurong, contracts are awarded in packages.

The LNG plant is expected to export its first shipment of liquefied natural gas to Japan by early 1983, the Chief Minister said.

Deep-water Wharves

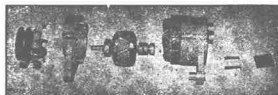
The \$500,000 deep-sea port at Tanjong Kidurong, which is about 14 miles on the coast from Bintulu town, is also expected to be completed by then, in order to be in time for the shipment of liquefied natural gas.

Thank you, YAB Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Abdul Rahman Yakub,
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Clearing earth to make way for the Bintulu boom.

The team of consultants for design, engineering and construction and supervision, descended on Kidurong Port three years ago, had recommended deep-water wharves in the sheltered edge of the wide-sweeping bay - an outer break-water and an inner break-water.

The port will also serve the iron-ore production centre, palm oil from the mills, and aluminium from the smelter, the Chief Minister added.

Storage Facilities

To the north of the port the construction of the bulk storage facilities for storing the oil has been completed.

Oil from the offshore wells will be pumped into this bulk storage terminal and, when convenient, pumped out again into the holes of ships.

The Asean project of an ammonia-urea plant will use some of this gas for its production process. The urea will flow out through this port, too.

Provision is made from an electric arc steel furnace to reduce iron ore to steel. An aluminium smelter - a private project

with some Government participation - will process oil from Australia.

A palm-oil tank farm and processing plant is also designed to take advantage of the rare and fortunate combination of the deep-water port and cheap power available there.

The fractionation facility plant will turn the crude into end product to be pumped out also to ships.

Supporting Industries

The Authority is cognizant of the need for providing supporting industries and services to the main projects now in progress.

As such, the BDA has earmarked three areas covering more than 200 acres for the development of light industrial estates.

The areas are the Bintulu industrial estate, the Kidurong service industry and the Kemena Crossing industrial estate and they are all on the outskirts of Bintulu town.

Datuk Patinggi Rahman explained that the industrial estates will provide suitable space for various manufacturing and service industries including warehousing, food processing, metal works, dockyard facilities, workshop and general services, timber processing and furniture making.

For the Kidurong service industry and the Bintulu industrial estate, detailed planning has been undertaken.

A total of \$9.1 million will be involved in the two projects and by the end of this year, the industrial lots are expected to be ready for sale, the Chief Minister added.

At a later stage, the Kemena Crossing industrial estate will be developed for a timber complex and ship-building industry when water, telephone and electricity facilities are extended to the area.

Datuk Patinggi Rahman stressed that about 173 industrialists have indicated strongly that they will like to buy up the industrial lots and more enquires are being received by the Authority.

Congratulations! May our beloved Chief Minister continue to lead us for many years to come.



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Residential Areas

Below the aluminium smelter site, another Petaling Jaya has every chance of emerging. This will be the Kidurong residential area.

The Authority has recognised the need for the development of adequate housing for the area's population. The population projection for Bintulu town is expected to be more than 75,000 by 1995.

BDA, together with other agencies such as the State Housing Commission, Sarawak Land Development Board (SLDB) and private developers is in the process of developing about 1,000 acres for new residential areas and townships.

The Authority is building 520 units for the staff of LNG project, 60 units for the BDA staff and a similar number of units for the Tanjong Kidurong port workers.

The SLDB and a number of business houses are also building their own houses.

The BDA is also giving priority to the construction of 2,000 units of houses under the Fourth Malaysia Plan for long-house dwellers in the outlying areas of Bintulu proper to ensure that they will be left behind in the mainstream of development.

The Chief Minister said that the Authority is inviting as many agencies to build houses in the Bintulu area. The purpose is to stabilise the price of houses.

Education

The branch campus of University Pertanian Malaysia (UPM) will spread over 150 acres. When it is ready in 1983, the first intake of UPM will be 1,590 students.

By 1995, the student population is targetted to be 5,790. Students and staff of UPM will be housed outside the campus where some housing units have already been started.

There will also be a secondary school for academic education. A new vocational school for technical education will be established early in 1982.

Upstream Production

In line with the Bintulu development, a US\$300 million syndicated loan had been signed by Sarawak Shell Berhad in February last year with a consortium of 15 major international banks and financial institutions led by the Citicorp International Group.

The multi-dollar loan is to finance the up-stream production of both gas and oil, the development of which is in consonance with the implementation of the LNG plant.

No doubt, Bintulu is on everyone's lips today. Both national and international interest and attention have been attracted to the area.

As the development of all the projects gathers momentum, the transformation of Bintulu will be further set in motion and it is in the forefront of becoming a progressive, modern, well-planned and most important industrial growth centre in Malaysia.

Our best wishes and appreciation to YAB Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Abdul Rahman Yakub, for having given 10 solid years of good leadership.



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CM'S PAINSTAKING EFFORT TO PROPAGATE ISLAM



Datuk Patinggi Rahman with Arab Muslims friends: Indepth study of Islam.

Sarawak Chief Minister, Datuk Patinggi Rahman Yakub has a strong faith in the national religion of Malaysia-Islam. He has made an indepth study of the true teachings of Islam and the Chief Minister stressed the need for Muslims especially the younger generations to do likewise.

Datuk Patinggi Rahman has the ability to recite the Quran with a correct accent and he is keen in propagating the Islamic movement in Sarawak and Malaysia as a whole.

His aim is to enable the various races to foster mutual understanding through this common religious belief. In this way, racial prejudice will be removed and the national unity and stability will be promoted.

But if Muslim leaders, religious teachers, imams and ulamas are to propagate Islam effectively and successfully, they have to get better understanding of

local culture and traditions, Datuk Patinggi Rahman said. They are also to co-ordinate their activities and unite their efforts to ensure uniformity in the teaching of Islam.

Remarkable Solidarity

The Chief Minister reminded them not to indulge in disputes with one another. Neither are they to cause dissension among themselves. Datuk Patinggi Rahman told them to solve differences at "a round-table."

"Do not deviate from the right teaching thus causing confusion among the followers of Islam. In any country where it takes place, quarrels between the ulamas are always reflected by quarrels within the Islamic community. When the ulamas are united the community displays a remarkable solidarity," the Chief Minister said.

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Young children learn about the Prophet in school: Increase in Muslim converts.

He regretted that there had been deviations from the true concept of the religion, as stipulated in the Quran, by some ulamas.

He advised the Muslims not to "force their way in" in their efforts to propagate Islam among the non-Muslims.

They should only do so to safeguard the sovereignty and integrity of the religion from being desecrated by non-Muslims or the Muslims themselves.

The Chief Minister also reminded the Muslims not to try to change people's way of life overnight as some ulamas, out of their fanaticism and short-sightedness, had been trying to do so.

Instead, they should follow the strategy, patience and perseverance set by the Prophet Mohammed, who took about 23 years to record and spread the Message of God.

Grave Challenges

To look after the welfare of Muslims, the Chief Minister has formed the Angkatan Nahdhatul Islam Bersatu Sarawak (BINA).

BINA is twelve years old. In this second decade in its life, BINA has been widening its activities to include health and medical services as well as training in vocational and occupational skills during the coming years, in accordance with

the aspirations of BINA youth in particular and the ummat Islam as a whole.

Despite encountering all kinds of challenges, trials, external as well as internal, BINA has survived, moved ahead step by step and fulfilled its basic responsibilities and important aims.

"I wish to emphasise that we must meet the challenges of the future with a united spirit, united efforts and united hearts," said the Chief Minister.

This organisation, since its inception in 1969 would continue to intensify its activities in propagating Islam in the State despite its limited resources.

But with the moral and financial aids from a small number of the well-to-do Islamic nations and individual, BINA of which he is the President is carrying out its work very smoothly.

However, the Chief Minister hopes that more Muslims particularly the affluent group will consider contributing parts of their wealth for the cause of Islam, in view of the grave challenges the world was facing today.

Islamic Unity

The preaching of Islam was given attention by the Sarawak State Government only in 1970. With the enthusiasm and effort of Datuk Patinggi Rahman Yakub, there is a yearly increase in the number of Muslim converts of various races.

The outstanding spirit of goodwill and friendliness of Muslims in Sarawak, under the guidance of the Chief Minister, not only among themselves but also with others angurs well for the overall Islamic unity of the people in the State.

Under his wise leadership, Sarawak saw "rising tides" of conversions and the Muslims of Sarawak have the spirit of brotherly understanding for the new converts and have completely accepted the new converts with respect as part of Islamic community.

Every year, he takes the opportunity to organise various meetings and activities in the State. Religious leaders from the Islamic and Arab world are invited to



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The Head of State Tun Datuk Patinggi Abang Haji Mohammad Salahuddin, in Muslim attire, is a convert.

attend. The hospitality he accepted to these Muslims truly displays the spirit that "All Muslims are brothers."

The Chief Minister has also made frequent visits to the Muslim leaders in the Islamic and Arab world and this has helped to promote closer ties between Sarawak and these countries.

The great service of the Chief Minister to Islam has made him and Sarawak to be well-known in the Middle East.

His efforts have made the people in the Middle East more conscious and aware of Muslims in Sarawak, helping to establish a new connection and contribute towards the overall solidarity between Muslims in Sarawak and those in Middle East countries.

No Distinction

Datuk Patinggi Rahman assured Muslim converts that they are equal in every respect with the other Muslim brothers and sisters.

It is therefore wrong for them to think that they were less favoured or unwanted in the community, he said.

In Islam, there is no distinction of any form among its followers. Instead, Muslims are judged by their behaviour and not by their colours, he added.

"Though many Chinese have become converts in recent years, yet some people among the Chinese community still do not understand the true significance and even spread rumours intentionally in an attempt to prevent the Chinese from embracing Islam," said Datuk Patinggi Rahman.

Political Activities

There have been the existence of a group which does not wish to join BINA. It has been alleged that one of the reasons is because BINA "smells of politics."

"This view cannot be said to be wrong because I, as leader of BINA and a number of other senior leaders in BINA, are also veteran politicians," said the Chief Minister.

"On the other hand, it is not the basic intention of BINA to take the leading role in political activities. I have been able, all this time, to separate my duties as a politician from my duties as member and leader of BINA," he said.

"Nevertheless, it must be clearly understood that our Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be unto him, and his closest companions, peace be unto them, were all politicians while at the same time they carried out their religious duties," the Chief Minister added.

He reminded Muslims that "Islam cannot be separated from the everyday life of mankind. Islam is both for this world and for the next."

Nerve-Centre

The Chief Minister recently disclosed that a piece of land about 100 acres large in Petra Jaya has already been surveyed by the Land & Survey Department for the building of a new state mosque, Islamic centre, a large library and a religious school.

These projects will constitute the nerve-centre of the Islamic movement and it is from this centre that "the light of Islam will shine in the years ahead".

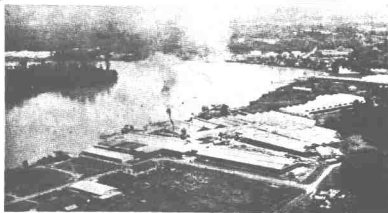
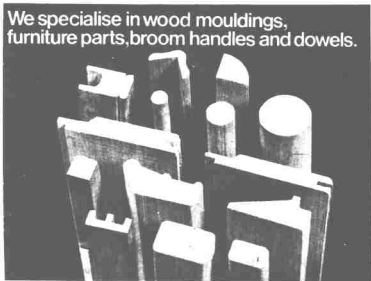
"These projects will take some time to complete. They may even be completed after I have vacated the State leadership. Make sure of the successful completion of these projects," the Chief Minister fervently pleaded to all Muslims concerned.

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EFFORTS TO MAKE SABERKAS A MODEL ORGANISATION



Datuk Rahman: Pillar of Saberkas' achievements.

The Chief Minister, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Haji Abdul Rahman has called on Saberkas' members to continue to safeguard and strengthen harmonious relationship among themselves.

They would in this way ensure their unity and ability to work together towards nation-building, he said.

Datuk Patinggi Abdul Rahman, who is also Saberkas' President has also called on them to intensify their activities for the benefit of the society and country.

He welcomed the move by the Chinese youths to set up more Saberkas Units in the State and he has expressed his encouragement and promised them his full support.

The Chief Minister described these Chinese youths' moves as a step in the right direction which would greatly contribute towards unifying all the communities.

Under his Presidentship, the Saberkas' Co-operative Movement or KOSAB was launched on December 18, 1977.

Joined Hands

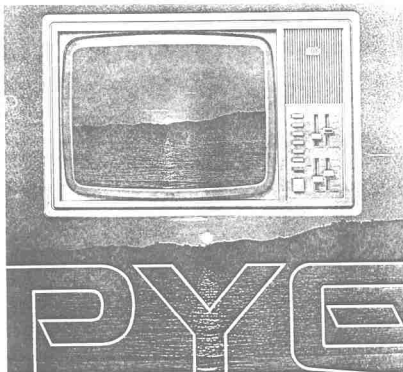
At that moment, the majority of members of the State's youth organisation were native youths.

But, with the encouragement and untiring efforts and dedication of Saberkas' President, Datuk Patinggi Abdul Rahman, today the Chinese youths have joined hands with the youths of other races and greater unity has been achieved.

The Chief Minister pointed out that the move of the Chinese youths to form Saberkas Units is therefore most welcomed.

He also said that the move by more non-bumiputra youths to join the organisation was essential for it to be truly representative of all youths in the State.

On KOSAB, Datuk Patinggi Abdul Rahman stressed that it has been doing very well and he advised members to continue to strive, through their own initiatives and efforts to ensure its success.



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The youths march forward through activities in Saberkas.

Business Know-how

He believed that this is the only way in which they can earn the respect and confidence of not only their own members but others as well.

Datuk Patinggi Rahman congratulated those concerned for their successful efforts in the formation of their own co-operative societies. Their establishments have enabled them to participate in the State's economic development, he said.

The Chief Minister cautioned them against being "too ambitious" and they are advised to plan their operations step by step to ensure the success of one project before embarking into another.

They should approach the other successful co-operative movements not only in the State but also those in Semenanjung and Sabah as well as local Chinese businessmen to form joint-ventures, he said.

Datuk Patinggi Rahman stressed that such will enable KOSAB to use the experience of these people and eventually learn the business know-how from them.

The Chief Minister was confident these experienced people would only be too glad to impart the 'trick of the trade' to Saberkas.

Continued Support

However, he also warned the members of Saberkas to be extremely careful as there would be businessmen who would show willingness to finance their undertakings with a view to using the organisation for other evil purposes.

Datuk Patinggi Rahman reminded the members that they must strive to make Saberkas a model and exemplary organisation which he believed could be achieved if members continue to instil in themselves a will to succeed especially with the birth of Koperasi.

He was confident that their willingness to sacrifice to dedicate themselves towards their duties and work hard would enable them to achieve the aims and objectives of their Co-operative Movement.

On the part of the Government, the Chief Minister pledged its continued support and close co-operation to their commercial and industrial undertakings.

He told them, however, not to expect direct financial help from the Government as he was determined to see Saberkas succeeded on its own feet.

Many members have expressed the hope that Datuk Patinggi Abdul Rahman will continue to lead the organisation.



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A fine view of the government and legislative buildings: A new complex to beat them all. -

The 20-storey government building and the ornamental legislative assembly building, both at Petra Jaya in Kuching are the only two outstanding structures in the area. But they will not be enjoying this status for long.

A giant complex is to come up to beat them all. When completed by the end of the year, it will be the pride of the people.

Display

A model of the proposed vast stadium and sports complex is on display in the centre of the waiting room of the Sarawak State Sports Ministry on the sixth floor of the tall government building in Kuching.

200-acres of land at Petra Jaya in Kuching have been earmarked for the multi-million project. Work on the auxilliary stadium is already in progress.

At the moment, our Malaysia Cup matches are being played at the Jubilee Padang which is not very satisfactory and this stadium is needed soon to be the venue for Malaysia Cup soccer matches from next year.

Showpiece

The showpiece of the complex will be the main stadium with a initial capacity for 25,000. Provision has been made to increase this to 50,000.

The design is based on the plush Singapore National Stadium and representatives of the Republic of Singapore are constantly consulted.

The stadium will also house offices of all the sports associations of the State, making it a truly sports centre for Sarawak.

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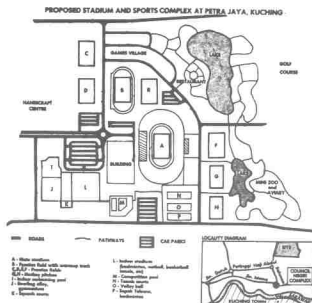
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No decision has been taken yet on the type of running tracks to be laid out at the main stadium and practice stadium.

"We are still studying on the type that will suits our needs," said the chairman of the project, Abang Haji Ahmad Urai who was an assistant secretary in the Ministry until he resigned in 1968 to go into politics.

Justiable Plans

Apart from the main stadium, there are justiable plans for a huge indoor stadium incorporating an arena for indoor sports (like badminton, netball, basketball, etc), squash and tennis courts, a gymnasium, bowling alley and a swimming pool.

There will also be an outdoor swimming stadium, courts for other sports, three other soccer pitches, two hockey pitches and a 36-hole golf course. 5 practice fields, one with warm up track are also planned at suitable localities in the area.

Two artificial lakes, a mini zoo, an aviary and restaurants generously spread over the area, making it into a much-sought-after recreational centre.

A youth centre which could serve as a Games Village when Kuching is ready to host international competitions, is also included in the plans.

A handicraft centre, more roads and pathways and numerous car parks will make the complex the envy of other States in Malaysia and other countries in the region.

Also in the plans is another bridge over the Sarawak River linking the town centre with the complex. It is also hoped that more hotels are included in the plans to accommodate the expected increase in the number of visitors.

"Yet," explains the Ministry's Permanent Secretary Mr. Peter Chong modestly, "the plan is not complete. We are constantly improving on it as we go along."

Multi-million ringgits

The cost? Undeniably, for such a giant complex, it will involve spending millions of dollars in the project.

"It was 60 million ringgit when we estimated it in 1976. By the time it is completed, we would have spent three to four times that amount," said the boss himself, Abang Haji Ahmad.

Shortage

There are some initial doubts as to whether Sarawak will be ready to host at least the Sea Games after the Complex has taken shape.

Sarawak is facing an acute shortage of trained personnel to take charge of the facilities of the complex once they are built.

"We will have to look for qualified people before we undertake such a responsibility," said Mr. Chong.

But with a sports conscious Chief Minister at the helm, an enthusiastic chairman for the State Stadium Corporation, a five-year sports development project just off the ground and a band of keen officials set to put the shoulder to the wheel, Sarawak should soon haul itself out of the ravines and into the forefront of sports in the region.

THANK YOU FOR LEADING SARAWAK FOR 10 YEARS, YAB!

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MALAYS TO CONTINUE TO BUILD A BETTER FUTURE FOR THE COUNTRY



Malay Muslims at prayers: Jealousy guard unity call.

The Malays in the State had been urged by the Chief Minister to mount efforts to jealously guard and sustain their unity.

Datuk Patinggi Rahman is of the opinion that they must never allow any element either from within or outside the State to destroy what they had already achieved.

The Chief Minister warned them that any solidarity break-up would allow the recurrence of the bitter experience, the community once faced in the past.

He encouraged the Malays to minimise any differences among them so as not to allow the undesirable elements to undermine their unity.

Aggressiveness

In an important speech during his tenure, he had called on the Malays to give their full support to the Persatuan Melayu Sarawak (PMS) in Kuching.

The Union, then the Persatuan Kebangsaan Melayu Sarawak or Malay National Union of Sarawak was known for its aggressiveness particularly in the anti-cession activities in 1946.

A spirit of nationalism was effectively cultivated by the Union among the Malays. For this reason, the Union became the target of the British. It also became the target of those sympathetic to their cause.



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A Malay kampung: "Work towards national unity among various races."

Datuk Patinggi Rahman was however grateful that after a long lapse the Union was given a new lease of life by a number of educated Malays led by its present President, Datuk Abang Haji Marzuki Nor.

Sacrifices

The Chief Minister pointed out that more of the writings of the Union on the history of PMS and the biographies of the Union's as well as the community's past and prominent leaders who had dedicated themselves to the well-being of

the community such as Datuk Patinggi Abang Abdillah would further enlighten the future generation with the quality of leadership in the community.

It was through their dedication and sacrifices, he said, that the community could enjoy the positions they achieved today and this would undoubtedly encourage the young intellectuals to follow their footsteps.

Datuk Patinggi Rahman, who is also Patron of the PMS, was confident that through the organisation, the Malays in



Pretty Malay girls in a row.

the State could gear themselves up and continue to build a better future for the community and the country as a whole.

He said, although the Union was no longer a political force, its role particularly in safeguarding the community's right and welfare should be continued.

National Solidarity

The Chief Minister stressed that the Malays, with the Union behind them, should also initiate and work towards forging national unity among the various communities.

He assured that such move was not meant to threaten the unity and integrity of other Malaysians but for the common benefit of all.

It was important that all countries should work towards strengthening their own unity to pave way for greater national solidarity, he added.

Datuk Patinggi Rahman had pledged that he would continue to offer his services to PMS and the Malay Community.

Throughout his patronship, the Chief Minister had assisted in moral and financial grants to PMS to enable its works to be carried out smoothly.

On behalf of the Union and the Community Datuk Abang Haji Marzuki expressed the people's hope that the Chief Minister would continue to lead them towards greater progress.

He also pledged the Union's full support to the Sarawak Barisan Nasional Government.

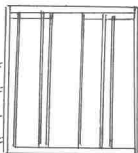


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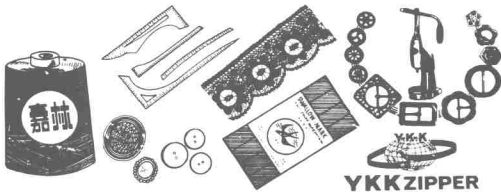
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The Chief Minister, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Haji Abdul Rahman Yakub has called on the heads of the Government departments to pay more attention to the growth, development and increasing responsibility of the human resources.

He firmly believed that it would enable the problem of productivity - the most important feature of proper and responsible management - to be solved in a most satisfactory and durable manner.

Productivity, he said, is the key to our future and was within the framework of the New Economic Policy. He also stated that it would be one of the main objectives of the Fourth Malaysia Plan, as it had been of previous plans.

For too long the worker had been seen as an almost inanimate resource - as someone who was employed to do as he was directed. He has no responsibility and he does not share the decisions concerning his work.

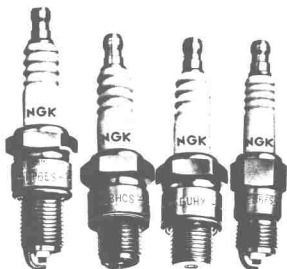
Transformation

The Chief Minister also pointed out that the senior Government administrative officials' main objectives should be the transformation of the work force - from the totally unskilled to executive level - into a workforce of managers.

It implied recognition, by the managers that human resources had personality, citizenship and control over how much and how well they would work, Datuk Patinggi Rahman said.

It also implied that it was realised that human beings could not be human and creative and responsible until they are placed in a situation which afforded motivation, participation, satisfaction, incentives, status and function, he added.

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Feather girl welcome for the Prime Minister, Datuk Hussein Onn: Productivity is the key.

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Satisfy Conditions

The Chief Minister stressed that it was the duty of the manager to example every single job in these terms.

He said that it was also the manager's duty to organise or re-organise these jobs in order to satisfy the conditions he had outlined.

Datuk Patinggi Rahman pointed out that this was good management and only good management could ensure genuine and substaigned productivity on the part of an enterprise.

The Chief Minister said that he firmly believed that government officers should make themselves fully knowledgeable.

He added that they should also be familiar with the role, function and potentialities of good management.

Our heartiest congratulation to Ketua Mentri, Sarawak on celebrating his tenth year as Chief Minister of Sarawak.



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'THINK BIG' DECADE FOR BUMIPUTRAS



Warm embrace between Datuk Patinggi Rahman and Prime Minister, Datuk Hussein Onn. Call for widening of Bumi business interest.

The Chief Minister has reiterated that Bumiputra entrepreneurs should widen their business interests to meet the challenges of this decade.

He had said: "Although bumiputra stake in the private sector is increasing, almost 70 per cent of them are engaged in small businesses only."

"Even the scope or the nature of their businesses is limited by various factors like lack of skill, educational background and also the fact that they are relatively new in this field."

Keep Pace

He urged Bumiputra entrepreneurs to expand and broaden business to keep pace with the times.

"However, in pursuing this objective, they must be aware of the limits of their capacity," he warned.

The Chief Minister pointed out that if they seriously intend to expand or diversify their ventures, they should ensure that they meet the prerequisites before going ahead.

He assured Bumiputra entrepreneurs that the Government will readily help them undertake projects which are considered viable.

Datuk Patinggi Rahman said that Bumiputra economic development has come to a cross-road. "They have a choice either to stick to their small-scale businesses and be contented, or to make an effort to expand their ventures."

Congratulation for making it as Chief Minister for Year No. 10.
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Timber industry is one of the fields where Bumiputras have made inroads.

He lamented the fact that there are still a number of Bumiputras who prefer to remain as "sleeping" partners in ongoing ventures. This practice should be eradicated, he added.

He stressed that Bumiputra entrepreneurs should be helped to rectify this situation.

Greater Participation

The Chief Minister pointed out that the next ten years are crucial for the Bumiputras to fulfil the objectives of the New Economic Policy.

The most important aspect of the New Economic Policy is the greater participation by Bumiputras in the field of trade, commerce and industry in order to restructure our society.

The Fifth objective of the Third Malaysia Plan calls upon the Government and people of Malaysia to: "RAISE the share of the Malays and other indigenous people in the ownership of productive wealth including land, fixed assets and equity capital. The target is that by 1990 they will own at least 30% of equity capital with 40% being owned by other Malaysians."

The sixth objective calls upon the Government to: "FOSTER the development of entrepreneurship among the Malays and other indigenous people so as to effectively contribute towards the creation by 1990 of a strong and viable commercial and industrial community among them."

The Bumiputra community, be they Ibans, Malays, Dayaks or others, appears to be somewhat behind when compared with the Chinese community.

Unshakeable Confidence

"Therefore, we must help Bumiputras to participate in every economic activity so that gap between the Bumiputras and non-Bumiputras would be bridged in time to come," reminded the Chief Minister, Datuk Patinggi Rahman Yakub, who has recently been re-elected as President of Parti Bumiputra Bersatu (PBB) Sarawak.



Please continue to make Sarawak a model state, YAB!
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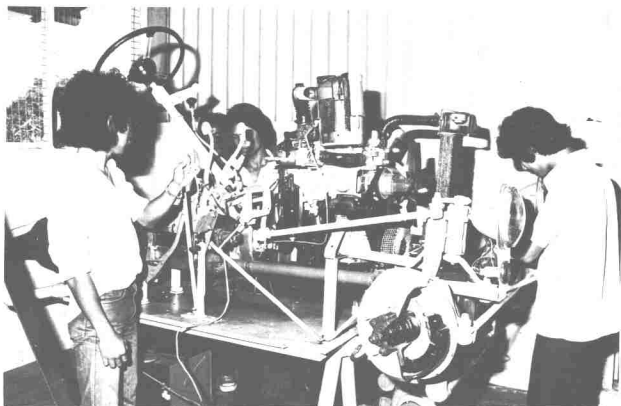
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Young Bumiputra technicians: "The opportunities are there."

That the Chief Minister has been re-nominated by all the PBB branches to lead the party again not only reflects the unshakeable confidence and solidarity of the party in his leadership, it also guarantees the future of the coalition in Sarawak and more importantly, political observers claim, Sarawak's very future.

The PBB in Sarawak, under his dedicated leadership has proved its role and capacity to lead; it has emerged victoriously in a number of challenges including the last elections.

Unity within the party, it cannot be denied, plays an important role in this and this unity can only materialise with dedicated and strong leadership where there is mutual trust and co-operation as well as sincerity and honesty among its leaders.

Ali-Baba Business

The Chief Minister expressed his gratitude to Bumiputra children who can now be said to be on a par with the non-

Bumiputras in the field of education although they are a little behind in the Science stream, just as in Semenanjung.

But this difference has now been narrowed. A number of Bumiputras from Sarawak, especially the non-Malay Bumiputras are taking medical courses and other academic courses overseas.

What the Chief Minister faces now is the finding of hardworking Bumiputras, those who are prepared to work hard to achieve success in the economic field.

"The opportunities are there but the Bumiputras who have the necessary ability are not many," Datuk Patinggi Rahman said.

"It frequently happens that the opportunities made available become Ali-Baba ventures," the Chief Minister added.

The Ali-Baba business happens, especially in tenders within Sarawak for providing food to schools, hospitals and the police.



*Congratulations for making it as Chief Minister for Year No. 10.
Please continue to give us more of your leadership, YAB.*



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Fishing: Problem in finding hardworking Bumiputras.

Bumiputras are given nearly 100 per cent of these tenders. Unfortunately a number of these successful tenderers prefer to sell their businesses to the non-Bumiputras. In return they ask for a small commission.

Political Problems

"At first we deliberately closed our eyes to such goings-on, hoping that these people would be able to learn how to run these business. But when, after three or four years, they continued with this practice, we were forced to take a decision not to let this group obtain such tenders any longer," said Datuk Patinggi Rahman.

This gave rise to political problems and various allegations as in 1978.

He told Bumiputras to stop the "Ali-Baba" type of practice as it would be to their disadvantage in the long run.

"We are adopting too sentimental a policy in the distribution of equity shares," stressed the Chief Minister.

"By giving out too many small shares to Bumiputras, we are effectively weakening their position in their vital sector of ownership of productive capital and forcing them into an untenable position in which they have too few shares to exert control, but just enough to realise a little nest-egg if they share the shares to non-Bumiputras when the price goes up," the Chief Minister added.

"We really cannot blame them for doing this as it is in the logic of their situation to behave in this manner," the Chief Minister continued.

Equal Responsibilities

"If we continue to use such an indiscriminate strategy, is it credible that we shall reach our minimum of 30% control of equity or productive capital by 1990?"

In other words, the Chief Minister accepts the inevitability of partnership and insists that instead of Ali-Baba, it becomes Ali & Baba, with non-Bumiputra and Bumiputra holding an equal number of shares and exercising equal responsibilities.

"Theoretically, this is plausible, but in practice, since the non-Bumiputra businessman is streets ahead of the Bumiputra businessman in expertise, experience, techniques and contacts, I foresee a situation in which Ali & Baba will be steadily be transformed into Ali-Baba once more, and we shall be back to square one," the Chief Minister said.

"No wonder some have defined 'Joint-venture' to mean that the Bumiputras 'join' and the non-Bumiputras 'venture'," he remarked.

Satisfactory Progress

The Chief Minister's biggest project is helping Bumiputras in the timber industry. This is achieving satisfactory progress.

Sarawak Pulp Industry is 100 per cent owned by Bumiputras from Sarawak and Semenanjung. Unitex is also 100 per cent Bumiputra-owned. Raplex is a joint-venture between Bumiputras and Taiwanese in which the Bumiputras own the majority share.

In this field, the Chief Minister does not take 30 per cent as the guideline. Instead he takes 50 per cent as the very minimum.

In a number of joint ventures the number of shares held by Bumiputras is at least 51 per cent. His purpose is to ensure that the Bumiputras interests are genuinely protected by the responsible officials.



Congratulations and best wishes to YAB Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Abdul Rahman Yakub on his tenth year in tenure as Ketua Menteri, Sarawak.

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In a factory: Make full use of facilities call.



The centrepiece of a pewter plate produced for the Parti Pesaka Bumiputera Bersatu Sarawak to honour the 10 years of Chief Minister Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub as state leader.

"If the Malays were not to be encouraged to follow the example of the non-Bumiputras then we would be left behind," Datuk Patinggi Rahman said.

The Chief Minister had even heard statements from one or two Ministers to the effect that it was sinful for the Government to help the Malays to become wealthy.

"I feel that this opinion is incorrect and not in line with the teachings of Islam," he remarked.

Full Use

Meanwhile, Datuk Patinggi Rahman advised the Bumiputras to make full use of the facilities made available to them by the Government for their long-term progress.

He regretted that groups of Bumiputra businessmen had abused these opportunities and privileges.

The Chief Minister also advised them not to listen to evil propaganda spread by a selfish group of so-called politicians whose intention was to divide the people in order to gain support.

He reminded them it was as a result of disunity among the Bumiputras in the past, that Sarawak came under the Brooke Regime and later ceded to the Colonial Government.

He warned them that history would repeat itself if they should succumb to this group of selfish 'politicians'.

Commemorative Items

To mark the Chief Minister's decade as Sarawak leader, the Parti Bersatu Bumiputra Sarawak has produced special commemorative items.

Biggest is a presentation plate in Selangor pewter bearing an image of the Chief Minister, surrounded by an inscription of his name, position and also the date of his 10-year leadership term.

The design is repeated on two coins, which carry the state crest on the reverse side.

The new Minister for Forestry, Datuk Haji Noor Tahir, designed the souvenirs.

Party supporters who had made generous donations to the PBB cause were presented with them while others were offered for sale to party members.

They are also being made available to the public, with the asking price \$1,000 for the presentation plate, \$100 for the bigger of the two coins and \$30 for the smallest.

The plate comes in a wooden box, the \$100 piece in a smaller wooden box and the \$30 encased in plastic.



Thank you, YAB Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Abdul Rahman Yakub, for leading Sarawak for ten progressive years.

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Inspection of the troops: Success in fight against guerrillas.

"I am sure that all will agree with the proposition that we are dealing with the most realistic situation of all, since both in Sarawak and in Semananjung Malaysia, we owe a great debt to our Security Forces which have maintained over the past 33 years, the nation's sovereignty and integrity against the persistent and ruthless attempts of anti-national and subversive terrorist organisations to undermine that sovereignty and integrity."

These words came from Sarawak Chief Minister and Chairman of the State Security Committee, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Haji Abdul Rahman Yakub who believes that success can be achieved as long as the relevant government agencies and security forces including the police work together as a team towards a common objective.

Rascom

In Sarawak, the most sensitive security area is that known as RASCOM, launched in March 1972 by the late Tun Razak, who said that it would streamline the government machinery from District to District, hence enabling policies and decisions to be made and executed more speedily and rapidly.

RASCOM, in the 3rd, 6th and 7th Divisions has a total land area of 22,588 square miles with a population of 320,000.

The three divisions came under a joint civil, police and military command headed by the Chief Minister.

Datuk Patinggi Rahman said last year that communication between the First Division terrorist group and the RASCOM group had been cut off.



We join the people of Sarawak in congratulating YAB Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Abdul Rahman Yakub on his tenth year in tenure as Chief Minister, Sarawak.



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A historic moment: Datuk Rahman and Bong Kee Chok agreeing to the amnesty offer in Bandar Sri Aman.

He added, the First Division group who operated along the border with Indonesia had resorted to plundering and robbery against border villagers to obtain food and money.

Because of the small group it was more difficult to locate them, he said.

On December 13, 1973 about 10 terrorists from a lonely clearing at Sungai Bakong just outside Sibu were air-lifted by Nuri Helicopter back to society, signalling the start of Operation Sri Aman - a major turning point for Sarawak.

Big Concession

By the time Datuk Patinggi Rahman's amnesty offer ended in July, 1974, some 9,600 communist guerrillas, including 264 in the RASCOM area had laid down their arms and came out of the jungles.

The Government, under the guidance of the Chief Minister had shown its sincerity by keeping the promises made to those who came out of the jungles in 1973-74.

The returned guerillas were guaranteed their freedom. They were given fair treatment and every chance to start life afresh. Rehabilitation activities were stepped up. Curfews were imposed only as a last resort and to the minimum duration.

Among the returnees was Sarawak terrorist leader, Bong Kee Chok who now runs a prosperous pig and pepper farm at Serian Road in the First Division.

Bong Kee Chok, Lam Ho Kwai and others are leading not only normal lives but also very happy lives.

Those former guerrillas of Indonesian origin who agreed to come out were allowed to stay in Sarawak, which Datuk Patinggi Rahman described as a big concession.

Hardly Over

But then in July 1978, when the terrorists attacked the PWD road construction project and burned an excavator at Sungai Mador near Binatang, it reflects the continuing nuisance value of the remaining terrorists, indicating that RASCOM's job is hardly over.

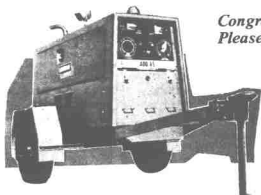
*Please continue to make Sarawak a model state, YAB!
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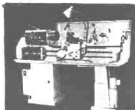
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Tun Abdul Razak, the late Prime Minister of Malaysia, launched RASCOM, the scene in Bandar Sri Aman after the signing of the peace agreement.

To monitor the movements of the people in the RASCOM area, the Tenants Registration Exercise was started in 1972.

The system requires the dealers of restricted and essential goods to be licensed. Besides, a record of daily sales and purchases has to be maintained under the six-year-old food denial exercise covering the three RASCOM divisions.

Through activities such as the Anak Angkat Project, goodwill between the military and local people is fostered. Under this project, school children are encouraged to stay with army units for up to five days.

In 1978, 300 secondary and primary school students were brought to RASCOM.

Appeals

The Government's message of peace and development is carried to the people by the RASCOM units through film shows.

Stage shows are performed by RASCOM troupe, Pentas Anikarama while the RASCOM unit broadcasts music and appeals from the parents and relatives of remnant terrorists and former terrorists.

The Chief Minister has also appealed to the Communist remnant not to waste their time in the jungles and to come out at the time when all sorts of activities designed to ensure a better future of for Malaysians.

He stated that the continued presence of the terrorist remnants in the jungle was irrelevant to the progress of Sarawak and was forcing the Government to spend unnecessarily public money for security, which could be better spent for the advancement and welfare of the people.

Resettlement Schemes

RASCOM, headed by the Chief Minister, has made a great effort in the resettlement of over 6,000 people for security reasons.

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Troops on drill, and youths on the march forward: Clear evidence of peace.

Since 1974, under Operation Empuru, nearly 1,700 people have been regrouped by RASCOM into 15 long-houses at Nanaga Sekuan on the Batang Ulu Oya north of Sibü.

The scheme covers about 6,000 acres. Each family is allotted a pepper garden of 600 acres and seven to eight acres of rubber.

Operation Bebatak followed soon after for the resettlement of about 4,300 people in four schemes near Kanowit and another 400 in Rantau Panjang on the Batang Igan.

The Chief Minister described the general security situation in the State as "very much under control" and as the situation improves, agriculture, co-operative and medical personnel are forming civic action groups to help the settlers make their schemes economically viable.

Evidence of Peace

A clear evidence of peace under the leadership of Datuk Patinggi Rahman is the announcement by the Government of the complete lifting of the activities in the Operations Hammer Area set up in 1966 along the Kuching-Serian Road as a measure to counter communist insurgency.

The Chief Minister said this meant that the residents in the area could go about with their normal lives without any restrictions in the former Hammer Area, marking a significant progress in the security situation in the State.

It also came at the end of the sixth anniversary of Operation Sri Aman.

The Chief Minister said a new sub-district would be created from the former Operation Hammer Area with a Sarawak Administrative Officer (SAO) to be stationed there.

The new sub-district with a population of about 25,000 would incorporate Tapah, Baratok and Siburan and many other kampungs including Batu Sepuloh, Landeh and Saratau.



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HYDRO-ELECTRIC POTENTIAL IN SARAWAK



The fast flowing water of Pelagus Rapids is potential for hydro-electricity.

At this moment, Sarawak is fast developing in its industries. As such, substantial power is needed by the State to boost its industrial development programmes.

It is understood that SESCO or the Sarawak Electricity Supply Corporation is looking into hydro-power to ensure enough power for the State's need, in view of escalating cost in its present operation. Presently, petroleum-powered generating stations are used by SESCO.

Priority should be given to the state's remote rural areas in the Government's rural electrification programmes. At the moment, many rural areas have yet to receive electricity facilities.

The effort of the Government to have electric-power available for the whole state could not have been more opportune now that Sarawak is reckoned as a very promising state.

Accordingly, careful planning is necessary to meet rapid growth in electricity demand in the domestic, commercial and industrial sector, so as to be able to cope with any unprecedented surge of greater demand for electric-power.

Perhaps investigations can be done on using gases from oil fields in the country to convert them into sources of energy to supplement the people's need for years to come.



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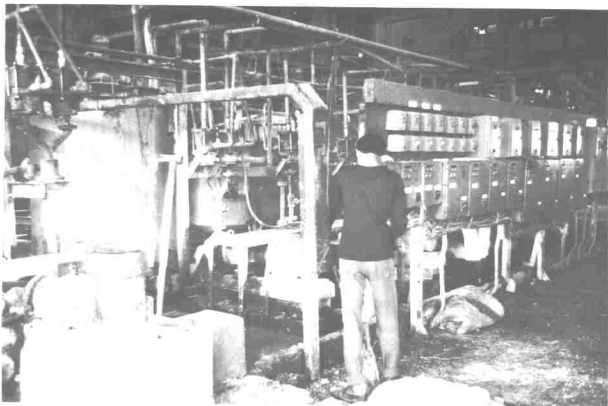
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In a factory: Electricity by hydro would be much cheaper.

Right now, the main interest has been centred around developing the hydro-electric potential of the State.

The Government's masterplan to determine Sarawak's hydro-electric potential is welcome news for the people in the State and if the plan for hydro-power is favourable and given the green light to go ahead, at least Sarawak has enough power to permit steady development for some years to come.

The Masterplan Study will be carried out in two major phases.

Phase I of the Masterplan Study, which began in December 1979 has been ready in the middle of last year.

It was being conducted by the SAMA consortium and SESCO under a technical aid programme extended to Malaysia by the German Agency for Technical Co-operation. (GTZ).

An equipment, comprising a modern computer unit received at SESCO headquarters in Electra house in Kuching from the Federal Republic of Germany was used in the Study.

The equipment which was handed over by the project manager, Encik Vladimir Bohun on behalf of the Federal Republic of Germany, is later to be retained by SESCO.

The main emphasis of the first phase of the Study was put on survey of hydro-electric potential of Sarawak.

The Study would also ascertain whether the Pelagus Rapids in the Seventh Division or another hydro project elsewhere in the State represented the optimum solution for the power system extension in the State.

In addition, the Study would also seek to establish whether high voltage direct current (HVDC) transmission of excess power to Peninsular Malaysia is technically and economically sound.

The results exceed all expectations - the technically utilizable hydro-electric potential amounts to several ten thousands of MW.

There are a big number of possible hydro-electric projects which would produce electricity at a substantially lower cost than thermal power plants.



Congratulations to you, YAB Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Abdul Rahman Yakub, on the occasion of your tenth year in office as Chief Minister.

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A Punan hunter: Electricity for the interior region.

The study also confirmed the technical soundness of the HVDC transmission of Sarawak's surplus hydro-electricity to Peninsular Malaysia.

Preliminary estimates show that the cost of power delivered there is about the same as from large thermal power plants burning natural gas, considering the actual fuel prices.

Since these prices are likely to continue to grow in the future, the HVDC transmission will obviously become increasingly attractive.

It is found out that the Pelagus Rapids in the Seventh Division is among the best hydro-electric projects. An important inter-relationship was revealed with a huge project located upstream - Balui Dam (about 3,000 MW).

If Pelagus Rapids were developed with the originally intended dam height, the favourable Balui Dam site would be submerged.

It may therefore be necessary to reduce the dam height at Pelagus Rapids to a lower level.

Phase II of the Study would be completed by the end of this year.

In this second phase of the Study, more detailed investigations of technical, economic, sociological and environmental aspects will be carried out in order to determine the optimum development of the Upper Rajang Basin i.e. the size and construction sequence of the projects located there.

One of the basic objectives of the natural energy policy of Sarawak is the harnessing of its huge hydro-electric potential.

Therefore, its success will bring about important benefits to all Malaysians as follows:-

- a. The tapping of a major indigenous renewable source of energy
- b. Providing of cheap energy, thus fulfilling the basic prerequisite for the envisaged large-scale development of energy-intensive industries in Bintulu
- c. Reducing of the overwhelming dependence on thermal power plants, which will be an important step towards the envisaged substitution of oil and a diminution of environmental pollution caused by burning of fossil fuels
- d. Arising of secondary benefits in the fields of flood control, agriculture, fishery and tourism, in addition to power generation which will outweigh negative impacts induced by the creation of large reservoirs such as resettlement of population and loss some physical assets.

Our best wishes and appreciation to YAB Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Abdul Rahman Yakub, for having given 10 solid years of good leadership.



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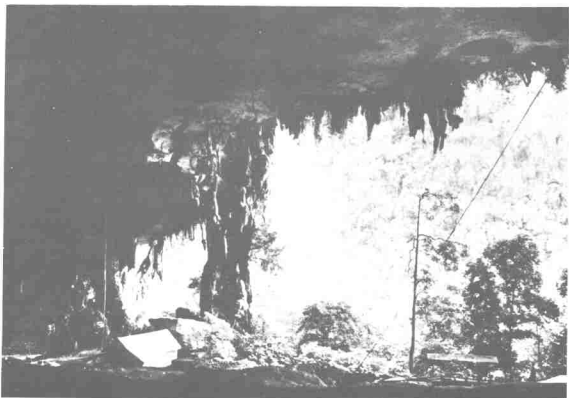
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SARAWAK'S TOURIST POTENTIAL IDENTIFIED



The infamous Niah caves is a popular tourist spot.

Sarawak has a vast tourist potential and the state has already made a famous name for itself in association with an established romance of hornbills and headhunters, the famous Sarawak pottery, private and privateers, and a lot more.

The State is famous for its world-renowned museum which is the unique setting of Kuching with the Sarawak River eddying through its water-front.

Guests at the Holiday Inn in Kuching could book themselves on short tours with a travel agency located on the ground floor.

A road from the State Capital leads to the famous Bako National Park with its few chalets, day-sheds and a research hostel.

Congratulations! May our beloved Chief Minister continue to lead us for many years to come.



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Sape players can draw a crowd, especially outsiders, awed by its sweet tune.



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Then, there is the river cruise, a popular activity of the tourists who are interested in seeing the riverine villages along the Sarawak River.

There is also the beach at Sematan and the overrated one in nearby Santubong.

Getting there is a bit of a bother and because foreign tourists usually have not the extra day to spend in going to the two beaches, Santubong and Sematan are visited largely by the locals.

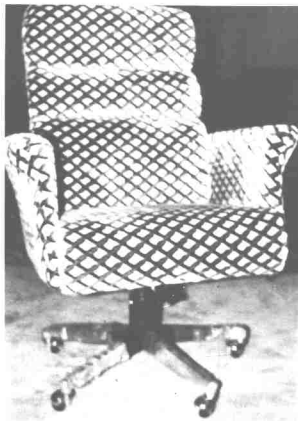
Sarawak is also a beautiful country with miles of jungle terrain to lure the adventurous one.

There, among the dipterocarp forests, accessible mainly along rushing rivers are longhouse settlements of the Ibans.

The State Government is acutely aware of the attraction the Iban natives and their fascinating culture have on almost every tourist.

So, to bring foreign tourists to the heart of the Iban country — the Second Division of Sarawak, the Skrang Safari tour was organised.

We join the people of Sarawak in congratulating YAB Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Abdul Rahman Yakub on his tenth year in tenure as Chief Minister, Sarawak.



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A pretty Kenyah girl: Effort to attract the tourists.

It is perhaps the most exciting of the several tours offered, involving a trip by river to a particular Iban longhouse. Here, activities are planned for the tourists and the tourists get to sleep beneath hanging and grinning skulls, but they have nothing to fear in view of the warm reception and hospitality of the Iban hosts to their guests.

Kapit and Belaga, the home of the Third Division Ibans are near enough by air from Sibul.

Bario could also be reached with no effort. This cool mountain village is famous for its cheap cattle and fair-skinned women.

The much-featured Gunung Mulu National Park is still a worthwhile place to visit though the journey there would daunt even the stalwarts, because one has to go upriver from Miri, taking many long hours.

Transport and road communications in the State are barely adequate for the restless tourists who want to see Sarawak instead of only Kuching.

Therefore, the only way of hurdling the rugged hills and getting to the various destinations with the least wastage of time is flying by MAS Fokkers and BN Islanders.

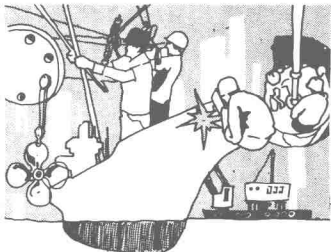
The State Government is now embarking on a serious effort to attract the tourists, not only to earn their dollars but also to show off Sarawak's beauties and assets.

Determined to make up for the neglect of the past, the State's programmes on tourism are actively organised.

A Master Plan study to plan for the orderly development of tourism in Sarawak was started last November.

The 9-month \$500,000 study was carried out by a team of foreign consultants, Thompson, Berwick, Pratt and Partners, appointed by the Tourist Development Corporation (TDC) with the following objectives:-

Thank you, YAB Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Abdul Rahman Yakub, for leading Sarawak for ten progressive years.



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Negotiating the rapids: Transport barely adequate for restless tourists

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a. To determine the potential of Sarawak as a major tourist destination and to assess the existing and potential markets for the development of tourism as an industry in the state;

b. To develop a visitor destination tourism development plan that best utilises the resources, attractions and potentials of Sarawak as they relate to the requirements and needs of domestic, regional and international tourist markets, and

c. To establish an efficient external and internal transportation markets and international gateways of the country.

A number of places in the State were visited by the consultant team to obtain an overview of the tourist potentials.

The final report, when completed will be submitted to the TDC and the Government. It will contain its initial findings and will cover a 15-year tourism development plan.

Hence, the Government recognises the importance of tourism activity that can assist in economic diversification.

It, in working out its economic policies, is aware of the needs of the tourism industry.

Heartiest congratulation to YAB Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Abdul Rahman Yakub for completing 10 years as Chief Minister of Sarawak.



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A longhouse scene: Grinning skeletons and fair-skinned women.



*Our best wishes
and appreciation to
YAB Datuk Patinggi
Tan Sri Abdul Rahman*



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Apart from the funds allocated to TDC for the purposes of tourism development and promotion, the State Government is also spending considerably on projects that have more or less a direct bearing on tourism.

The need to maintain the cultural and traditional values as well as the preservation of the ecological balance should always be taken into consideration when formulating physical development programmes so as to provide a wholesome tourist destination.

Therefore, feasibility studies conducted by the TDC for the development of the tourist resources in the State will help to further boost tourism.

By careful planning, Sarawak's tremendous potential in terms of tourism attraction - a multi-racial population, cultural and traditional practices and activities, science and natural spots - should be translated into tourism resources.

Heartiest congratulation to YAB Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Abdul Rahman Yakub for completing 10 years as Chief Minister of Sarawak.



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Congratulations and best wishes to YAB Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Abdul Rahman Yakub on his tenth year in tenure as Ketua Menteri, Sarawak.

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ENGLISH FOR ALL AND AN EYE ON BAHASA



In a Islamic classroom: Bahasa is the unifying official language.

Bahasa Malaysia, the unifying official and National Language has yet to entrench itself completely in almost every field in Sarawak - primary and secondary school levels, university, industry, government machinery and even in the dealings of many a man in the street.

In fact, approximately three-fifth of the total population in Sarawak are still not familiar with Bahasa Malaysia for reason of being contented with English as a prerequisite for the continued economic, political, racial and educational advancement in this developing State.

Appreciation

And thanks to our Chief Minister, all Malaysians appreciate him for the great contribution he made in the field of education, for it was him as Minister of Education, who implemented the National Education Policy in 1970 and extending it to Sarawak in 1977 and it is during his Chief Ministership that Bahasa Malaysia became an official language in Sarawak.

Datuk Patinggi Rahman has stressed on many occasions that the extension of the National Education Policy to Sarawak did not mean an end to the development of other languages in the State.

Although Bahasa Malaysia would eventually become the main medium of instruction in all schools, the use of other languages was still guaranteed under the Policy, he assured.

The Chief Minister stressed that the ultimate objective of the Policy was to create the Malaysian identity benefitting the independent status of the country.

He hoped, therefore, that the emphasis on the use of Bahasa Malaysia would be clearly understood by all and teachers should make it their duty to allay fears among the people of its implication.

He said Bahasa Malaysia would serve as a force to bind all the communities into one people.

Unprepared

When Sarawak and Sabah entered Malaysia in 1963, the state was given a grace period of 10 years to 'master' the language before it could be made the official language and schools here could continue with English as the medium of instruction.

But this initial concession for Sarawakians to prepare themselves for the

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Students on the move: Sarawak still lagging behind other States.

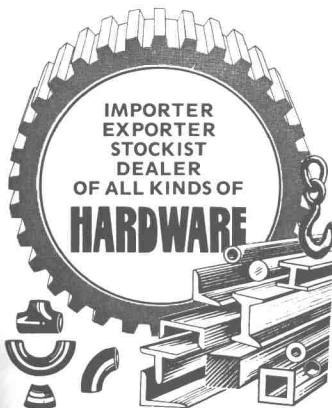
implementation only resulted in putting the clock back as there was no serious efforts by the authorities or the people.

Being unprepared in 1974, when it was due for Bahasa Malaysia to take its official place, the Council Negeri had no option but to pass legislation for English to remain the official language for another five years.

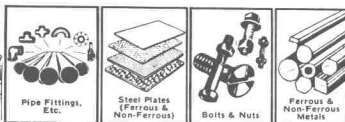
When this period expired in 1979, the decision on implementation still could not be made by the State Government.

And as Sarawak is still lagging considerably behind other States in the study of Bahasa Malaysia, the Chief Minister had introduced a motion in the State Assembly for the continued usage of English as an official language, besides Bahasa Malaysia, for a further 5-year period in the State i.e. up to June 24, 1985.

This would mean that after Sarawak's entry into Malaysia, it would only come in line with the National Language Policy after 20 years.



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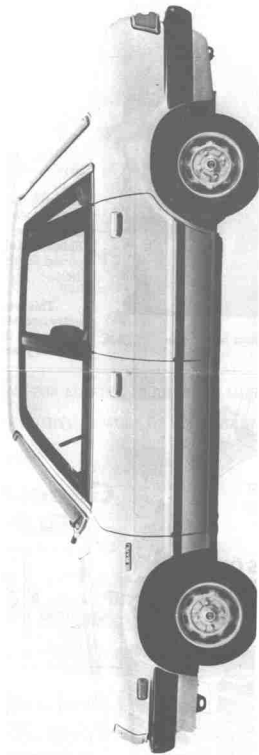


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National Identification

It was widely agreed that the move was a realistic assessment of the language situation in this State.

Various constraints have made it difficult to implement a complete change-over to the National Language at this stage.

As many government officers have not mastered Bahasa Malaysia, it was not in the interest of the State at this stage to do away with English - recognising the fact that English is an international language and a medium for world communication.

"We find there is a real need to continue using English as one of the two official languages for a further 5-year grace period," Datuk Patinggi Rahman said.

The State Government has been trying to get Bahasa Malaysia teachers to teach Bahasa Malaysia to state officers, particularly of the older generations, without much success.

A Late Start

Datuk Patinggi Rahman added that Sarawak made a late start in the study of Bahasa Malaysia.

Schools switched to Bahasa Malaysia beginning with primary one only in 1977 and the first batch of Form V students in the BM medium would only come out in 1987.

However Sarawak was not doing too badly considering the number of Bahasa Malaysia schools in the State at present.

It was claimed that Peninsular Malaysia took 20 years to switch to Bahasa Malaysia. Even then, the Chief Minister said, English was today still being used in certain fields, for example, in the court.

Datuk Patinggi Rahman added that Sabah was in a way fortunate because since the Chartered Company days, it has never stopped the study of Bahasa Malaysia.

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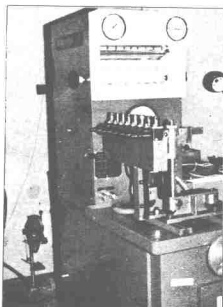
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The CM and his wife welcoming visitors to his house: Mastery of the language vital.

Greater Mastery

On the other hand, the Chief Minister pointed out that extensive efforts, by both the authorities and the general public towards greater mastery of the National Language should be intensified - the noble aims of bringing about national integration and identification.

The current seminar on the implementation of the Bahasa Malaysia Policy in Sarawak should help pin-point ways of bringing about wider use of the language and of improving the population's command of the language.

Providing expanded opportunities for adult education is one obvious way to popularise the use of Bahasa Malaysia.

The role of the media in teaching Bahasa Malaysia could also be more fully explored - with brief daily lessons on television suggested as a relatively simple way of increasing both interest and proficiency in the language.

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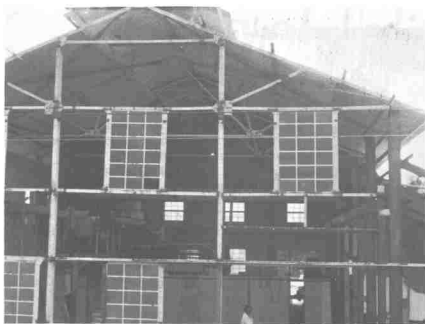
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A dragon dance in multi-racial Sarawak : English continues
to be widely-used.

The production of more reading
matter in the language, catering for all
levels and all interests is another
essential.

The government will make every
endeavour to intensify efforts to use
Bahasa Malaysia particularly in simple
correspondence and memos between
Government departments, among
ministries and officials.

Sarawakians are also particularly
grateful to the Chief Minister for his good
sense to allay fears and suspicions of also
the students and parents alike, regarding
the fate of English as an official language
in Sarawak - the language which has been

for ages an instrument of knowledge,
wisdom, tranquility, justice, development
and prosperity.

It is also claimed that English
Language is the bridge that could get us
across to the arts and science of the
western world and it can be used more
effectively as an invisible vehicle to bring
racial, harmony and prosperity to all
mankind.

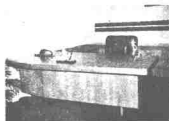
Therefore, Sarawakian people
claimed that if English Language in the
State is to continue to be used, it will bring
strength to the future economic, political,
social and educational development of the
State.

At the same time, it should be a
matter of pride for all Malaysians to
achieve mastery of the National
Language.

The younger generation in the State
is now well on the way to achieving this
with Bahasa Malaysia as the medium of
instruction in lower primary schools.

For other sectors of the population in
Sarawak, the process may be more
difficult.

But with the provision of ample
opportunities to study and use the
language, the next five years should see a
dramatic change in the situation.



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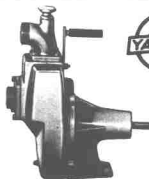
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SIMANGGANG — AN OLD NAME THAT WILL NOT SURRENDER



Datuk Rahman with Tan Sri Temenggong Jugah and Tan Sri Gazali Safie in Simanggang during Sri Aman operation.

Simanggang, the administrative centre of Sarawak's Second Division was officially renamed Bandar Sri Aman, the Town of Peace by the Chief Minister, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub at a community dinner held in the town in September 1978 to mark Malaysian National Day.

He announced the name change partly in response to the suggestion which originally came from a group of townsfolk who put the idea to the government shortly after the communists surrendered.

In 1973, the year Sarawak celebrated the 10th anniversary of its independence as a state within Malaysia, the Chief Minister met Bong Kee Chok, a key man in the leadership of the communist terrorists, in the residence of the Second Division Resident, about a mile from Simanggang. The building was subsequently renamed Rumah Sri Aman.

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There, on October 1973, peace talks began. The following day, agreement was reached and Operation Sri Aman - the amnesty under which the communist terrorists were given the chance to abandon their jungle struggle - was launched. The Memorandum of Understanding was signed on Oct. 21, 1973 leading to the surrender of almost 500 of the communists. Bong had led about 75 percent of the terrorist force back to society.

It is hardly surprising that the government intended the renaming to permanently preserve one of the government's major successes in Sarawak's contemporary history - Operation Sri Aman and also in order to honour the town's role in the 1974 capitulation of Sarawak's communist terrorists.

Given the significance of this event and the desire to commemorate the

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Victorious after the success of Sri Aman.



central role played by Simanggang, a Sri Aman monument is suggested to be built near Fort Alice, Simanggang's most famous building.

Originally this fort was erected at Skrang in 1849, five miles up the Lupar river from the present town. The aim is to establish a new town centre.

However, the site proved to be flood prone. So fifteen years later in 1864, the fort was dismantled. It was rebuilt at its present location, on a hill overlooking both the town and the river.

There, 45 miles from the mouth of the Lupar River, it served as an effective deterrent against the pirates who had long used the area as a meeting place.

With the fort as its centre, the town gradually grew and prospered. The growth and prosperity of the town had accelerated in recent times following the sealing of the 120-mile road link with Kuching.

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Famous fort in Simanggang. The old name is "better".

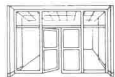
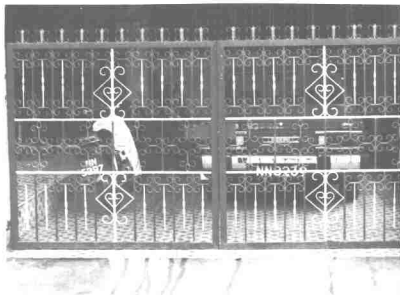
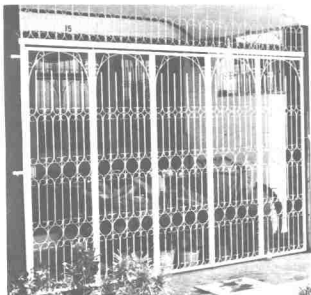
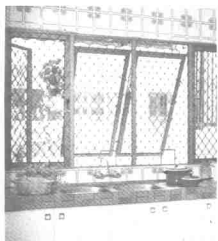
But no matter how much the town develops or how prosperous its inhabitants become, the issue over what it should be called is likely to drag on for quite a few years.

Many of the town's residents, as well as people further a field, are opposed to the name change. As far as the local people are concerned, the town has always been Simanggang and Simanggang it will remain to them for a long time to come. Simanggang is alive and well and today it seems it is Bandar Sri Aman which is struggling to exist.

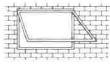
A local Dayak elder said, "The old name is better and beautiful too, so full of tradition. Even before the first Rajah came, my people were using it. It is a Sarawak word and it is not sensible to call the town something else."

A few Kuching officials were inclined to agree. Government publications, press releases and other official documents frequently include references to Simanggang.

Yet there are others who aren't, or at least they weren't opposed to the name change. Perhaps the only ones who strictly adhere to the new name are the state's mapmakers.



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ALUM. TOP-HUNG WINDOW



ALUM. SLIDING DOOR

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CM'S CALL TO BIDAYUHS



The Chief Minister addressing a gathering: Bidayuhs in the past have been "quarrelsome".

Sarawak Chief Minister, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Haji Abdul Rahman has called on the Bidayuh Community to consolidate their unity among themselves. He stressed that it was up to the Bidayuhs and their leaders to forge solidarity.

In the past, the Bidayuhs had been described by Datuk Patinggi Rahman as "quarrelsome and divided".

There was then the lack of such unity among themselves. As a result, the community had been opened to exploitation.

Today, the Chief Minister is particularly pleased with the growing co-operation among the Bidayuhs.

Members of the community are urged to be patient with their new leaders as they need time to sort out the "mess" of the past.

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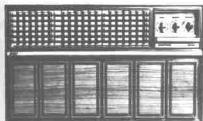
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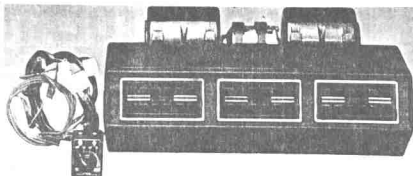
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Datuk Rahman opens a project: "Money would be of temporary benefits"

On the other hand, the up-and-coming leaders in the Bidayuh Community are told to give nothing less than their wholehearted services to the people.

He said that no community other than the Bidayus themselves could look after their own affairs and interests.

Already, there were professionals, like doctors and lawyers among the community and it was time for them to pool their efforts to bring further progress to their people.

Stand United

The Chief Minister also reminded the Bidayus to stand united behind the Government and they should not be so easily bought by politicians during election time.

"The money, however much, would only be of temporary benefits but your long-term political future will be jeopardised," he said.

During one state elections Bidayus were pitted against each other by politicians out to disunit them.

"You must never again consider supporting outside the Government," he continued.

The State Government had provided financial grants to DBNA or the Dayak Bidayuh National Association to build a \$500,000 two-storey building at Jalan Ong Tiang Swee in Kuching.

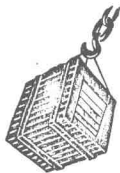
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"The building should be used as a centre for discussing and learning the Bidayuh culture and customs," the Chief Minister said.

Closer Rapport

The Association's President, Encik Wilfred Nisson, said that it was now gearing its activities in the rural areas in order to foster closer rapport between the urban and rural populations.

In this connection, the association has set up branches in various kampungs.

Datuk Rahman Yakub added that DBNA would continue to fight ignorance and apathy among the Bidayuh community which had been an obstacle to development, unity and changes in the community.

The Chief Minister also spoke on the need for Bidayuh villagers to put their lands for their own use and not to part with them as a means to alleviate their financial problems.

This at the most, he pointed out, could only be temporary and they stood to lose in the long run.

Better Understanding

At the opening of three units of Bidayuh longhouses at Kampung Darul Islam at Padawan about 37 miles from Kuching, the Chief Minister called on the Bidayuh converts to practise fully the teachings of their new religion to promote better understanding and unity not only among themselves but also the society as a whole.

He hoped Islam, as a religion of peace and human brotherhood could become a force towards the solidarity and progress of especially the Bidayuh community.

Muslim Bidayuhs are advised to continue to live harmoniously among themselves and practise the teachings of Islam fully as "part and parcel" of their lives.

"As Muslims, you should not hurt the feeling of your own community by denouncing your culture and traditions as these are not detrimental to Islam," he said.

He told them to show good examples in their characters and deeds so as to command the respects and confidence of their fellow villagers of other religions.



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PROPOSED PRIVATE HOSPITAL: A BOOST TO HEALTH CARE



In a clinic. Chances for a private hospital very good.

The private sector is stepping up provisions of specialist health care in the State.

A privately run specialist hospital, with perhaps 200 or 300 beds, has been proposed to be set up in Kuching to cover the needs of the wealthy middle and upper class patients from the three Borneo States — Sarawak, Sabah and Brunei.

Kuching has been chosen the site for such a hospital because of the better facilities available. Again, all departmental headquarters are in the State capital.

The private hospital has no intention to compete with Government-run hospitals. Neither is the suggestion based on any feeling of lack of confidence in the staff of local government hospitals.

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It will run in its humble way of complementing the existing health and medical services provided by the Government in its hospitals.

Private hospitals have already been established in such places as Kuala Lumpur, Singapore and Manila. In these hospitals, there are a wider range of ultra-modern machines and the doctors and surgeons on the staff are generally specialists with 20 or 30 years of experience.

On the other hand, these are lacking in the three Borneo States. In fact, there are only a few specialists or machines of the type to be found in private hospitals. The simple reason is that priority is given by the Government hospitals to providing basic medical facilities for as wide a segment of the population as is possible rather than catering for the needs of a wealthy minority.

As a result, those local people who need specialist treatment - open heart surgery, for example - have to be referred to overseas hospitals, and it costs in the vicinity of \$25,000 to \$30,000. Airfares then account for only a fraction of this total amount.

Even kidney patients from Sarawak have to go to Kuala Lumpur to have treatment on a kidney dialysis machine. Heart cases are also usually referred to the University Hospital in Kuala Lumpur. Even then not all patients can be accepted by that hospital. This is because of the overwhelming demand for its facilities.

All these show the viable proposition of a private hospital in Sarawak.

The proposed hospital will accommodate convalescent patients. Various surgeries will be provided. Laboratory tests and x-ray services are also being planned for inclusion. These will save patients from expensive medical trips to overseas hospitals.

To the overworked doctors and surgeons in the Government-run hospitals, the provisions of these services are expected to be an enormous relief.

A 24-hour outpatient and casualty clinic will also be included in the project. It will handle emergency cases.



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We join the people of Sarawak in congratulating YAB Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Abdul Rahman Yakub on his tenth year in tenure as Chief Minister, Sarawak.



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Primary health care are provided mainly by private medical practitioners and the proposed hospital intended to improve on that. This can be done by increasing their contributions to the medical service.

No doubt, the whole project would require a big financial investment. To build and to operate such a hospital would be a costly affair.

There would be the cost of maintaining and operating expensive hospital equipment, a high doctor patient and nurse-patient ratio, dieticians and so on.

And then an experienced specialist surgeon can easily command a salary of \$15,000 a month or \$180,000 a year or more.

Machines are costly; some have been asking prices which start at \$1 million.

In addition such hospitals would have to employ international chefs of the

type of be found in first-class international hotels. Again, there is of course only one patient per room.

However, it is hoped that the public would take an interest in the hospital and support it. Either a group of doctors or entrepreneurs in Sarawak, Sabah and Brunei will finance the hospital.

The scheduled date on which work on the hospital has not been disclosed yet.

On the basis of the widespread network of services that have been established in the past decade, during the Fourth Malaysia Plan a bigger investment in health and disease-prevention is expected.

As a result, an even more significant role in nation-building will be played by the medical profession and staff.



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Sarawak's multi-million \$ fish production



The vast sea: There is a decrease in total catch.

The total fish production in Sarawak for 1979 was estimated at 1,376,866 piculs valued at \$58,930,564.

The value was based on the average retail market prices at the Kuching Fish Market in the 2nd Division.

In 1978, the output was estimated at 1,281,273 piculs or 77,512 metric tonnes valued at \$188,667,584. Compared with the previous year, the 1978 output shows a decrease of 6.94% or 95,593 piculs. But in terms of retail value it had increased by 18.71% or \$29,737,020. This increase in retail value is due to the higher retail prices of fish and prawns in the markets throughout the state.

The total supply of fish and marine products for Sarawak included the total catch and the amount of fish imported (2,022 metric tonnes) but excluded those exported (1,819 metric tonnes). The total supply, was therefore 77,715 metric tonnes.

Two possible reasons accounted for the decrease in total catch. Firstly, the decrease is due to a sharp drop in the landing of jelly fish with only 18,036 piculs which was 93.20% less than that of 1977. The decline in jelly fish production is due to the absence of the abundance of jelly-fish in Sarawak waters.

Secondly, the decrease in total catch is due to the poor catch experienced by the trawlers and drift-net operators in the major producing area, the First Division. This poor catch is possibly caused by the change of sea conditions during that year.

There was an increase of about 15% or 113,342 piculs to 866,823 piculs in fish production, representing 67.65% of the total catch, in 1978 from the previous year.

The next important gear was the drift gill nets group which landed 217,190 piculs or 16.95% of the total catch. But this amount was 13.78% less than that of 1977.

Congratulations and best wishes to YAB Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Abdul Rahman Yakub on his tenth year in tenure as Ketua Mentri, Sarawak.



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Datuk Rahman has always been a great orator who puts feelings into his words: here, he addresses a gathering during a function.

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A coastal fishing village: Training for fishing engineers and skippers.

The total number of fishermen recorded during 1978 was 9,757. It was an increase of 806 over 1977.

Fulltime fishermen were 7,281 and part-time were 2,476 against 7,070 and 1,881 for 1977 respectively.

Eight fishermen from various parts of the State were sent to Peninsular Malaysia for a two-year training course on fishing engineers and fishing skipper in Penang.

A one-week course was also conducted by the Sarawak Marine Fisheries Department on engine maintenance for a total of 77 fishermen at Kuching, Sibul and Miri.

Preliminary figures on the import of fish and fisheries products, excluding canned ones into Sarawak were 2,022 metric tonnes valued at \$4,648,338.

Figures on the import of canned fish and fisheries products which, as figures were not yet available, were expected to be around 3,000 metric tonnes valued at around \$6 million.

Preliminary figures on the export of fish and marine products from Sarawak showed that 1,819 metric tonnes of various products valued at \$9,259,389 was exported mainly to Japan (76.96%), Singapore (10.55%) and Peninsular Malaysia (5.60%).

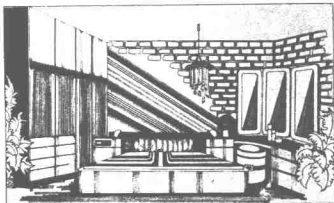
The major export items were processed jellyfish (56.40%) and frozen prawns (34.25%).

There was a sharp drop of 1,814 metric tonnes (41.44%) in quantity and \$12,645,528 (57.73%) in value when compared with 1977.

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Preserving our rich cultural heritage



A line-up of women wearing finery. Museum one of the finest in South-East Asia.

Kuching is well-known for its general museum, indisputably one of the finest in the whole of South-East Asia.

Despite the fact that certain cultural traits had to be sacrificed, the Sarawak State Government had always taken a keen interest in maintaining and preserving the proud indigenous cultural heritage of her people.

Since its inception in 1891, the museum had been actively involved in the indigenous cultures of many ethnic groups (about 20 of them) within a population of over one million in the state.

The museum had always been recognised as the institute of higher learning and the agency to collect, preserve, document, disseminate and provide data and information concerning the indigenous cultures of the people in the state.

Main Attractions

The museum was also becoming the main attraction for the increasing flow of tourists into the country. In 1977, it was recorded that 200,000 persons had visited the museum.

The Sarawak Museum is set amidst beautiful gardens and green lawns. Within the museum ground, a fascinating Dayak totem can be seen together with many age-old sights to gratify a tourist's urge to see something new, something unexpected.

Since its inception, it had built up extensive collections of ethnographic, archaeological, cultural history and historical materials and antiquities in Sarawak in particular and Borneo in general.

Heartiest Congratulation



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Orang Utan: One of the rare jungle animals.

The collections include a reference library consisting of 12,000 volumes on a wide variety of subjects, with an emphasis on local and Malaysian history and culture. It also has many rare and out of print books, the archival materials consisting of official records, school magazines and a large collection of newspapers dating back to the immediate postwar years. The museum also houses historical relics of the Stone Age of the Niah Caves, through the period of the white Rajahs to the present time.

Material Cultures

According to ethnic groupings, adequate representatives of the material cultures of the indigenous people were also put on display in the museum with a floor area of 12,000 square feet. The exhibits were accompanied with adequate relevant blow-up photographs and information.

The museum also attempted to reconstruct and revive a number of cultural activities which were no longer being practised by the people today and was tremendously successful in this attempt.

The most impressive exhibit was the two-apartment Iban longhouse (almost natural size), constructed with local material such as nipah attap and bark inside the museum, under the guidance of two traditional knowledgeable Iban builders.

The apartments were traditionally furnished with heirlooms, war weapons and trophies including human skulls and so on, as if these apartments had been furnished fifty years ago. Another major reconstructed exhibit was the Kelabit grave which include a coffin, cut in the shape of a standing dragon with its head at one end and the tail of the other, and a large stoneware jar under a rock shelter.

When the Kelabit people converted to Christianity, soon after World War II, they had given up this funeral practice.

A card index system had also been introduced, endeavoured to obtain all the missing important data of the material culture accumulated in the museum.

Instead of museum personnel doing the description and interpretation themselves, the museum would even attempt to get the informants to describe each object and to give the meaning and significance of the function of each item, the interpretation of each design, etc. But this would take time because the museum was at present short of staff.

Efforts have also been made by the museum to protect and preserve the many huge, heavy and immovable cultural properties scattered all over the country, including the Kelabit megaliths and rock-carvings, and the Kayan-Kajang-Punan-Melanau burial tombs.

As these objects are huge and heavy, with the present available communication system, it was not quite possible to move them to the museum in Kuching. Casts would be made of the rock-carvings as far as possible.

THANK YOU, YAB DATUK PATINGGI TAN SRI ABDUL RAHMAN YAKUB,
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Life in a longhouse: Greater progress of modernisation.

Oral Traditions

The museum had also a large collection in tapes many of the rich oral traditions and histories, legends and folklores, etc., of the indigenous people in Sarawak in particular and Borneo in general. A good portion of these are contained in the Sarawak Museum Journal which is an annual publication of the Museum in Kuching. Many of these subjects had been of interest particularly to the early missionaries and administrators, some of whom had taken the trouble in recording and transcribing them.

Efforts were still being made to collect as much of these as possible, especially of the minority groups who were undergoing the greater processes of acculturation and modernisation.

Important Source

The Sarawak Museum had also undertaken to film the social, religious and cultural activities of the indigenous people.

Kept in negative albums, the systematically negative of black and white photographs were becoming an increasingly important source of material for scholars.

Since the late 1960s, the museum only embarked in taking colour slides and movies. It had so far concentrated in taking unsynchronised movies on the many festivals and rituals with documentaries and commentaries recorded separately in tapes. Many of these festivals and rituals were no longer being performed today.

A synchronised camera had been purchased by the museum. With more funds forthcoming, the museum would embark on filming such cultural activities as the traditional ikat Iban blanket making (pua kumbu), the traditional Iban pottery making, the Punan blowpipe making and other cultural practices that were either being given up or in the process of being given up.

The latest series of movies taken were on the major festivals connected with the agriculture cycle of the Bidayuh by Professor W. Geddes of the University of Sydney in collaboration with the Sarawak Museum.

Staff

Since after World War II, more than fifty Ph. D. candidates and other full-time academicians had been sponsored by the Sarawak Museum to undertake sociological and anthropological researches among the indigenous people.

On completion of their thesis, these researchers were required to submit a copy of the thesis to the museum together with copies of photographs and tape recordings collected while involved in the fieldwork.

Since the Sarawak Museum had on its staff a local qualified ethnologist, foreign scholars have been decidedly restricted from coming in. Instead more local students would be recruited and sent for specialised training. Since 1967, the staff of the museum had been 100% localised.

The limited staff of 41 was a multi-racial community, representing all the major ethnic and several minority groups in the state.

According to Mr. Lucas Chin, the Curator of the Sarawak Museum, this sort of set-up has established a very good rapport with the people in the state and such is advantageous to a museum. Knowledgeable elders can be called upon for consultation and advice on any cultural matter.

"In other words, the museum is very much a part of the people who take pride in serving their rich cultural heritage."

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Gawai in culture – rich Sarawak



Ngajat is a necessity during Gawai: Excellent opportunities to learn customs and traditions.

Like most other countries, Malaysia is popularly known for her various distinguished celebrations in the multi-racial country.

Equivalent of Hari Raya of the Malays, Christmas for the Christians and New Year for the Chinese is the Gawai Dayak for the Dayaks of Sarawak.

Gawai Dayak is a festival which is participated in by all sectors of the Dayak community comprising the Ibans, the Bidayus, the Kayans, the Kenyahs, the Kelabits, the Bisayas, the Muruts, the Berawan and others. Hence, this festival plays a very important role in strengthening the inter-communal relations of the people of Sarawak.

New Year

Gawai Dayak marks the beginning of the new year with the ending of the harvesting season and the upcoming activities connected with preparations for the new harvest season.

The festival is an occasion to rest after the strenuous work carried out over the past year and consists of both religious and social elements.

It is also an ideal occasion for the Dayak community races in Sarawak to display their rich heritage of traditions and customs. It is generally felt that it helps to retain many elements of Dayak custom and tradition which could otherwise be lost and which may well help to strengthen the cultural life of Malaysia, an opinion shared by many Dayak leaders in Sarawak.

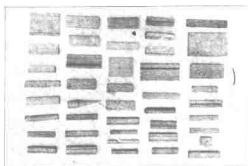
It also offers an excellent opportunity for people of other races to learn a little of the customs and traditions of the Dayak people of Sarawak.

HEARTIEST CONGRATULATION TO YAB DATUK PATINGGI TAN SRI
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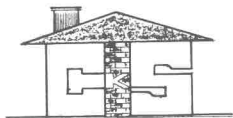
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The feather dance: An occasion to rest after strenuous work.

Gawai Dayak is an occasion for the Dayak community to give thanks to God for providing them with their daily needs over the past year and to pray for future blessings and religious guidance in the year ahead.

Unaware

The festival is celebrated annually on June 1. Many people are still unaware of how it came about that June 1 came to be set aside as Hari Gawai Dayak for the Dayak community of Sarawak.

It was only in 1957 that a forum organised by Radio Sarawak first raised the idea that a special day should be set aside for the Dayak community of Sarawak.

The then colonial government was called upon by the influential Dayak leaders of that time to declare one day as the official date for Gawai Dayak.

Unfortunately the matter was not taken seriously by the colonial government until late 1962.

At that time all the other races had their own festival days and because of this it was considered right and appropriate that the Dayaks should have a festival day of their own.

The fact that the Dayak races comprised some 45 per cent of the population of Sarawak, the largest grouping in the state strengthened this argument.

Then on September 27, 1962, at a meeting of the Council Negeri, one of its members, Mrs. Tra Zehnder proposed a motion that a special day be set aside for the celebration of Gawai Dayak.

By having a Gawai Dayak, the Dayak community would be able to return the hospitality of the Malays at Hari Raya, the Chinese at New Year and the Christians at Christmas.

According to Mrs. Zehnder who was also a member of Sarawak Dayak National Association, this subject had already been discussed by a number of the leaders of the Dayak community.

However, the colonial government did not accept the motion.

It felt that this might raise differences among the various Dayak races. Moreover, the request was supported by only a small number of Dayak elders in the urban areas of Sarawak.

The colonial government thought however, that Gawai Dayak could be incorporated with the Sarawak National Day.

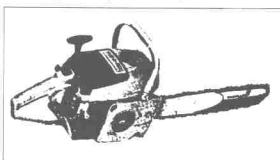
With the formation of Malaysia, the question of a Hari Gawai Dayak was once again given careful consideration.

This time, Datuk Stephen Kalong Ningkan who was Sarawak's first Chief Minister and his Cabinet Ministers unanimously agreed that a day specially for Gawai Dayak should be agreed upon.

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A pretty girl going through her paces.

Approval for this motion was also given by Tun Abang Haji Openg, the Governor of the State.

Finally, Hari Gawai Dayak was gazetted as an official public holiday on September 25, 1964 and Gawai Dayak was officially celebrated for the first time on June 1, 1965.

Different ways

Gawai Dayak celebrations in various different ways among the different Dayak races can be observed. Differences in the traditional forms of celebrating Gawai Dayak can also be observed from one area to another.

However, the basic idea behind the Gawai festival is maintained - that of merry-making and of giving thanks to God.

The majority of the Dayak people are rural farmers who must spend the whole year seeking a living in the fields and jungles of the interior. Hence it is very fitting that Gawai Dayak is a time when families try to re-unite in order to celebrate the festival together.

Thus, those who are working far from their longhouses usually make a point of returning home to join their families for Gawai Dayak as with the festivals of the other races.

In the towns, each Dayak family will gather together on the night of May 31 to have a Gawai feast at midnight in the same manner as Chinese families do at New Year.

This is a time for them to renew their resolutions for the coming year and pray that the coming year will be one of health, happiness and prosperity.

Interesting Features

Gawai Dayak festival is highlighted with many interesting features, adding to the attractiveness and gaiety of the occasion.

For most visitors, the most interesting feature is the crowning of the Kumang, the most beautiful of the Dayak maidens.

This is followed by the selection of the Keling, the most attractive of the young Dayak men. They are invariably dressed in tradition Dayak clothes.

At the same time, other exciting competitions are also held. These include dancing, cockfighting, blowpipe shooting and others.

The various Dayak families always start off the festival by holding open house on the following day, the first day of Gawai Dayak.

Although this is a Dayak festival, people of other races and religions are able to join in for this day is a public holiday in Sarawak.



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They visit their Dayak friends to wish them a happy New Year. The Dayak families treated them to cakes and other delicacies. The visitors are also served the traditional Dayak drink of tuak.

More Traditional

A trip to the longhouses in the rural areas during the occasion is a must. Here one will observe a more traditional form of Gawai Dayak.

A feast is also held for all the inhabitants of the longhouse and each family contributes its share of the food and drinks for this feast.

The Dayak families begins the festival by heating gongs of all shapes and sizes at midnight on the night of May 31. One will notice that everybody here is dressed up in their traditional finery which is a must for this occasion.

The 'miring' ceremony is also performed, by which the Dayaks pray to Betara, the major God of the Iban religion.

A religious man of the longhouse conducted the ceremony. In one of his hand, he carries a red chicken and in the other a white chicken.

The red chicken represents life and success for the coming year while the white one is believed to represent the souls of all those people who have passed away.

With these chickens in his hands, the religious man circles around the 'miring' objects praying.

It is believed that through this prayer, prosperity and health for all members of the longhouse can be ensured. Without this 'miring' ceremony, no Gawai Dayak festival would be complete.

It is surprising that like most Chinese there are among some of the Dayak races who are also superstitious in one way or another. There are certain things they are forbidden to do during the Gawai period but these differ from place to place. They are not allowed, for example, to sweep their houses during this period for it is believed that to do so would be to sweep away all the good luck for the following year.

Ceremony Ends

Officially, the Gawai period lasts for two days. The Gawai ceremony in the longhouse will end when the Tuai Rumah cuts down a special post which has been erected for the Gawai Festival.

However this does not mark the end of Gawai itself for the people continue with their merry-making and feasting with their families and friends. Most Dayak families continue to receive their friends and relatives for a period of one week.

Thus it is no exaggeration to say that Gawai Dayak is an occasion that helps to cement closer ties of friendship and goodwill among the various races of Sarawak.

Then, once the festival is over, the longhouse returns to normalcy as the people once again start with their work on the next harvest season while those who work elsewhere return to their jobs.



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The big 'escape' from the mad rush



The pretty seaside: The escape from the bustling city life.

If a tourist wish to "escape" from the maddening rush of a bustling city life or a change from his dull routine for relaxed holidaying, he can find solace in the serenity of the palm-fringed sand and sea of peaceful Sematan, about 70 miles west of Kuching.

For a long time, the town was known only as a bauxite producer. In the mid-60s the area went into a rapid decline, when its mineral wealth ran out.

The Bau-Lundu Road which provided a direct link with Kuching had led to Sematan's discovery by tourists. With its opening, came a modest influx of tourists from Kuching and from places as far away as Sibu, and even some foreign tourists, hence giving the local businessmen a new lease of life.

Attractions

These holiday-makers can have it both ways - the peace and quiet of an unspoilt beach with palm-shaded surroundings, and the comforts of a waterfront bungalow.

The palm-fringed sand and sea of peaceful Sematan has plenty to offer to picnickers - a broad expanse of sea for swimming and fishing, the unspoilt beaches to wander and collect some of Sematan's exotic seashells along them, and the panoramic view of the turtle islands in the distance. There's plenty of shade provided by the tall coconut palms along the spacious beachfront.

Opportunities

The influx of tourists brought with it new business opportunities such as the

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Scenes of Sematan: The search for the peace and quiet.

sale of batik, turtle eggs and local handicrafts, the most impressive of which are seashell necklaces and ornaments.

Asia's equivalent of outlets - satay stalls, mee rebus and mee goreng shops, as well as the ubiquitous ice kachang and chendol sellers' shops are also set up. Prospective tourist-associated businessmen also helped to supplement local incomes from fishing, as well as from small coconut and horse-rearing projects. Horse-grazing near the beach offer another rural touch to the setting.

Fishing Industry

The waters of Sematan provide good yields and the demand of the public for

the fish is strong. Sematan has a small but economically viable fishing industry with a lot of each day's catch being packed in ice and trucked to Bau, Kuching and Lundu.

Jellyfish are also harvested in the area. When treated and packed correctly, these are shipped off to Japan where they are a great culinary delicacy.

Drawback

From the point of view of a traveller looking for some peace and quiet, and the beauty of an unspoilt tropical beach, Sematan had lost its attraction. What was previously a quiet backwater, which played host to a modest influx of visitors, was turned into an often crowded and noisy tourist centre.

But another road re-established it as a quiet waterfront retreat.

Today, instead of travelling to Sematan, local day trippers drive the much shorter road from Lundu to Siah Beach, which was virtually inaccessible before the road was built.

Now it is Siah not Sematan, that suffers the blare of transistor radios brought by shop and factory workers looking for a change, albeit a noisy one, from life in Lundu, Bau and Kuching.

Sematan's businessmen are, understandably enough, far from happy about this switch to Siah but for anyone looking for quiet relaxation, the change is a welcoming one.

Turtle reserves

It also means there is less danger of visitors invading Sarawak's turtle reserves near Sematan. These are centred just off-shore on the Talang-Talang islands.

The islands are officially designated as nature reserves and are only open to the public for a short time each year, usually around June or July.

Yet enforcing this restriction becomes difficult when there is a large influx of holidaymakers.

Today such worries seem to have passed, hopefully for good. Sematan is once again a place where only a few go to get away from it all and to enjoy a little relaxed holidaying.

CONGRAT CONGRAT

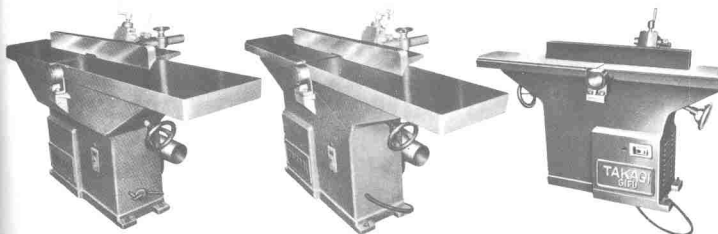


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Rahman : Father of UKM



Datuk Rahman with the Tun Abdul Razak and the present Federal Minister for Federal Territory, Datuk Amar Taib Mahmud.

Before Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Haji Abdul Rahman Yakub was first sworn in as Chief Minister on July 7, 1970 as leader of the Sarawak Coalition Government, he was a senior Federal Minister holding the education portfolio.

A year before Merdeka, the Razak Report of 1956 had discovered that the British colonialists had made use of its education system to stultify the progress of Malay intellect and to divide the various races.

Malay education then was not neglected but prevented from progressing on the excuse that such progress would change the character of the Malays and encourage migration from the rural areas to the towns.

Denying the Malays secondary education produced unexpected results.

Aspirations

But with Datuk Patinggi Rahman as the newly appointed Minister of Education in 1969, aspirations for a Malay University was born.

Until today, the establishment of the Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM)

is the highlight of Datuk Patinggi Rahman's contributions in the field of education.

He was motivated by the realisation that, deep in their hearts, all true Malaysians were mourning the neglect of their national language.

Therefore, on May 13 the same year, he declared firmly and convincingly that "The National Education Policy will be fully and concretely implemented from 1970".

Brave and farsight words from a man of foresight.

And thus began the history of and pride in national education in this country.

All patriotic Malaysians greeted the important announcement made by Datuk Patinggi Rahman with intense feelings of joy and gratitude.

Right Decision

The confidence and conviction of Datuk Patinggi Rahman that he had made the right decision were born in the crucible that brought together the education question, the background of political turbulence, and the demand and

THANK YOU, YAB DATUK PATINGGI TAN SRI ABDUL RAHMAN YAKUB,
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Datuk Rahman and wife attending the swearing into office of Deputy Chief Minister Datuk Alfred Jabu.

aspiration of the people who wished to see their mother-tongue gain dignity and an appropriate position in seeking its own identity.

As a founding father of the UKM, Datuk Patinggi Rahman never lost track of the hopes and aspirations of the people who had deep-rooted feelings of love for the mother-tongue which had to be given its rightful place in its homeland.

Datuk Patinggi Rahman made it a point that the UKM to be the climax of the implementation of the National Education Policy in which Bahasa Malaysia would be the medium of instruction and whereas other languages would be taught just for the purpose of acquiring knowledge.

At its inception, the university had two objectives to provide academic status to Bahasa Malaysia at the highest level of the National Education Policy, and to offer places to rectify the imbalance in university education.

Meaningful Role

Datuk Patinggi Rahman played a meaningful role in the implementation of the policy and this was deeply appreciated by the people.

The active steps he took to implement it have changed the future of this country.

They were also a highly-effective contribution to the efforts being made to correct the socio-economic imbalances between the bumiputras and non-bumiputras within the context of national development.

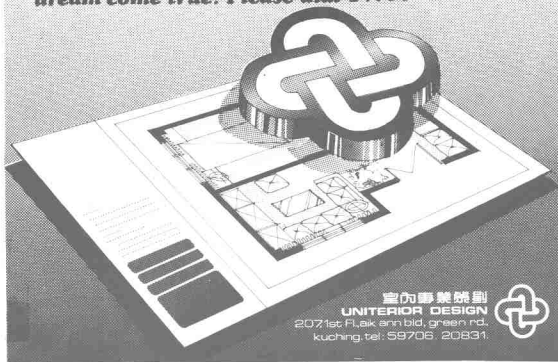
Thus, Datuk Patinggi Rahman made sure that the UKM was not set up merely to chun out students with paper qualifications, but rather with farsightedness, rationale and realism to produce trained personnel to meet the nation's specific manpower requirements while at the same time to ensure the enshrining of the country's national language - Bahasa Malaysia.

New Life

Hence, within the short span of three months as Minister of Education, Datuk Patinggi Rahman brought new life to national language students. Renewed confidence were given to Malay-medium students who had previously been doubtful of their future.

This, in itself, was an extra-ordinary achievement on his part.

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The people's love and gratitude to Datuk Patinggi Rahman for his great services to the cause of national education are still being demonstrated in the massive support he has been given in the State General Elections.

What he has achieved in this field and the achievement of the National Education Policy cannot be separated.

The success of the National Education Policy is also his success.

Sad Event

When Datuk Patinggi Rahman resigned from his appointment as Minister of Education to return to Sarawak to become its Chief Minister, students of UMK and of the University of Malaya demonstrated protesting his resignation.

They begged him to remain as Minister of Education and many of them wept.

A local newspaper there, the Berita Harian report of the sad event carried the caption:-

"His Children, UKM students feel that they are being left behind before they can show their love and affection for him as their father."

The Chief Minister had to fly to Kuala Lumpur to personally explain his reasons to the University students which they accepted.

In honour of his outstanding services to education and the national language, on June 14, 1975 Datuk Patinggi Rahman was conferred on by the UKM the Honorary Doctorate of Law at its third convocation.

His efforts and services will always be remembered by everyone who cherishes the national language and wants it to be accorded its rightful and proper place in our Malaysian society.

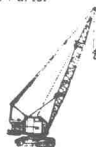
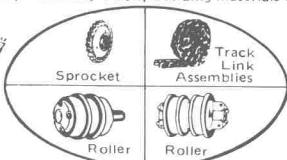


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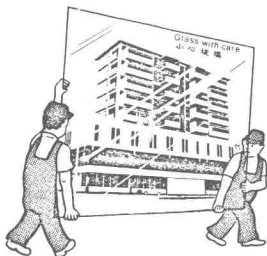
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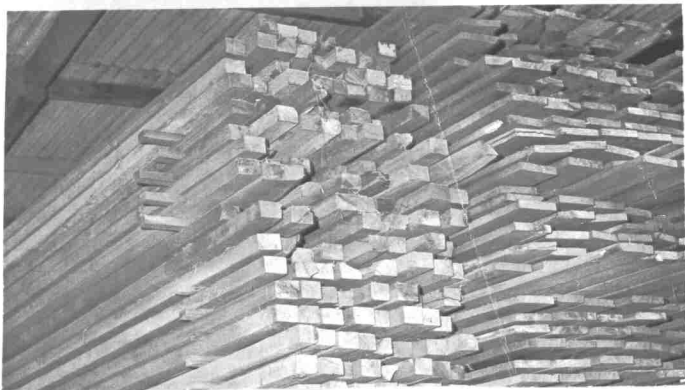
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