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Cover artwork by Alec Chin

From the Editor

In this issue, *The Leader* joins the country in celebrating the 50th anniversary of Merdeka (Independence). Our articles revolve around this theme, which has sparked a lot of ideas among the editorial team. Despite many ideas, we are sorely lacking in writers and contributors, resulting in additional work on the team members, most of whom are full time employees in other USM departments.

So, we are pleading to our alumni to write in two-page articles and short notes. We are also in need of old as well as candid photos of life during different times of the university's history. Many of the photos in our collection are quite "stiff" and somewhat unfit for publication. As such, we welcome your photos, however unclear they may be.

We thank those who have supported our effort via letters, e-mails and SMS messages. Keep them coming, they keep the team in spirit!

A new department, "*Beyond the Gates*" is introduced in this issue. It will feature topics which are uniquely Penang and which form part of campus life, even though the subjects covered are outside the campus. We are quite certain alumni will have numerous memories of Penang Road, becas, and rides on the ferry that are worth sharing with other alumni. This is one area where we would like you write on.

Our next issue will focus on *Balikampus* (see poster at back cover)! It certainly is THE time to come back to campus and meet long-lost friends, and to make new ones through casual activities. You must surely have some memorable moments during your campus days. Make a story send them in.

Finally, the team would like to wish our Muslim readers a fruitful *Ramadhan*. Drive safely and have a happy 'Eid ul-fitr.



Editor
Mohamed Talhah Idrus
B. Soc. Sc. '74

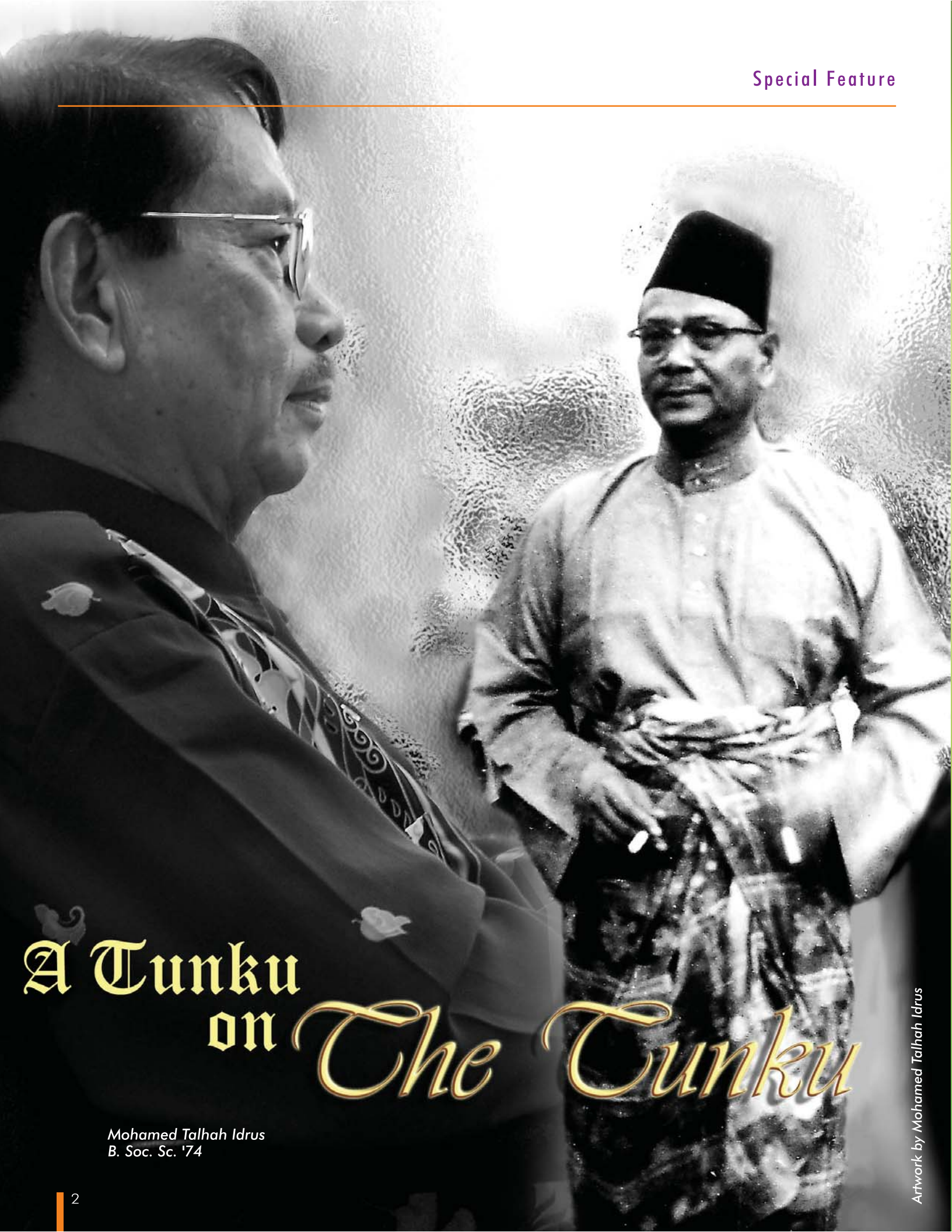


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A Tunku on *The Tunku*

Mohamed Talhah Idrus
B. Soc. Sc. '74

When Tunku Abdul Rahman, dressed in his now famous attire, came out of the Residency on the morning of 31 August 1957, a young Tunku Ismail was ready with his camera. He clicked the moment into history.

That young Tunku is now businessman Dato' Dr. Ismail bin Tunku Mohamad Jawa, once the Dean of the School of Educational Sciences (PPIP), USM. Although known as an academic to alumni, especially those from PPIP, he can also be viewed from other angles - a writer, a member of a royal family, or an *orang Kedah* (a man from the state of Kedah).

One interesting fact about him known to only a few is that his birthday falls on 31st August!

As a young man, it did not take long for Dato' to realise the importance of his birthdate - it was on the same day that *Merdeka* was to be proclaimed. Even though he did not exude extraordinary jubilation about this, he did mention, with a hint of pride, that the tea party held at the Residency after the declaration of *Merdeka*, doubled up as a special birthday party held for him by his family.

He is also the nephew of the first prime minister, Tunku Abdul Rahman, **The Tunku**. In fact The Tunku publicly mentioned Dato's father, Tunku Mohammad Jawa, as being responsible for him getting to study in England and paving the way for the independence incentive.

The Tunku is probably one of the most recognised Malaysians of all time. As such, there has been a scramble to claim associations with him, to claim to knowing various aspects about him.

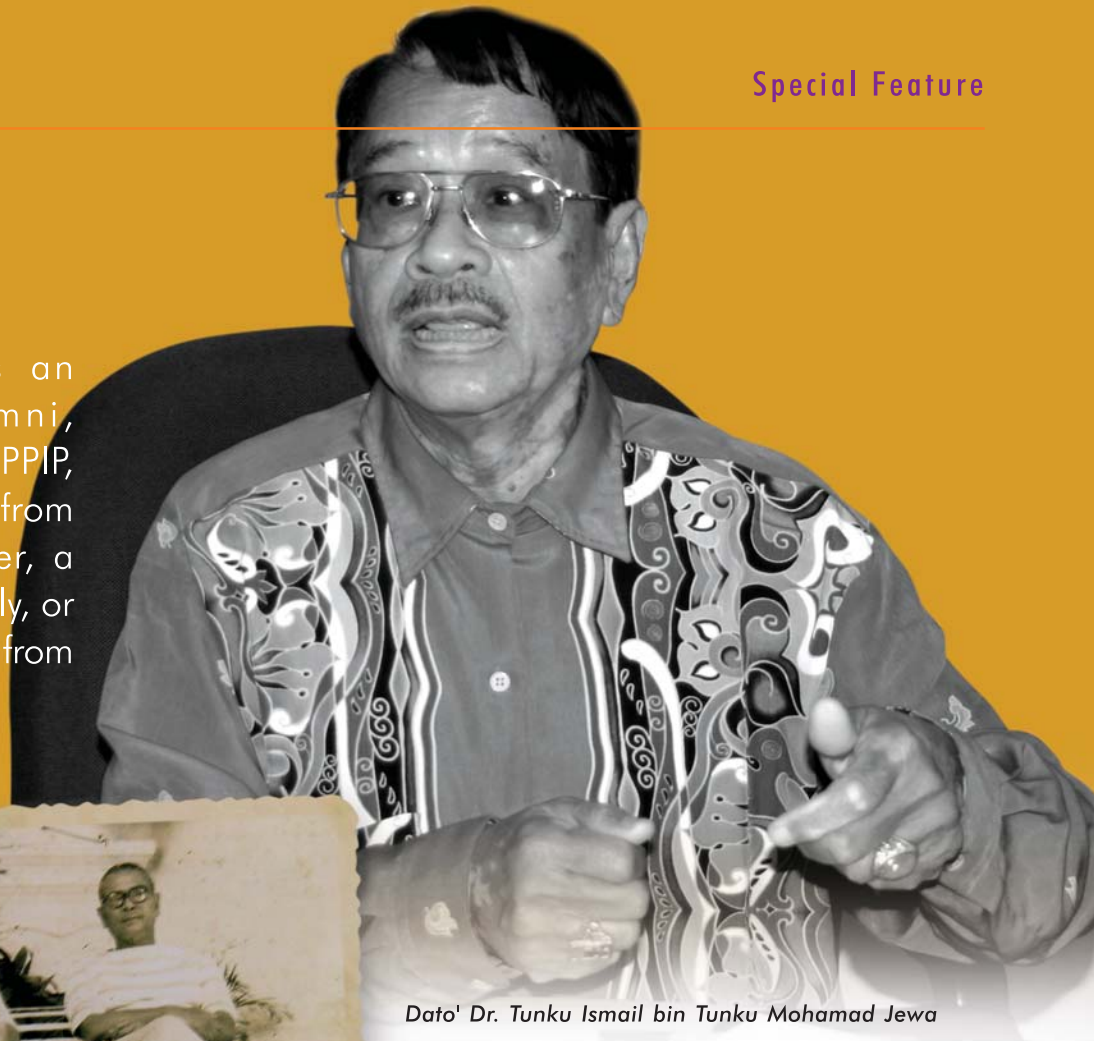


A seventeen year-old Tunku Ismail in 1957

*Stepping right
into history*

A Tunku on THE TUNKU

Although known as an academic to alumni, especially those from PPIP, he can also be viewed from other angles - a writer, a member of a royal family, or an *orang Kedah* (a man from the state of Kedah).



Dato' Dr. Tunku Ismail bin Tunku Mohamad Jewa

as he related in a 1976 newspaper clipping shown by the Dato'.

So it was quite natural that on 31 August 1957, Tunku Mohamad Jewa was one of the guests of honour during the proclamation. Dato' came along, in a Rolls Royce, no less!

Dato's recollections of these memories, together with photos of him with The Tunku, plus insights into uncle-nephew conversations shed a different light on The Tunku. We were introduced to a prime minister who was close to his family, one who maintained close relations with his siblings till the end of his life.

Before and after the proclamation of independence, Dato' and his family was with The Tunku at the Residency in Kuala Lumpur, as evidenced by the vintage photographs in his collections. The young Tunku Ismail may not have realised it then, but recorded pictures of fifty years ago truly gave some insights into the event and The Tunku himself.

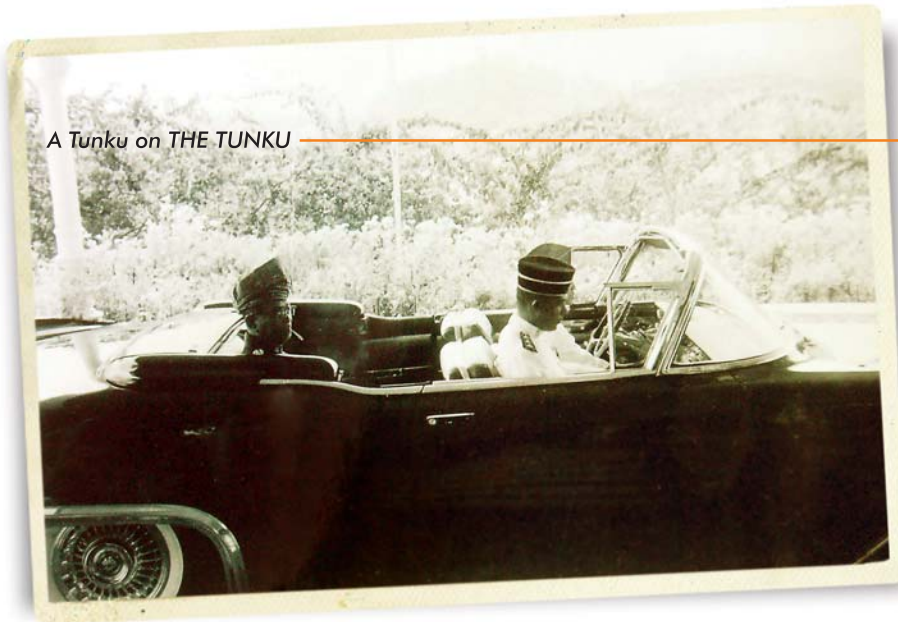


From right: The Tunku, Tunku Mohamad Jewa, Dato'

Dato' Dr. Ismail does not have to claim any of these. Not only does he know The Tunku, like other Malaysians, as *Bapa Merdeka* (the Father of Independence), he also knew The Tunku as an uncle, as *Ayah Tam* (the dark-skinned Uncle) as he fondly recalled a number of times during the interview with *The Leader*.

His father, The Tunku's elder brother Tunku Mohamad Jewa, was the person responsible for The Tunku getting a scholarship to study in England, which set the *Merdeka* process into gear. The Tunku cherished this deed,

A Tunku on THE TUNKU



In attempt to begin with British-free images, The Tunku ordered a new Cadillac for use on 31 August 1957

When The Tunku got into the newly-imported Cadillac, he froze another historical moment. During the week-long celebrations, the seventeen year-old Tunku Ismail was busy recording history. The photos are now gems, probably eyed by collectors and historical buffs.

Despite his close ties with The Tunku, Dato' is rather humble about the whole thing. During the interview with *The Leader*, he talked about it based on the list of questions we posted to him earlier. It was only upon further questioning that he did elaborate. And we learnt a lot. Personally I learnt quite a lot of new things especially through pictures of The Tunku and *Merdeka* celebrations which I believe few have seen.

Having these photos explained by The Tunku's nephew, who was a grandstand participant throughout the historical event, shed much new lights, and for lack of a better expression, was simply exciting.

For years, I have taken for granted the classic image of The Tunku with his right hand raised. And a beautiful picture at that too, especially with The Tunku in a regal Malay costume. It never dawned on me the reason for the costume; or maybe I missed a line somewhere.

It was only when Dato' showed the picture of The Tunku emerging from the Residency in that costume that something clicked. Dato' repeatedly mentioned The Tunku entering and being driven off in the newly-imported Cadillac, while he snapped shots. My head spinned with Cadillacs, Morris Minors and Rolls Royces. I can't

recall ever hearing of, what more seeing American cars in *Malaya* (then) even in the sixties. "Of course Tunku did not want to use a British car. He ordered a Cadillac to show our independence from Britain". Ah! So that was why he was not wearing a suit and tie either. I had to apologise for not realising the importance of it all!

It comes as no surprise that Dato' reemphasised The Tunku's aspiration for a united Malaysia. He did not just sloganise about it, but lived it. He adopted a number of non-Malays as his own children, and employed many of them to work and be close with him. Apart from The Tunku's adopted children, Dato' specifically recalled *Ah Seong*, The Tunku's personal valet who took care of The Tunku and his family's personal needs.

Sadly these people are lost in unrecorded history, while casual acquaintances and those who had dubious records were approached by some media in the effort to know more about The Tunku. Doubly sad is how The Tunku faded into oblivion during his last days. In fact very little has been written and projected about those last days.



The Tunku's trusted valet, Ah Seong, and an unidentified child

The most prominent Malaysian is remembered largely via the images of his raised hand on 31 August 1957. Should not more images be publicised and hyped so that Malaysians will not only know *Merdeka*, but also The *Bapa Merdeka*? I am quite sure Dato' Dr. Ismail will be a willing contributor.



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Photographs courtesy of Dato' Dr. Tunku Ismail bin Tunku Mohamad Jewa

Hong Shoe
Beyond The Gates
Muntri Street 10200 Penang. Tel: 04-

The Perfect Fit

Yong Chek Yoon

Photographs by Zamhari Ahmad
- B. Mgmt '04



Artwork by Rusly Jamaludin

WE MAKE BEADED SHOES

Beyond The Gates

The Perfect Fit

SINCE 1960

A deceptively humble shop located smack in the old quarters of George Town has earned much praise from those who need a pair of comfortable footwear. Though occupying a rented premise, the success story of Hong Kong Shoe Store began a few years before the start of World War II in Malaya.

"My father Wong Sung Choy was about 10 years-old when he came under the apprenticeship of a famous shoemaker Foong Yit Sin in Klang (Selangor)," said Wong Heng Mun, 44.

Yit Sin, a Khek immigrant, unselfishly imparted all his knowledge to Sung Choy who had become his favourite student before war broke out in 1942. Life was a misery as there were food shortages but it was even more tormenting for Yit Sin because he could not obtain his supply of opium to satisfy his gnawing addiction. Unable to cope with the withdrawal symptoms, Yit Sin drowned himself in Muar River in Johor.

Left on his own, Sung Choy went to Ipoh to seek his living. There he was quickly offered employment because of the fame of Yit Sin and also because of Sung Choy's skills. He stayed on for a while and finally decided to move to Penang.

"He obtained employment soon after his arrival but jealousy at the place of work prompted him to leave," said Heng Mun.

An instinctive survivor and a budding entrepreneur, Sung Choy who was then 12, decided to venture on his own at Hutton Lane. Five years later, his business rapidly expanded when he subcontracted work from other shoemakers in Penang.

However, Sung Choy's business had to move several places - Hutton Lane, Logan Road, Agyll Road, and Chulia Street - over the years whenever his tenancy contract ends. It was a tough time but finally he found a more permanent place in Muntri Street.

Made-to-order beaded shoes since 1960



Typical workshop and shoe-making tools



Heng Mun (left) being interviewed by the writer

The Perfect Fit



Master shoemaker (left) with Jimmy Choo and Heng Mun
(Photograph courtesy of Wong Heng Mun)

It was said that Dato' Jimmy Choo Yeang Keat OBE, better known as Jimmy Choo, had a short stint learning about shoemaking from Sung Choy during the early years at the Hutton Lane. Jimmy Choo later went to further his studies in London and became a luxury fashion designer best known for his exquisite hand-made women's shoes.

"In 1960s, beaded shoes (*kasut manik*) were in vogue and these exquisite creations were sought after by the rich and famous," Heng Mun who took over from his father in 2004 told *The Leader*. "My father ventured into producing beaded shoes."

Heng Mun added that it has continued to be popular until today. However, it is unfortunate that the high-quality coloured glass beads from Germany is no longer available. Such beads are in demand as unlike plastic beads, they hardly lose their luster over time.

A pair of such beaded shoes can cost several hundred ringgit and a red pair that Heng Mun showed *The Alumni* was tagged at RM580. Despite the price, these are still in demand.

A shoe for the **golden lotus** feet that was never collected



One of the 'relics' in the shop is a pair of leather shoes no longer than six-inches in length or about 2 inches shorter than the size of an adult's foot. It belonged to an unknown Chinese woman with 'golden lotus' feet-feet that are tightly bound at a very young age to retard their growth. The woman never came to claim what would have been her much-prized possession. She presumably died before being able to do so and it remained on an exclusive place on the shelf since.

His customers included members of the Kedah royal house, socialites, professionals such as ballerinas and clowns, and people with special needs such as those with huge or deformed feet. They came to have their shoes made from a choice of materials, using either their own design or those from catalogues. There are different types of leathers and all of which are imported. Shoes are custom made by five experienced workers and each pair may take up to three months to complete depending on the complexity of its design.



Custom-made clown shoes for oversea clients
(Photograph courtesy of Wong Heng Mun)

For more than half a century the proof of the Wongs' superb workmanship lies on the feet of their satisfied customers. The business that Sung Choy established has been able to survive the competition from all segments of the modern footwear industry. It is because long before the emergence of fanciful marketing terms, Sung Choy has been able to carve a market niche, create a brand, and work in tandem with the evolving needs of his customers.



Yong Check Yoon is currently the Editor/ASEAN Fellow 2005 of National Poison Centre, USM. He can be reached at cyong@notes.usm.my

new I have I keep them in the book...
the Leader treasured items in the book...
a magazine cupboard. The leader
are kept in the top shelf meaning
of No. 1 importance.
I wonder it is possible if
as many people / grads read the
Leader. It's a good way of getting
in touch, reminiscing the past topic
of discussion at home with my family,
strengthening a sense of belonging &
concern to the university. Once we
pay for this magazine is OR

Part of the handwritten letter by Ani

Datin Shamsiah (Ani) Mohamed, B. A. '73

"... I just love to read **The Leader**. I keep the magazine among my treasured items in the book/album and magazine cupboard. Copies of **The Leader** are kept on the top shelf, meaning of No. 1 importance. It is a good way of getting in touch, reminiscing about the past. It provides topics of discussion at home with my family, strengthening a sense of belonging and concern for USM . . .

For me, since I graduated, I have never forgotten the memories of USM. Wassalam".

Dr. Muhammad Ikmal Mohd Said, B. Soc. Sc. '76

The Leader is an interesting magazine which brought back memories of my days in USM. It has nice colour photos too. My suggestion is, **The Leader** should write about the history and physical developments of the university in terms of its location, layout, buildings (old and new) and environmental management.

Congratulations to the editorial team!

Asha Suresh Chand, B. Pharm. '92

I am truly impressed with **The Leader**. Tremendous effort, dedication and love have been put into the publication of this magazine. Having served as an editor myself during school days, I know for a fact that this is not an easy task. Having a vision is one thing. But, having a team that works tirelessly to make this vision a reality is a true blessing. I'm impressed by the depth of the articles in **The Leader** magazine. It is informative and helps us Alumni associate and establish ties with our alma mater. Here's wishing the editorial board all the best and thank you for bringing back the glorious memories of yesteryears.

I look forward to more.

My father said

“We are FREE!”

Hamima Dona Mustafa
B. A. '73

Artwork by Rusly Jamaludin

My father said "We are FREE!"

It was 1957. I was eight years old. Brother No. 3 and 4 were hunting for flies on the hibiscus leaves. When they spied the insects they slapped the leaves between their palms and flattened the flies. Being the eldest child, I was entrusted to watch over my siblings so they did not slip into the murky water of the clogged drain in front of our rented, two-storey link house in Western Road (now known as "Jalan Utama"). Sibling No. 5 was perched on my left hip. A string of paper flags was strung between a male rambutan tree (my grandmother told me so because it would not bear fruits no matter how hard we prayed) and another scrawny fruitless tree.

My father who had just returned from the Harbour Board (as the Penang Port Commission was known then) where he worked as a tally clerk brought out a stool from the kitchen. He got up on the stool to reach for one of the flags in the buntings. He tore it from the string.

"Why, bapa?" I asked.

"Kita merdeka (We are free)," he said.

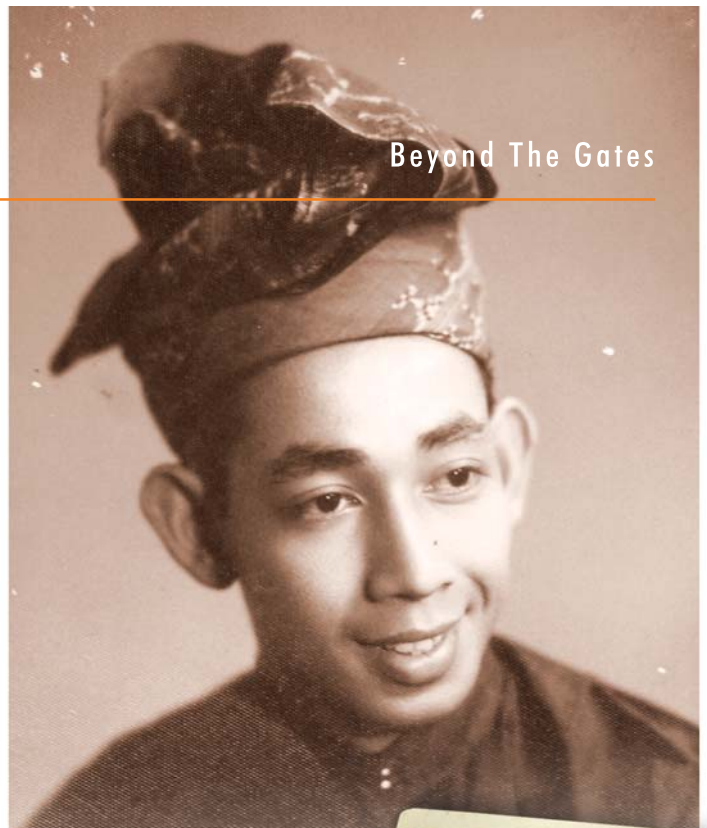
"Why did you tear that flag?"

"This is the flag of England. It is the Union Jack," bapa explained.

I did not understand what that was all about.

My mother used to grumble, "*Miting, miting. . . beras di rumah tinggal tin*" ("Meeting, meeting. . . the rice bin is empty"). Indeed, I remembered my father returning home late into the night when we were staying in Edgecumbe Road (also known as *Kampung Harriet*) on many occasions because of countless meetings with his friends in the political party, UMNO (United Malays' National Organisation). Little did I know that the quest for Independence was gaining momentum.

When I was in Standard Four, at the National School, Datok Keramat, "Merdeka" meant a public holiday and some of us were selected to go watch a movie, free of



The late Mustafa bin Hamidon in 1946.

Mustafa (wearing arm band) with two Pemuda UMNO members in 1946.



charge, at the Capitol cinema hall. I remembered that the film was in black-and-white.

In the early years of Merdeka, UMNO used to celebrate the nation's independence in the UMNO Hall (*Dewan UMNO*). I recalled my father as the Master of Ceremony (MC) on more than one occasion. Sometimes Merdeka's anniversary coincided with the Eidul Fitr celebrations. When that happened the festivities were held at *Padang Tambun*, an area around what is now known as *Lorong Kulit*. Penang Malays came out in throngs to wander about the fair grounds, brightly lit by fluorescent as well as multi-coloured lights. Several wooden stages were built for various performances. *Boria*, a drama and dance performance which took root in Penang during the pre-British era was a must in the programme.

My father said "We are FREE!"



However, all was not in vain. In 1983, my father and those who fought against the Malayan Union were honoured by the nation. They were invited to form a contingent of UMNO veterans to march at the Dataran Merdeka during the celebrations. One could see the ailing ones being pushed in their wheelchairs. It was obvious that their spirit had not died.

A *boria* performance comprises two sections. Three to four men, some dressed as women characters, would act out a sketch carrying a theme or a message. After discussing and resolving the issue the actors would be joined by a group of singers-cum-dancers called "sailors". The band would start the group's tune. The "sailors" could be uniformly-dressed in white long-sleeved shirts, bow-ties, dark slacks with brightly-coloured sashes. Sometimes, they wore whatever was appropriate to the theme. They would form two rows behind the leader or *tukang karang* who would hold a decorated baton and would take the mike. He would start off the song with a verse identifying the theme of the performance and the name of the area or institution which he and his group represented. The "sailors" would repeat this in a chorus after each new verse sung by the leader. Usually, the tune was a catchy one and the "sailors" would dance to the tempo. As was the norm, various groups all over Penang would compete for "the best *boria* group".

"In 1983, my father and those who fought against the Malayan Union were honoured by the nation."

My father composed a *boria* story carrying the theme of *Membela Kemerdekaan* (Fighting for Independence) before 1957. As we were growing up, my father used to remind us every so often that his *boria* story did not win the competition. Instead the group, headed by the late Datuk Ahmad Daud, which performed the theme of education received the trophy.

Two groups participating in a *boria* competition in conjunction with **Pesta Pulau Pinang** in 1978.



My father said "We are FREE!"

In July 1999 I turned 50. A few weeks before my father passed away in December, he requested that we record some of the things he wanted to say. I asked him to record the verses he wrote for his boria group.

The following was the beginning verse which signified the theme, "Fighting for Independence" (*Membela Merdeka*) as well as the institution represented, the Penang Port UMNO (UMNO *Pelabuhan*).

*Semangat Hang Tuah datang menjelma
Pemuda Melayu tidak percuma
Membela kemerdekaan maksud utama
UMNO Pelabuhan sedia bekerjasama.*

(Translation:

Hang Tuah's spirit reincarnated
Pemuda UMNO is not to be trifled with
Fighting for independence is our main aim
Port UMNO is ready to cooperate.)

Some of the other verses were:

*Semenjak mangkat Bendahara Seri Maharaja
Kerajaan Melayu mula muram durja
Muslihat penjajah mula berbaja
Kemerdekaan hendak dirampas dari rakyat dan raja.*

(Translation:

Ever since Bendahara Seri Maharaja died
The Malay Administration started to be depressed
The colonialists' intrigue intensified
Independence was to be wrested from the people
and the raja.)

*Tahun empat puluh enam sejarah yang berperistiwa
Kedatangan McMichael sebagai pengambil nyawa
Kepada Sultan-sultan telah dipelawa
Serahkan kemerdekaan Malaya dengan tidak ada dakwa.*

(Translation:

The year '46 was an eventful, historic one
McMichael's arrival sounded the death knell
The Sultans were ordered
Submit Malaya's independence without any compunction.)

*Kemarahan umat Melayu mula bertunas
Dengan sangat cepat telah jadi bernas
Darah yang beku meruap panas
Kemerdekaan mesti dirampas dari tangan yang ganas.*

(Translation:

The Malays' wrath started to smoulder
With great speed it became fiery
Frozen blood became steamy hot
Independence must be wrested from violent hands.)

*Dato' Onn bin Jaafar pemimpin yang terulung
Menyatukan umat Melayu seluruh Semenanjung
Pakat muafakat tolong menolong
Agar nama bangsa Melayu tetap disanjung.*

(Translation:

Dato' Onn bin Jaafar was an excellent leader
He united all Malays throughout the Peninsula
To agree, cooperate and help one another
So that the name of the Malay race would be held in high
esteem.)

In 1967, Cik Lailan Yoesniar, our Malay Language teacher, at St. George's Girls' School, asked us to write and submit our essays for a national competition to celebrate the tenth Merdeka anniversary. Not too long after we submitted our essays, one Monday morning, during the weekly assembly, Mrs. Poh Sin Bin, the Principal, announced my name as the second winner of the competition. I received RM120 and a certificate signed by Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Al-Haj, the Prime Minister. My father was so proud of it that he had a wooden frame made to display the one-and-a-half foot long certificate. It hung on the wall of the sitting room for quite some time. I was eighteen.



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Photographs courtesy of Hamima Dona

The Relics of War

The entrance

In 1942, if you had conducted a reconnaissance flight over the area where *Desa Bakti* or *Persiaran Sains* is today, you would have seen a lush green secondary jungle. Little would you know that under the canopy of leaves and deep within the bowels of that little knobby hillock are four concrete bunkers.

These bunkers were built by the British probably in same year - 1930 - that they constructed the military installations on a 7.8-hectare site in *Batu Maung Hill*, 10 kilometers away from *USM*. The bunkers were built in anticipation of a war that took another 11 years to happen or two years after the completion of work at *Batu Maung Hill*. Despite the many stories of bravery, sacrifice, humiliation of defeat, and death during the war which had been well documented in popular books, none had mentioned about any of the bunkers in *Penang*.

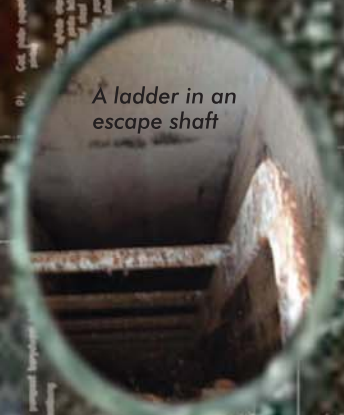
According to the information gleaned from the *Batu Maung War Museum*, these incredible military installation at *Batu Maung* involved the British Royal Engineers heading a workforce of local labourers who blasted and dug into the hill, in the middle of the jungle, to build a warren of tunnels and bunkers, bearing in mind the absence of modern technology.

In *USM*, the three surviving bunkers have been turned into chemical storerooms with the integrity of the structures remaining intact, including the thick steel doors sealing off the chambers inside. Apparently one of the four bunkers had been blasted and it was said that this bunker was unique as it interconnected with one of the three remaining ones by a tunnel.

As soon as you enter the passageway, you can see two openings measuring 1.5 meters high and 0.6 meter wide, on your left and right. As you complete your approximately 67-meter walk in pitch darkness in a stooping position in the tunnel you will realize that you have emerged from the opposite of where you have entered. It is probable that the purpose of the tunnel was to lure the enemy into the claustrophobic confines to be ambushed. One of the labels above one such tunnel in a *Batu Maung* bunker stated that it was for protection against air-raid which possibly could not be true. It is a certain death trap should any part of the tunnel be obstructed and it does not has any ventilation ducts.



Ventilation shaft on the hill top



A ladder in an escape shaft



The bunker's passageway



The escape shaft close to the ceiling

After a 10-meter walk along the passageway that bends midway, like an elbow, from the entrance, you will be staring at rusty heavy iron doors bolted to the wall. They open up to a 151.2 sq. meter-chamber, about the size of a luxurious condominium, with a 3-meter high ceiling! There are grooves in the walls suggesting the locations of wooden battens embedded in the concrete, posing as gun racks. The ceiling is of solid steel beams with giant rivets to hold them in place. They had a gargantuan task to support the weight of the earth and vegetation concealing the bunkers for more than five decades.

As you stroll around the chamber you will be amazed by what went into the design: camouflaged by trees and shrubs, ventilation shafts located on the ceiling pop up above the ground on the hill. If the enemy tries to break down the massive steel door, the occupants within the

The riveted steel beams of the bunker's ceiling

The deep escape shaft in the ground

chamber can escape by crawling on hands and knees through a small rectangular profiled steel tube leading to the top of the hill. The bunkers remind you of a rabbit warren equipped with contingency measures to increase the chances of survival.

As you leave the bunker, you cannot help but marvel at its par excellence engineering ingenuity, considering the time when most jobs were dependent on sheer human labour. Yet books did not mention about these super structures. Only "Lee Yoke" was named as "a supervisor" to me by his son Lee Khai Chee in the '80s when I was researching for an article about the bunkers at *Batu Maung*. Unfortunately, "Lee Yoke" took the secret with him to the grave long before I managed to interview him.



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“Ramadhan, a blessed month, has come to you during which ALLah has made it obligatory for you to fast. In it the gates of Heaven are opened, the gates of hell are locked, and the rebellious devils are chained. In it ALLah has a night which is better than a thousand months. He who is deprived of its good has indeed suffered deprivation.”

(Hadith narrated by Tirmidhi)

*Wishing you
a blessed
Ramadhan*

*& a joyous
Eid-ul-Fitr*

DIFILEMKAN Form O

COLONY OF NORTH BORNEO
THE REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS
ORDINANCE, 1948
CERTIFIED EXTRACT — BIRTH CERTIFICATE
(Section 31)

Serial No. 385/57

Date of Registration 31. 8. 57

Name of Child Hairani B. Hanafiah

Date of Birth 31. 8. 57 01076

Sex Female

Place of Birth Ky. Parit

Father's Name Hanafiah B. Abdullahman

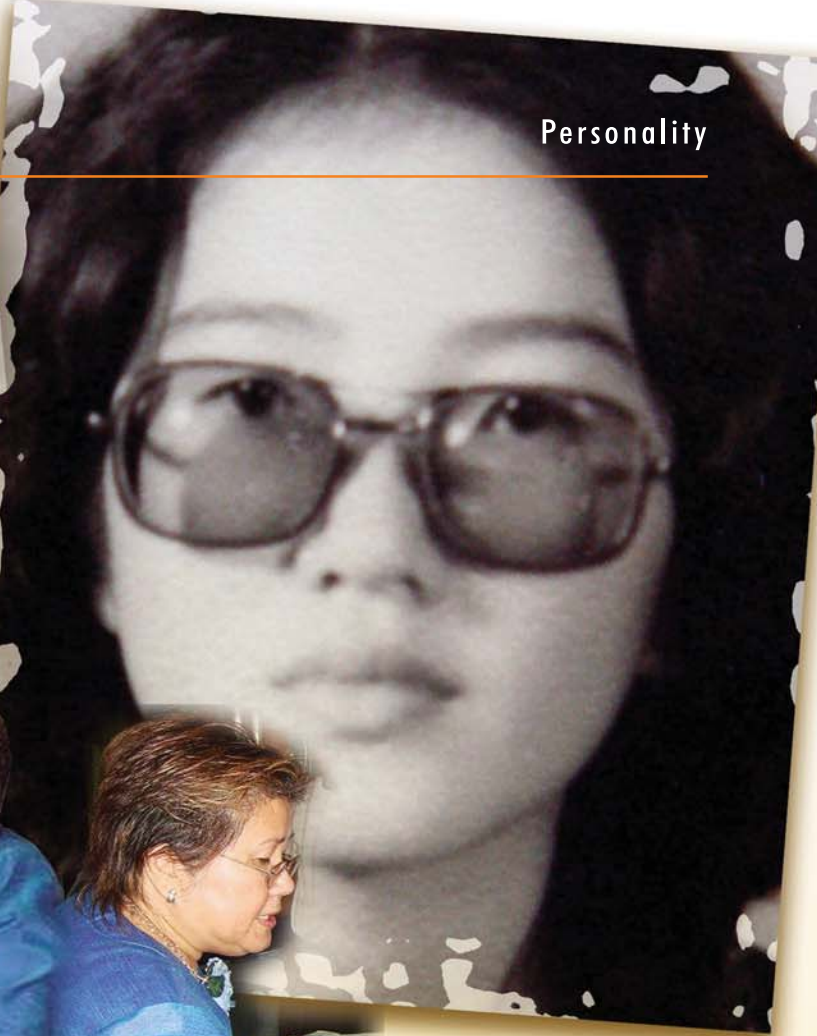
Occupation Clerk

Race Malay

Mother's Name Rosinah Bt. Chow

Race Chinese

I CERTIFY THAT the above is a true extract
Register of North Borneo
LABUAN Date of issue of extract 31.
Registrar Of Births & Deaths
[Seal]



Nor Rafizah Md Zain

A Rose of 57

In sync with the "Merdeka" spirit, we decided to look for graduates who were born on Merdeka Day to fill up the "Personality" section. After searching for information at the Data Processing and Records Unit (UPDR), Mr. Zamhari Ahmad found out that there is only one graduate, a lady who was born on the Merdeka Day - 31 August 1957. The rose is **Siti Hairani Mohd Hanafiah**. We send a letter to her home address.

However, a prompt action was needed as we were running out of time. During a follow-up meeting, the editor asked Ms. Jasvir Kaur to find more about her and to write a paragraph on her. Jasvir then searched "Siti Hairani" as the keywords using Google search engine and out popped the information that she is working with the Forest Resource Management Division in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah. The information obtained was relevant because we knew that she was from Sabah. According to the records that we had, we called the office and talked to Puan Jaliha. We were told that Puan Siti Hairani was transferred to *Jabatan Kerja Raya (JKR) Sabah* in 2005 as an officer there. Immediately, I called her and felt very happy and honoured to have a chance to talk to her personally.

Siti Hairani was very surprised when I called her as over the past 20 years, nobody contacted her mentioning about

Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM). She said she felt like a celebrity who was being interviewed by the press.

She recalled her first day at USM when she registered herself in 1977 and being conferred the Social Science Degree in 1980. She used to stay in *Desa C* (now known as *Desa Cahaya*) and liked the view of the sea from the Vice-Chancellor's Rock. Siti Hairani also mentioned that she used to contact her old friend Wee Beng who worked in EPU (Economic Planning Unit) but now they have lost touch with each other. As I asked her to pen something for *The Leader* in conjunction with her feelings towards celebrating the 50th Independence Day and also her birthday on 31 August 1957, she expressed her feelings with a message of gratefulness.

"It is difficult for me to list out everything that I am thankful for. But foremost, I thank Allah because I am still alive to enjoy the fruits of an independent nation. I thank my parents for the sacrifice, hard work, patience and love they have given me that made me what I am today. I thank our past leaders who were pioneers responsible for the "fight" for the Independence and our present leaders for sustaining the peace and harmony of the nation and her people. I also thank my teachers, lecturers, friends and family for the valuable lessons that I have learned in life. I thank the many institutions, which have given me scholarships that had helped me to attain a very good education and the Sabah State Civil Service for employing me for the past 27 years.

Last but not least, I thank you for taking the trouble to search your database for persons born on this memorable day".

Siti Hairani Mohd Hanafiah

And for those in *The Leader*, we have technology to thank for because it has enabled us to track down Siti Hairani who had left USM 27 years ago in a population of more than 27 million!



Nor Rafizah Md Zain is currently a Assistant Registrar at Alumni Liaison Office (ALO), USM. She can be reached at fizahzain@hotmail.com

Photographs courtesy of Siti Hairani Mohd Hanafiah

Still Remembered

Artwork by Mohamed Talhah Idrus

Ma. Major presence

*Mohamed Talhah Idrus
B. Soc. Sc. '74*

A Major Presence



The Major seated fifth from right. On his left is the present Director of *Jabatan Keselamatan*, En. Noor Rizan Khalid

Most people on campus in the '70s knew Major Othman.

Othman bin Abdul Kader was quite a personality during his tenure as the first Director of *Jabatan Keselamatan* (Department for Security) from 1973-1982.

He came in as Major (retired) Othman, and retired as Major (retired) Othman. No prefixes or additional affixes. Just plain Major Othman, remembered by many.

The *Leader* editorial arranged a meeting with him. We arrived at his double-storey terrace house in Bangsar (Kuala Lumpur) last 23 June, where he lives with his wife, a son, and an Indonesian maid. We were invited in by his wife.

I had not seen Major Othman for over fifteen years. So, I was naturally taken aback by how different he looked when he came down to join us. Gone was the seventies image of a neat Major Othman with his Brylcreemed hairstyle and the signature cravat. The smiling Major Othman who joined us is now 80 years old, dressed in a buttoned-down sports shirt and casual slacks. He looked fit and said that he is still enjoying good health.

From the beginning of the conversation, I realized that Major Othman is still Major Othman. The gruff authoritative voice has not lost its luster. His conversation was casual but energetic with the *Negri (Sembilan)* accent still faintly discernable. He still punctuated his talks with a few military phrases that had to be explained to us.



Major Othman with his wife during an outing

Major Othman is still a fun person to talk to. After he was informed of those who have passed away, his way of asking about some of his long-lost friends was amusing, "Dia dah mati belum?" ("Is he dead yet?")

Our conversation was centred largely on USM personalities and former students who turned lecturers and administrators. He remembered names corresponding to the classes of '73-'74. He offered some names, specifically "Mr. Black", without prompting. Many names escaped him. Some needed a bit of prompting, like the former student whom he finally remembered as, "Yang tak lulus-lulus tu" ("The one that kept on failing?").

After dropping many names, I noticed a pattern, and asked him how come he could remember the names of all the pretty girls? He just continued flipping through the pages of *The Leader* that we gave him. I think I saw a cheeky boyish smirk.

A Major Presence

When the **Universiti Pulau Pinang** (the original name of USM) first started, campus security was maintained by Safeguards Malaysia Sendirian Berhad, a private company which provided security services. It was only in 1972 that USM did away with the "rental system" and set up its own security unit, **Unit Keselamatan** (Security Unit) in the campus. There was only one entrance into the campus, which is now the Batu Uban Gate. So there was only one guard house and the office, which was located in the Alumni building on the crest of the hill (before the banks, as one approaches from the Batu Uban gate). Major Othman started the **Jabatan Keselamatan** with 33 security officers, many of whom were former personnels of Malaysian Securities Berhad. It was upgraded to a university department on 20 May 1975. **Jabatan Keselamatan** (the Security Department) is now 104 strong, including 6 women officers.

USM Security Office



Major Othman flipping through **The Leader**

When we tried fishing for juicy stories and controversies during his days with USM, he responded only with brief one-liners about courting couples. We tried another angle; how would he rate the different vice-chancellors he worked with. The reply, "Sama saja" ("No difference"). No matter how we tried he continued to give non-committal answers. I admire the magnanimity of this man, a side of Major Othman I never knew.

These days, Major Othman is an "Orang Masjid" ("Man of the Mosque"), performing all the five prayers in the nearby mosque. Besides that he tends to the plants in the mosque's compound using some of the plant enhancers donated by his son.



In one swift move the salute was over, and I missed it.

When we were leaving, he escorted us to the gate, although we said he need not do so. As our vehicle started moving he saluted us in his usual brisk fashion. Momentarily, I was transported back into the '70s. Talk about the magic of being Major Othman . . .

Books on Islam that take the reading time of the Major, who has reduced smoking to only six cigarettes a day



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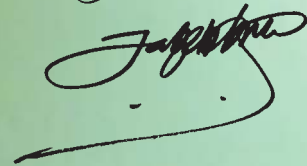
Photographs in page 20 and 21 courtesy of Noor Rizan Khalid. Photographs in page 22 by Mohamed Talhah Idrus.

Giving Back

Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) has set up the Alumni Endowment Fund for individuals and corporate organisations to contribute towards the development and progress of USM. As an alumnus I am sure you would like to see your alma mater becoming a vibrant learning centre and a global university of distinction with state of the art resources and facilities. Every cent of your contribution will take USM closer towards realising the aspiration. Every donation will qualify for tax deduction.

*Let us contribute generously
and make USM globally respectable*

Sincerely



Associate Professor Mohamed Talhah Idrus
Editor
The Leader



My Contribution

Yes, I wish to contribute of RM _____ to the Alumni Endowment Fund.

Name (Mr/Mrs/Ms): _____

Tel: (H) _____ (O) _____ (H/P) _____

Email: _____

Mailing Address : _____

Mode of Payment:

By cash/cheque/money order No : _____

(Please make cheque payable to Bendahari Universiti Sains Malaysia).

The receipt for this contribution can be used for tax deduction.

**Kindly return the form with the payment to Alumni Liaison Office (ALO).*

Alumni Liaison Office (ALO)

Level 5, Chancellory Building

Universiti Sains Malaysia

11800 Minden

Penang

For more information on the Alumni Endowment Fund, please visit www.usm.my/alumni.

A photograph of a crested myrah bird splashing in a pool of water. The bird is dark with white spots and is captured in the middle of a splash, with water droplets flying around it. The background is a blurred, natural setting with green foliage and brown earth.

Coping with Change

Text and photographs by
Mohamed Talhah Idrus
B. Soc. Sc. '74

A **crested myrah** taking a dip in a pool created by lorry tracks in the University's nursery

The Other Residents

Graduates who return to the campus after many years would probably utter the clichéd, "the campus has changed a lot!" (or similar such phraseology).

From 1971 onwards, the sounds of drill sergeants have been muted by the sounds of the pneumatic drills and other sounds of "building" and "development". The then occasional drones of army trucks had long have been upgraded to the incessant sounds of *Toyotas*, *Kancils* and similar species.

The campus human inhabitants may have adapted to the changes in the environment, not all non-human inhabitants have: some left, others adjust. Those that stay either appear to coexist with the human residents in harmony or are in constant collisions with the chaos of human activities.



A **tailorbird** perching on a concrete block at the School of Housing, Building and Planning.

Coping with Change



The gentle house sparrows in Desa B have grown hardy and have learnt to benefit from human activities. This flock waits for food opposite a canteen

Birds, bees and the smaller creatures are in harmony with their human counterparts. Pythons and cobras more often than not, cause uneasiness. The monitor lizards (or more popularly *biawak*) have become a new form of pest and a source of much inconvenience.

The long-tailed macaques which once terrorized the female hostels are now totally gone. The illusive civet cats may be perceived as a new potential problem, due to its habit of foraging for food and dirtying corridors and aisles. But then again, how bad are they when compared to our educated human litterbugs!

Impacts on the smaller residents are visually insignificant, considering the abundance of species despite some once common ones are now no longer seen, as in the case of the rhinoceros beetle, the stick mantis and some beetle species.

Butterflies and spiders seem to be doing well. Personally I have never realized the abundance of these species and that the campus has managed to diversify them.



The smaller insects like this ant on a car windscreen are everywhere, but are generally harmless



The flying gecko also helps to check the insect population



Railings provide good support for climbers that attract this common three-ring butterfly which shares them harmoniously with other organisms



The healthy diversity of spider species keeps a balance on the insect colony

Coping with Change

Large birds, like this **Brahminy kite** are losing their natural habitat through loss of trees



The birds provide the most conspicuous indications of the health of the campus environment. Thirty-six years after Minden Barracks turned into USM, some species are noticeably gone. For examples, the paradise flycatcher which was last sighted in the early eighties, the *merbah jambul* is probably gone too due to heavy poaching. Fortunately some exotic and "elusive" ones are quite commonly seen, as in the case of all the three types of *murai* (robins and a shama), popular songsters of Southeast Asia. The *murai cacing/murai tanah* (common robin) is thriving despite the knockings, the drillings, and the bounties for their heads.

The fact that they thrive must not be taken for granted. They are also among the most sought after cage birds. The *murai gilias* (pied fantails) which are said to be numbering only in the 20s in Singapore are making a strong comeback in the campus. It is hoped that USM will provide the right environment for them.

A very popular game species, the *wak-waks* (moorhens) are abundant and easily sighted despite the constraints of their habitats. They too adapt to the deteriorating conditions of their habitats rather well.



While the **moorhen** (left) does not seem to mind murky waters, the **scaly breasted munias** (bottom) enjoy cleaner pools made after a rainfall



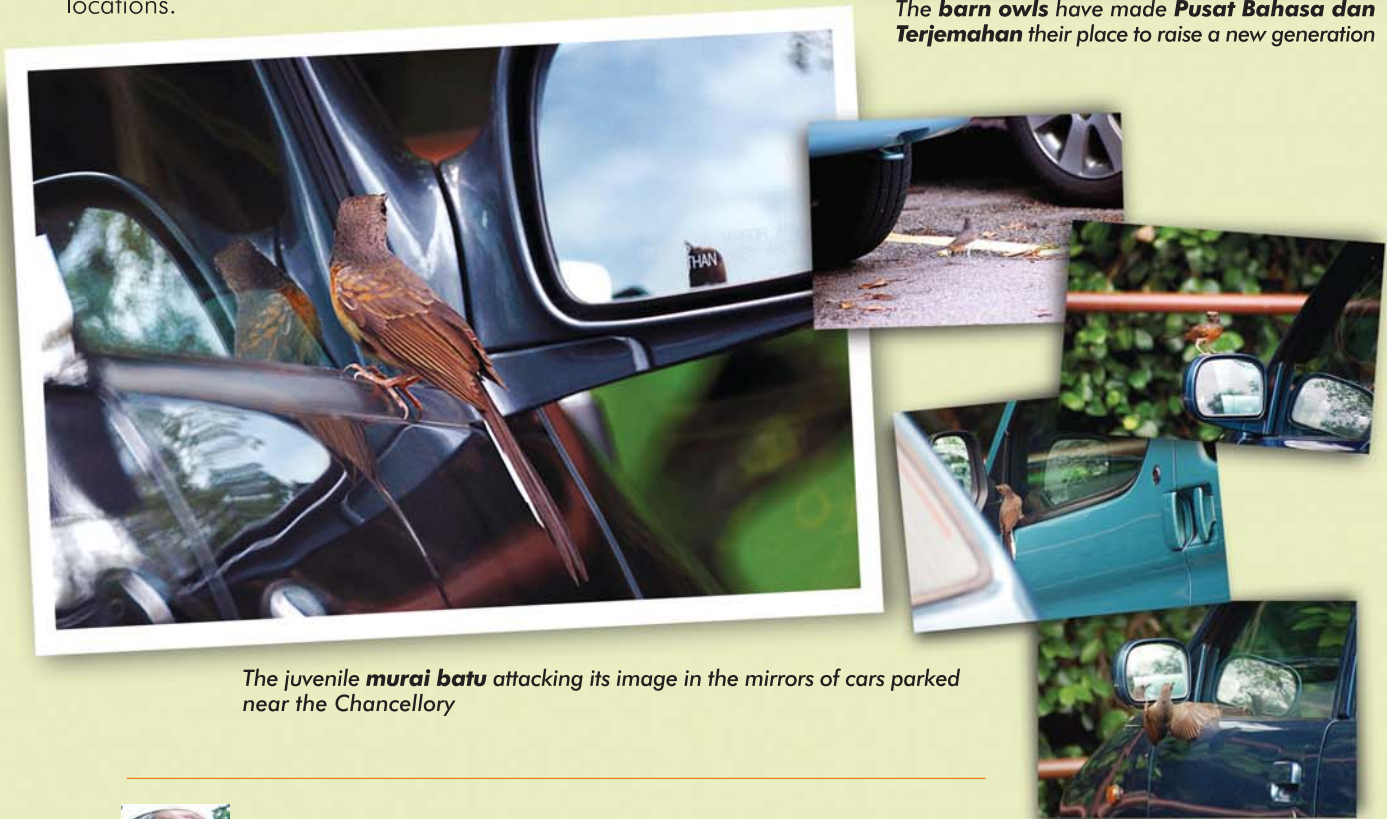


The very few remaining **large-tailed nightjars** are so difficult to spot that any encounter with one is worth all the mosquito bites

My most memorable moment as an undergraduate student in USM was "chasing" flocks of *mynahs* and *munias* on my motorbike in what is now the *Pusat Kajian Samudera/Perpustakaan Hamzah Sendut* area. It was fun and irresistible to experience flocks of these creatures "teasing" me. It is good that they are still around. Unfortunately the *burung segans* (large-tailed nightjars) that used to greet us when we met up to practice our French have now lived up to their name (*segan* also means "shy" in the northern dialect), and have removed themselves to a few rather inaccessible locations.



The **barn owls** have made **Pusat Bahasa dan Terjemahan** their place to raise a new generation



The juvenile **murai batu** attacking its image in the mirrors of cars parked near the Chancellory



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**Ahmad Puad Mat Som
and
Azizan Marzuki
B. Sc. HBP (Planning) '00**

Making Malaysians

This year our country will be celebrating the 50th Merdeka Celebration, which is a very important event in the life of a nation. All of us are citizens of an independent and sovereign nation, but our interpretation of independence and sovereignty might reveal different things to different people. To our elders who fought with tears and blood, Merdeka was a very precious gift as they were liberated from their colonial masters and were able to live independently. To younger generation whose parents were born after Merdeka, their understanding is quite fuzzy, and their love for the country is measured by the flags wrapped over and around every conceivable surface.

The Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, has always called on all Malaysians, especially the younger generation, to fully appreciate the meaning of Merdeka and be thankful for the country's achievements. He said that the present generation should stay true to the memory of those who had fought hard for the country's independence and ensure the country maintains its liberty at all times.

To instill the spirit of Merdeka among our students, Dr. Sharifah Fairuz Syed Fadzil, the Course Coordinator for Integrated Studio RUS 101, has transformed the project assignment, 'Object and Space', into Merdeka model building and formulation. The HBP's students, in their first year, were required to include the elements of objects and spaces, using recycled materials, in their conceptual design of Merdeka.

While many came up with 'play-safe' concepts that symbolized Merdeka in the typical patriotic displays, several others reflected it in various forms of great achievements the country has progressed in the past fifty years. Unity, peace, prosperity and racial tolerance were major themes in the model buildings, which came in various colours,

*Model created by Mohd
Izmul Hakimi bin Baharun
(First year: HBP (Planning)
(95476)*

*Model created by Mohd Ammar Adli bin Abdullah
(First year: HBP (Planning) (95480)*

shapes and sizes. Interestingly, a few others mirrored Merdeka from the perspective of neo-colonialism, in which the country is still dependent on their former colonial masters in many sectors such as education, trade and military. With globalization and the so-called borderless world, the country and its people are still prone to political, economic and social influences, and the worst part is the colonization of the minds.

As evident from the project assignments, the task of fulfilling the country's independence has not ended, even after 50 years of hard work by past leaders in the development of the country. The responsibility lies with the younger generation not only to protect our national interests against external forces but also to carry on the task of attaining future development of the country with excellence, glory and distinction.



Free-themed models produced by an earlier batch of first year students



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Artwork by Rusly Jamaludin



The Legacy of
Fu Manchu

Text and Photographs by Rusly Jamaludin

The Legacy of 'Fu Manchu'



Ah Hooi with his **Datsun**.

Ch'ng Eng Kooi is his real name, but to many he was just plain "Ah Hooi". An icon of USM since the 70's, Ah Hooi and his late uncle "Fu Manchu" ventured into a small catering business. His uncle, Ah Pee sported a moustache that resembled the fictional Chinese character, *Fu Manchu*, and as brand-building goes, campus residents duly tagged the canteen as "*Fu Manchu Canteen*". It had the distinction of being USM's first canteen in 1971 and being the only one providing services from breakfast to bedtime.



Ah Pee, the late *Fu Manchu*

Located where IPS now stands, the single-storey rectangular canteen opened up light and space with a view overlooking much more lush greenery and a much more scenic landscape then. The open-plan interior layout was simple and students congregated there in the free hours, a meeting place for puffers enjoying their nicotine break, a hang-out with other dorm-mates or the intimate hotspot with the lovable side-kicks. It was also the casual venue for 'gang-bangers', socializing over coffee or tea. . . and the jukebox.

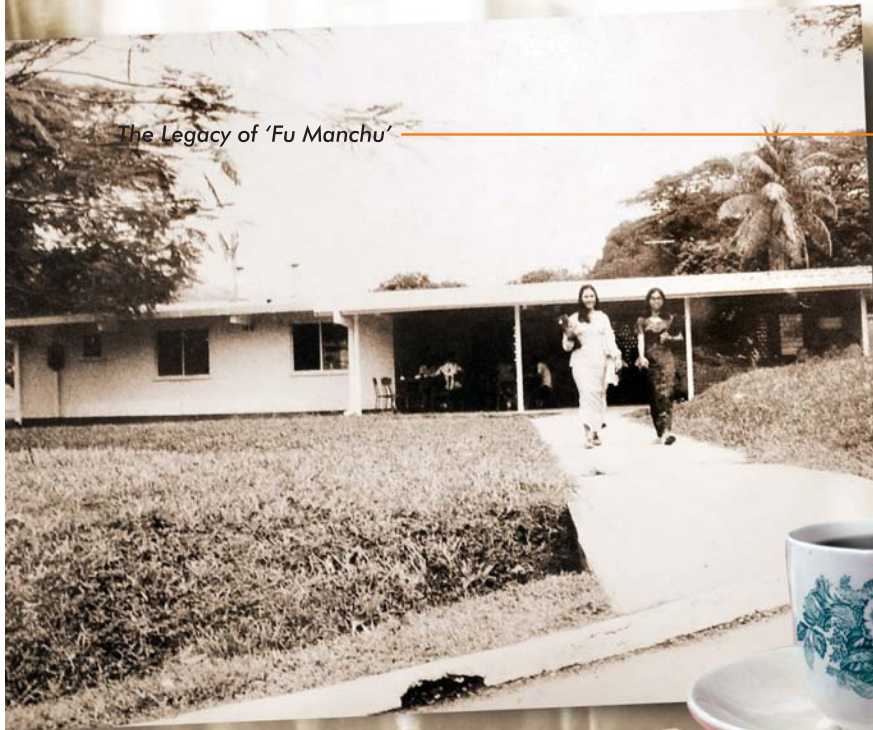
Drop a coin in the slot and fill the air the sounds of Marmalade's "Relections of My Life", Christie's "Yellow River", Carl Douglas's "Kung Fu Fighting", Bad Company's "Rock Steady" at 10 cents a song. It was a big deal then. The soundtracks bellowing from *Fu Manchu's* jukebox left a lasting impression on me- such was the effect of Ah Hooi and his uncle's canteen.



A young Ah Hooi in the 70's

And the canteen walls. . . adorned with 70's commercial poster ads showcasing Rough Riders, Gold Players, Rothmans and 555 State Express; thirty years ago it was not politically incorrect and the anti-smoking lobby was non-existent. At the doorway to the kitchen there were stacks of wooden crates containing Fraser & Neave bottled drinks of orange, sarsaparilla, ice-cream soda, cherry; Sinalco and Kickapoo.

The Legacy of 'Fu Manchu'



Yazan Ayob (left – deceased) and Faridah Omar walking out of **Fu Manchu** canteen - building C17

I still remember my favourite Lil Abner's graphic label on the green Kickapoo bottle. Mind you, the bottle drinks were only 25 cents each, which wasn't at all bad. Without qualms we relished the sumptuous yet simple Chinese-style dishes (with "no pork" caveat though) with people of various ethnic backgrounds patronizing the canteen.

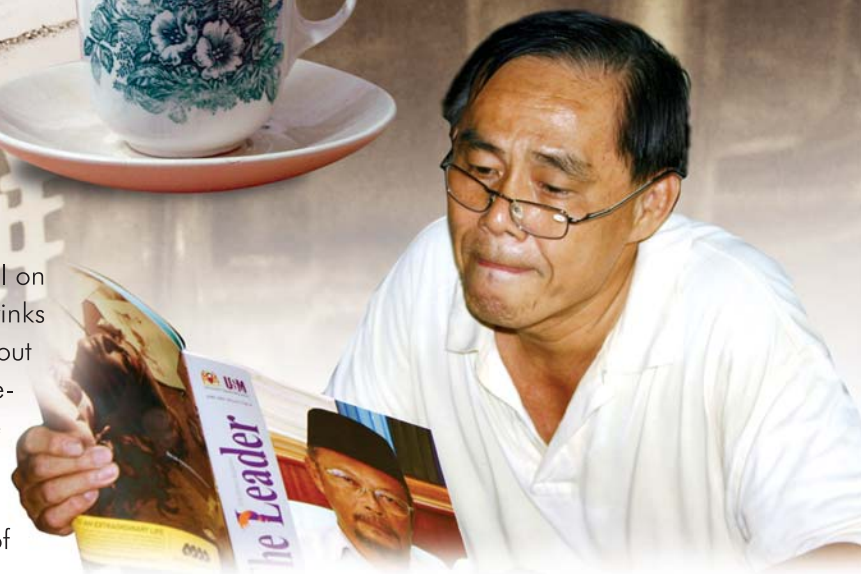
"Ah Hooi! Kopi kaw satu!" ("Ah Hooi, get me a cup of strong coffee"). 'Kaw' in Chinese-Hokkien literally means 'concentrated'.

Ah Hooi would normally ask me in his Hokkien-English-Malay tone, "You mau minum aah. . . bungkuih kaa. . .?" ("Are you having in or take-away?") Uniquely, a take-away drink was packed in a plastic packet, tied in one corner with a raffia string, functioning as a handle, leaving only a small opening for a dip-in straw. Convenient to carry and hang . . . and still relevant to this day.

Don't be deceived by his goofy sense of humour for Ah Hooi never missed a thing. It would be not an exaggeration to say many a pioneering alumni's secrets are in his pockets. He has brought many people together over the years. At a time when racial polarisation threatens the very fabric of Malaysian life, I recall Ah Hooi's inspiring words, 'cali makan mah, ta mau galo!' (Inter-ethnicity strikes a chord). Ah Hooi is now 59 and looks a

'cali makan mah,
ta mau galo!'

— Ah Hooi



Ah Hooi having a look at **The Leader**

bit sunburnt but he remains as jovial as ever and has always managed to brighten up the lives of the campus folks.

Have a cuppa with Ah Hooi at Hooi Cafe G10, *Desasiswa Tekun* if you happen to be on campus. I'm sure he would willingly provide you with a history lesson (it's an interesting history) and more fond memories of the fun 70's he experienced within the campus life's twists and turns.



Rusly Jamaludin is currently a lecturer at the School of Housing, Building and Planning, USM. He can be reached at rj_hbpuism@yahoo.com

Upholding the Nation's Independence - *The role of this university and its graduates*

Dzulkifli Abdul Razak
B. Pharmacy '76

It was exactly forty years ago the foundation stone of this university was laid by the late Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Al-Haj, the first Prime Minister of Malaysia (then known as Malaya). The university was then called University College Pulau Pinang. Later it was upgraded to *Universiti Pulau Pinang* before finally being renamed *Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM)*. The event was indeed historic for it was the first and only university that Tunku laid the foundation. The event was more than just symbolic in nature since it was the country's first attempt in establishing a university after gaining her independence. And as we have witnessed it, this university has undergone many changes in it's relatively young existence.

Starting with the late Tan Sri Hamzah Sendut, a very far sighted leader of the university as the first Vice Chancellor followed by the late Tun Hamdan Sheikh Tahir, Tan Sri Musa Mohamad and Dato' Ishak T Kechik - so many changes have occurred. In fact since 2001, the theme of the annual vice chancellor's address has been on how to cope with impending changes. The latest change being the elevation of USM to a research university status on 16 October 2006. Looking forward, while maintaining the focus of teaching at undergraduate level, research activities will be strengthened and intensified consistent with the status of USM as a research intensified university.



*Dato' Professor Dzulkifli Abdul Razak,
Vice Chancellor of USM*

Our convocation ceremony this year coincided with the 50th anniversary of the nation's independence. As we celebrate this historic date, let us as beneficiaries of the fruits of independence, not forget that which we enjoy today be it in the form of peace and security, or prosperity is due to the hard work and sacrifices of those who have fought for this nation's independence. Unfortunately, of late, it is very sad indeed to notice that the value of those sacrifices has been taken lightly by the post-independence generation. Self-interest, greed and avarice are symptomatic of present-day Malaysia-ness.

I hope that we can take as a useful and practical example the work of Professor Muhammad Yunus, the Nobel Laureate for Peace who is also the recipient of USM Honorary Doctorate this year. His pioneering work for peace and in raising the socio-economic status of the poor masses should be a lesson to all of us that he remains humble and ever ready to learn is humility personified.

The value of sharing and brotherhood which was manifested in the social contract that is part of the deal to ensure our nation's independence is slowly being disrespected and ignored. I very much doubt that many of us is truly aware of the meaning and significance of

that contract. We are still seeing the rich oppressing the poor, the powerful belittling the weak, the big guys squeezing the little ones and people throwing hurtful and derogatory words to others with arrogance. All these are cheap victories in satisfying one's ego. Sadly, these appear to be part and parcel of their life. It is not surprising therefore that they cannot and would not sacrifice for the country or the community.

Even more saddening to me is most of these people come from the educated upper middle class, a group to which you, graduates, will belong soon. Available information suggests that this educated group is also

responsible for the many confusion and disorders that one would expect from the uneducated. The view that with a university scroll in hand and the little material wealth gained is a passport to do whatever we like with no regard to the feelings of others is totally contrary to our long held practices and beliefs. We are now supposed to go with the flow. As an educated group, whatever we do must be done with wisdom and careful consideration to others around us. This is the manifestation of a person who has been truly educated in the heart and soul. It is appertune here to quote the words of our first Prime Minister fifty years ago. In a speech on 3 June 1957 at the *Sungai Besi* Airport on his return from London as stated in the book "The Road to Independence" (*Pelanduk*, 2007), he said:

"The independence of Malaya will be declared on 31st August, creating the newest nation in the world. The eyes of the world will be upon us. The world wants to know how the people of Malaya will take their first steps as a new nation. What will the people of Malaya do? You must therefore all behave well so that world can speak with approval about the situation. I myself believe that Malaya will become a prosperous, peaceful and happy nation receiving assistance, support and service from all races loyal to this country." (p. 145)

UPACARA KONVOKESYEN KETIGA PULUH ENAM
UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA
16, 17, 18 & 19 OGOS 2007

Those words are still true now as they were then. The world is still looking at us and observing what we as loyal citizens of this country are doing and will be doing.

Those words clearly remind us of the magnitude of sacrifice needed in a multi racial country as ours. I am worried that the independence that we enjoy today will come and go if we do not nurture the value of that sacrifice as we are too engrossed with today's material wealth.

Finally, in the Prime Minister's speech on 30 August 1957, a day before the proclamation of independence, he urges:

"To the youth of this country I have a message. You have a wonderful future ahead of you. Unlike us, you have a country free from any domination. You grow up with your heads held high as masters in your own country. As masters you have the privileges as well as your duties and responsibilities. The future of this country rests on you: whether our star rises or falls, it will be due to you solely. Therefore, be ready to serve her, to build her up and to give your life in her defence. You and I must be determined to make Malaya [in today's term Malaysia] a place which we shall all be proud to call home. We have therefore a role to play and let us play it well." (p. 189)

In the same speech, he reminds us by saying: *"Of course, we are not used to independence. Both ourselves and our grandparents once believed we would be colonized forever under one or another colonial power. Because of this, developing an independent country gives rise to feeling of anxiety, suspicion, fear and concern. I hope that people will not feel that. Believe in Allah, because everything that is permitted by Him works for good. Malays, Chinese, Indians and other races that wish to be loyal, live together, defend the nation and work together, live in harmony, because the situation in this country is different from other countries in the world. Because of this, one race cannot take everything for itself. In order to set up an independent government we must compromise and make sacrifices. These sacrifices will enable us to establish a nation which is an example to the world of how all races can live together in friendship."* (p. 144)

That message is relevant to all of us citizens of Malaysia and more so pertinent to us as members of USM community whose foundation stone was laid by the same leader forty years ago. The rise and the fall of this university and indeed this country is in our hands. Hence, we must always strive to ensure that it is the place we can all be proud of. Let us all do our part to the best of our ability and to secure all that is good for the generations to come.

Note: This article is based on (part of) the speech given by Dato' Professor Dzulkipli Abdul Razak, Vice Chancellor of USM during the last session of USM's 36th Convocation Ceremony on Sunday 19 August 2007.



Prof. Dato' Dzulkipli Abdul Razak is currently the Vice-Chancellor of Universiti Sains Malaysia. He can be reached at vc@notes.usm.my

Social Science 1973

The Pioneers



ABDUL RASHID
ABU BAKAR



ABDULLAH ISMAIL
(Deceased)



ABU BAKAR
MOHD. REJAB



ADAWIYAH
MOHD. ZIN
(Deceased)



AHMAD IZANEE
MANSOOR



AHMAD ISHAK



ANG ENG HYE



ANTHONY GEORGE
D'CRUZ



AZIZAH HAJI AHMAD



BOON HUI SHIAUN
(Retired Teacher)



CELINE LOURDUMARY
PRAGASAM
(Retired Customs Officer)



CHAN LEAN WAH



CHEE CHOO KOOI



CHEONG FONG
MENG



CHEW LYE KHOON



CHEW SIEW TUAN



CHIN GAN LEAN



CH'NG TENG LIANG
*(Retired General
Manager of 3 listed
companies)*



CHOONG CHYE
HEANG



DOMINIC CHARLES
BOUDVILLE



EILEEN GOONTING
(Deceased)



EVELYN HONG



FARIDAH SAAD



FAUZIAH YA'COB
*(Director of Human
Resources,
Arab Malaysian Bank)*



GOH BAN LEE
(Retired Lecturer, USM)



GURJARAN KAUR
DARA SINGH



HASIAH ISMAIL



HELMI DAUD



HENG AH MUI



HUZAIMAH
MOHD. YUSOFF
*(Senior Vice President,
Daya Communications
Sdn Bhd)*



JASMI MOHD.
YUSOFF



JOHANNES DIAN
ANYIE



KHOO CHENG IM



KHOO SWEE KHENG



KING LEEN PING



LAI AH MOI



LIAU SIEW KIM



LIM BEE SEE
*(Retired Marketing Research
Officer in USA)*



LIM LEE HOCK
(Own Business)



LIM TEIK KOANG
(Director, Asia Pacific
Businesslink Sdn Bhd)



LOH SIEW FUN



LOH YET PING



LONG JET HENG
(Retired System
Analyst, USM)



LOUIS ANTHONY
VINCENT



MANOHARAN
KATHIRAVELU
(Director, Wawasan
University, Penang)



MOHD. ABDAD
MOHD. ZAIN
(Assoc. Prof., Faculty of
International Studies,
UUM)



MOHD. DAUD YUSOF



MOHD. FARID ARIFFIN
(President, MAKNA)



MOHD. YAHYA
NORDIN
(Chairman,
MASTERSKILL)



MOKHTAR HJ.
MAHMUD



N. MAILVAGANAM
PILLAI



NG KAU @
NG SENG KANG
(Deceased)



NG LUM SONG



NORSIAH HARON
(Retired Secretary of
State, Johor)



ONG ENG JOO
(Planner in Australia)



PIARO KAUR
SANTA SINGH



PUSHPATHAVI THAMBIPILLAI
(Lecturer, University of
Brunei Darussalam)



QUAH CHEOW
CHYE



RAZIAH HUSSIN
(Deputy Organising
Chairman, HMB
Exhibitions Sdn Bhd)



S. AHMAD HUSSEIN
(Chairman, Lembaga
Akretasi Negara, LAN)



SAADAH DIN



SARONI PANIDI



SEE CHOON LAN



SHAHARUDDIN
MAARUF
(Lecturer, NUS)



SHAMSUAR HJ.
MAHMUD



SHARIFAH FATIMAH
SYED OMAR



SITI ZALEHA
MOHD. NOR
(Homemaker)



SUKOR KASIM
(Research Fellow,
KANITA, USM)



SUPPIAH RAJOO



TALAAH HUSSAIN
(Retired Secretary-
General, Ministry of
Domestic Trade and
Consumer Affairs)



TEOH KOOI ENG



TUNKU JAWAHIR
JOSEPHINE TUANKU
JAAFAR



WONG CHIEU YI
@ CHIEW YEE



YEW SUAN SIM



ZAINAH ALIAS



Sungai Dua Gate



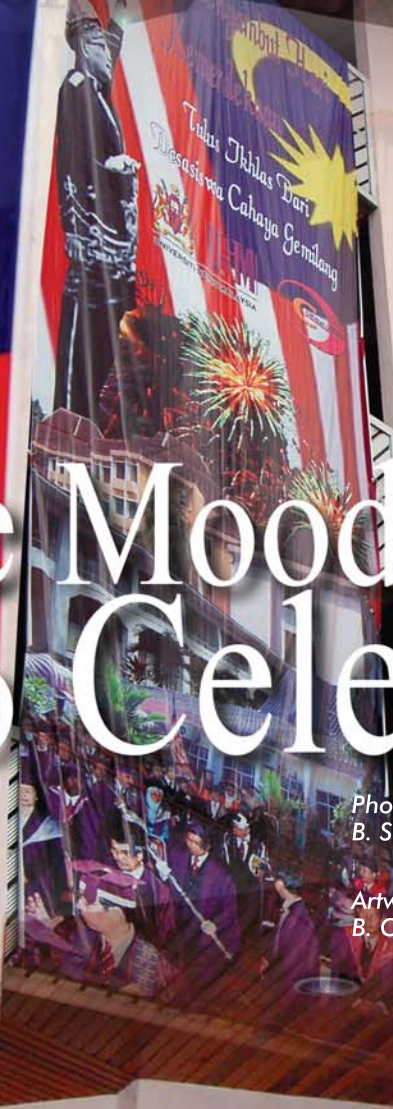
U-T-M
UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

Highlights
Malaysia ke Gemilang

Perjuangan Dan
Pengorbanan demi Maruah
Negara Tercinta



Desasiswa Harapan



The Mood to Celebrate

Photographs by Mohamed Talhah Idrus
B. Soc. Sc. '74

Artwork by Alec Chin
B. Comm. '92

Chancellory lobby

BADAN KEBAJIKAN JABATAN PENDAFA
UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA



The biggest flag was laid out in front of the **Berita Kampus** office



Along **Jalan Universiti**



Chancellory



The 36th Convocation

The 36th convocation was held from the 15 August till the 19 August. A total of 6467 graduates was awarded first degrees and 1126 postgraduate degrees. Four Emeritus Professorships and two honorary degrees were conferred. The 36th convocation was

a memorable one because it was the first time in the history of USM that Professor Muhammad Yunus, the 2006 Nobel Peace Prize recipient was conferred the Honorary Doctorate of Economics. During his luncheon talk on the 15 August, Professor Yunus stated that he was proud to be an alumnus of USM. The Alumni would like to convey their heartiest congratulations to Professor Yunus and Professor Pierre Steinmetz, the recipient of the Honorary Doctorate of Science, and to the four Emeritus Professors.

40th Anniversary of Foundation Stone

On 7 August 1967, the ceremony of laying of the foundation stone for Penang University College was held at the Sungai Ara Camp but today, the mock arch of the foundation stone can be found in the Minden Campus of Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) after efforts were made to bring it to the campus.

During the time when the foundation stone was laid by the late Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Al-Haj, the first Prime Minister, the stone had the word 'MU' chiselled out. 'MU' is the abbreviation for *Maktab Universiti* (the predecessor of USM). This stone - after 40 years of that historic moment - can now be seen in USM campus after it was retrieved from its original site to be placed at *Dewan Tunku Syed Putra* (DTSP) after a short ceremony. Witnesses to that episode of USM's history at Sungai Ara shared their experiences with about 150 guests, staff members, students and members of the media.



National Academic Awards 2006



The National Academic Awards 2006 was held on 2 August 2007. At the ceremony, in Putrajaya, four universities received Declaration Letters as Research Universities from the Higher Education Ministry. The universities were: Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), Universiti Malaya (UM), Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), and Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM).

Royal Professor Ungku Abdul Aziz, from UM, won the *Tokoh Akademik Negara* Award, whereas Professor Dr. Asma Ismail, from USM, won the Product Innovation and Commercialisation Award. The Engineering Teaching Cluster Award was won by Dr. Aisyah Abu Bakar from UM. Professor Dr. Mohamed Amin Embi, from UKM won the Applied Arts and Applied Social Science Teaching Cluster Award.

The Right Attitude: A Diplomat Opined

During the Alumni Week, Alumni Liaison Office (ALO) managed to get in touch with His Excellency Dato' Sopian Ahmad (right), the Malaysian High Commissioner to New Zealand, who was on a visit to Malaysia. Sopian agreed to address first year students on "The Reality of Life" on 24 July 2007. Despite the short notice, Sopian who was dressed casually in a Housing, Building and Planning (HBP) polo shirt, delivered his talk with lots of humorous references to his childhood days in Baling. His talk focused on the potentials for success and the need to change from "looking for a job" to "creating a job". This was the first time a diplomat addressed students in a low profile event. His casual and easy-going style went well with the students and staff who continued to chat even after the talk was over.



11 SEPTEMBER 2001: What Really Happened

On 19 July 2007 at Lecture Theatre SK3, New Yorker William Rodriguez, narrated the tragedy of 11 September as the last survivor with facts and figures. The former janitor of the Twin Towers of the World Trade Centre chronicled the events in minute details and gave fresh insights of what happened.



Alumni Week 2007

Themed 'Now You Are Not Alone', the Alumni Week 2007 was held from 23 July to 29 July. This yearly event was jointly organised by Alumni Liaison Office [ALO] and the Students Affairs and Development Division [HEPP]. It was attended by first and final year students. The objective of this event is to help students improve their leadership qualities, communication skills and meet fellow Alumni.



PECIPTA

USM was given the honour of working with the Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE) to organize the fourth research expositions exhibiting the products from institutions of higher learning in Malaysia in a national exposition known as PECIPTA, an acronym for *Penyelidikan dan Ciptaan Institusi Pengajian Tinggi Antarabangsa* (International Exposition for Research and Inventions of Institutions of Higher Learning).

Started in 2001, it was known as Expo R&D IPT until 2006. PECIPTA 2007 expo was held from **10-12 August 2007** at the **Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC)** in Kuala Lumpur, in conjunction with the 50th Anniversary of Malaysia's Independence.

It endeavours to showcase the outcomes, inventions and innovative processes derived from the work of all the public and private institutions of higher learning in Malaysia

Among the specific objectives were to display the various research outcomes, inventions which have been successfully attained from R & D activities of the participating institutions.

Encompassing the areas of science, humanities and social sciences, the event drew the participation from twenty-two institutions of higher learnings in Malaysia.

USM led the other institutions in bagging five golds from a total of twenty-four.



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(B. Soc. Sc. '73)
Current Status :
Director,
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Dato' Mohd Yahya Nordin
(B. Soc. Sc. '73)
Current Status:
Chairman, Masterskill
College of Nursing and
Health



**Dato' Prof. Syed
Ahmad Hussien**
(B. Soc. Sc. '73)
Current Status:
Chairman,
National Accreditation Board



**Dato' Mohd. Farid
Bin Ariffin**
(B. Soc. Sc. '73)
Current Status :
President,
Majlis Kanser Nasional
(MAKNA)



**Dato' Mohd Sidik
Shaik Osman**
(B. Soc. Sc. '74)
Current Status:
Chairman Pelabuhan
Tanjung Pelepas Sdn. Bhd.



Dato' Sopian Ahmad
(B. Soc. Sc. '74)
Current Status:
Malaysian High
Commissioner,
New Zealand



Prof. Itam Sulaiman
(B. Sc. '74)
Current Status :
Lecturer in USM



Dato' Ahmad Said Hamdan
(B. Humanities '75)
Current Status :
Director General,
Anti-Corruption Agency,
Malaysia



Dato' Mustafa Mansor
(B. Soc. Sc. '76)
Current Status:
Executive Chairman,
Soltronic Sdn. Bhd.



Dato' Sri Chia Kwang Chye
(B. Sc. [HBP] '77)
Current Status:
Deputy Minister of Information,
Malaysia



Azman Abdullah
(B. Soc. Sc. '78)
Current Status :
Registrar USM



**Kol. Prof. Dato' Dr.
Kamarudin Hussin**
(B. Sc. '80)
Current Status :
Vice Chancellor, Universiti
Malaysia Perlis (Unimap)



Khalid Albasrawy Khalaff Albasrawy
(B.Soc. Sc. '80)
Current Status:
Vice President, CRM Project,
Retail Marketing Consumer
Banking at Malayan Banking
Berhad



Dato' Hafsah Hashim
(B. Sc. '82)
Current Status:
Chief Executive Officer of
the Small and Medium
Industries Development
Corporation (SMIDEC)



Dato' Mortadza Nazarene
(B. Sc. '83)
Current Status :
Chief Senior Assistant
Comm. (I)



Datuk Abd. Rahim Bakri
(B. Soc. Science '85)
Current Status:
Chairman,
SHM (Sabah)



Assoc. Prof. Mohammed Zin Nordin
(B. Humanities '86)
Current Status:
Lecturer in USM



Sovinder Kaur
(B. Soc. Sc. '90)
Current Status:
Head of Examination Section,
Wawasan Open University



Saiful Bahrin Abdul Ghaffar
(B. Eng. '91)
Current Status :
General Manager,
Northern Region,
Celcom (Malaysia) Berhad



Dr. Novandri Hassan Basri
(M.D. '93)
Current Status:
Doctor at Medi. Clinic
Novandri



Alfred Phua
(B. A. '94)
Current Status :
Founder and Managing
Director, Penang Net TV



Johnny Bong
(B. Soc. Sc. '95)
Current Status:
Managing Partner,
Mainstream Consultancy
and Services Sdn Bhd



Nelly Soh Yong Siew
(B. Comm. '04)
Current Status :
Teacher, SMK St. Augustine,
Betong, Sarawak



Chin Choon Leong
(B. Comm. '04)
Current Status :
Copywriter, Best Sonic
Marketing Services Sdn Bhd



Professor John A. Lent

School of Communication & Theatre,
Temple University
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

June 1972-January 1974:

- Lecturer and Coordinator of Mass Communication, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Penang, Malaysia.
- Developed first academic program in mass communication in Malaysia.

"USM in the early 1970s was a field of/in ferment. It was made up of a multi-nation faculty, including scholars who gained worldwide fame. Among these faculty also were some of the individuals who became giants in Malaysian scholarship ...

"The Communications program was extremely innovative with a mix of theory and practice, much hands-on application, and long media study tours and internships with the major media firms which all students had to attend ...

"The Communications students were outstanding - standing out more prominently in my memory of 47 years of teaching than almost all of the thousands of students I taught. They were intellectually curious and honest, respectful, and mentally sharp. They knew two (and three) languages well, had knowledge of statistics and other research tools, and were very capable of conducting primary research that rivaled graduate-level students' work elsewhere including the U.S."





Stadium

Lecture Theatres (DK)

- 1 DK A, B & C
- 2 DK D, E & F
- 3 DK G - R
- 4 DK S - W
- 5 DK X
- 6 DK Y
- 7 DK Kompleks Sains
- 8 DK Z
- 9 DK SK1, SK2, SK3 & SK4



Hamzah Sendut Library

Museum and Gallery Tuanku Fauziah



Balai Islam



Dewan Tuanku Syed Putra



Chancellery Building

PERSONAL DETAILS

Full Name: _____

Identity Card No.: _____ Gender: _____ Cell Phone No.: _____

Email 1: _____ Email 2: _____

Correspondence Address: _____

Post Code: _____ Town: _____ State: _____ Telephone No. (Residence): _____

Name of Organisation: _____ Post: _____

Office Address: _____

Post Code: _____ Town: _____ State: _____

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GRADUATION

Undergraduate Postgraduate Course: _____ Year: _____

I hereby attach the cash /money order/cheque no.: _____ amounting RM _____ payable to **PERSATUAN ALUMNI UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA** for Registration Fees (RM20.00 for life)

Signature _____ Date: _____

For secretariat use only:

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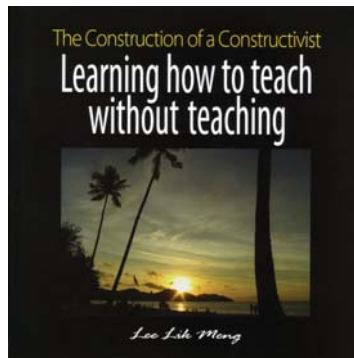
Mail to: **SECRETARIAT**
PERSATUAN ALUMNI USM
 Bangunan D01, Universiti Sains Malaysia,
 11800 Minden, Penang.
 Tel/Fax: 04-6569370
 Email: alumnusm@fm.net.my
 Web: www.alumni.usm.net.my

MINDEN DIARIES

- **USM Toastmasters Meeting**
Meeting Room, International Office USM
Every Tuesday on the first & third week of the month
- **Strategic Planning Workshop Alumni Liaison Office (ALO)**
Parkroyal Hotel, Penang
6 - 8 September 2007
- ***Hi-Tea**
Saloma Bistro, Kuala Lumpur
9 September 2007
**Organized by Persatuan Alumni Wilayah Persekutuan dan Selangor*
- **Majlis Berbuka Puasa with students and Alumni**
Masjid Al-Malik Khalid, Penang
Ramadhan 1428
- **Alumni Week**
 - Health Campus, Kubang Kerian
21 - 25 October 2007
 - Engineering Campus, Nibong Tebal
October 2007
- **Lets Get-Together**
Minden Campus, Penang
31 October 2007
- **Golf Inter-Alumni 2007 and Lets Get-Together**
Glenmarie Golf & Country Club, Shah Alam
4 November 2007
- **Balikampus**
Minden Campus, Penang
7-9 December 2007

We look forward
to seeing you!

**The construction of a constructivist:
Learning how to teach without teaching**

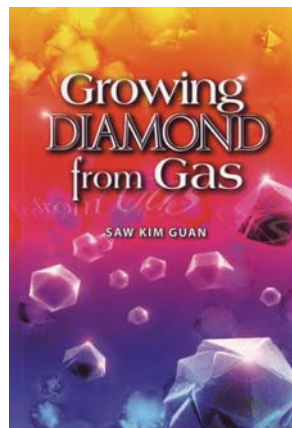


Author: Lee Lik Meng
ISBN: 978-983-861-316-3
Price: RM 58.00

Synopsis:

This book captures the journey and struggles of one lecturer to reinvent himself as a facilitator of learning, embracing the constructivist paradigm. It is a reflective journal written in a conversational style to reach the large majority of lecturers and learners who have no patience or desire to read and make sense of highly technical books on pedagogy or andrology. It is based on the author's experience not only in "teaching" undergraduate and graduate courses but also his involvement with training workshops at the international level and the retraining of lecturers at the university where he continues to learn, unlearn and relearn.

Growing Diamond From Gas

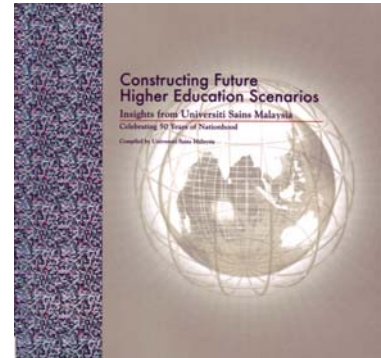


Author: Saw Kim Guan
ISBN: 978-983-861-322-4
Price: RM 32.00

Synopsis:

This book describes the technique of growing diamond from gas. It reviews recent advances in low-pressure diamond synthesis and discusses various analysis techniques, principles and processes involved in the making of chemical vapour deposition diamond. Also included are useful tips on several analysis techniques related to diamond film technology such as Raman spectroscopy, atomic force microscopy, X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy, electron energy loss spectroscopy and Auger electron spectroscopy.

Constructing Future Higher Education Scenarios



Compiled by Universiti Sains Malaysia
ISBN: 978-983-861-328-6
Price: RM 60.00

Synopsis:

In spite of the challenges and difficulties, the future of higher education in Malaysia is bright. A zestfully expanding economy, a passionate thrust towards value-added services, a wholehearted push for scientific endeavour and the passionate embrace of technology and new modes of production allied with a skilled and educated workforce all augur well for national development and prosperity. It is hoped that given time, USM will be able to generate a practical higher education scenario that balances the material and the spiritual within a humanistic and egalitarian framework.

Reka Bentuk Struktur Rumah Banglo Dua Tingkat Konkrit Bertetulang



Author: Badorul Hisham Abu Bakar
ISBN: 978-983-861-319-3
Price: RM 56.00

Synopsis:

This book provides an elementary and practical approach to the design and analysis of reinforced concrete structures for double storey bungalow. It also procures a straight-forward, step-by-step procedures with detail drawing documentation.

For further enquiries, please contact:
En. Norazam Ariffin Tel : 04-653 4424 or na@usm.my

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