

Speech by the Honourable Chief Minister, Penang, at
the National Annual Dinner of the Australian and New
Zealand Graduates Association of Malaya to be held
at the Pago Pago Lounge, Hotel Merlin, on Saturday,
2nd October, 1976 at 7.30 p.m.

The Chairman and Members of the Australian and New Zealand
Graduates Association of Malaya,

Members of ANZGAM Branches from Perak and Selangor,
Representatives of the High Commissions of Australia and
New Zealand,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies & Gentlemen:

I deem it a great honour to have been invited by the
members of the Australian and New Zealand Graduates Association
of Malaya to be present and to address you on this happy
occasion of your National Annual Dinner.

2. On behalf of the guests present this evening, I
would like to express our thanks to your Chairman and Members
of the Organising Committee for your kind invitation to dine
with you. We are happy that representatives of the High

Commissions of Australia and New Zealand have come to Penang to attend this memorable occasion. Their presence here marks the close ties of friendship and goodwill which exists between Malaysia, Australia and New Zealand. To a very large extent this happy relation have made it possible for so many members of your Association to have studied in Universities in Australia and New Zealand.

3. I am told that there are more than 600 graduates from Universities in Australia and New Zealand throughout Malaysia and many of you are serving with the Malaysian Government, quasi-Government bodies and the private sector and holding responsible posts such as engineers, medical practitioners, chartered accountants, economists and the like. In your professional capacities, we are happy to note that the members of your Association are contributing your fair share to the socio-economic development and progress of the

nation. Your successful translation of what you have learnt from Australia and New Zealand for the advancement of Malaysia will further strengthen the bonds of friendship and understanding between the peoples of Malaysia, Australia and New Zealand.

4. It is also heartening to note that your Association has achieved much to cater for the welfare and progress of your members. As a social and service organisation, you have done well to represent the interests of returned graduates from Australia and New Zealand. I commend your Association's projects in establishing a scholarship fund to assist deserving students to meet their examination fees and arranging for pre-departure talks and discussions to students intending to go to Australia and New Zealand for their further studies. These discussions will help them in the choice of courses as well as the problems they are likely to meet overseas. I am happy that you have coordinated your efforts in this connection with

the High Commissions of Australia and New Zealand in Malaysia.

5. I congratulate your Association for your efforts and initiative in launching a Career Guidance Week in March this year in conjunction with the Lions Club of Ipoh and the Gabongan Belia Perak. This will assist students furthering their studies either locally or overseas to better choose their careers. I hope that you will give special attention to orientate our students to the need for them to be civic minded and to realise how they can best serve Malaysia when they return after their studies.

6. As you are all aware, the Government will be spending over \$18 billion dollars for the implementation of viable projects under the Third Malaysia Plan for the 5-year period from 1976 to 1980. This Plan was recently launched by the Honourable Prime Minister, Malaysia, Datuk Hussein Onn, to achieve the main objective of national unity through the

eradication of poverty, the restructuring of our Malaysian society in order to redress the economic imbalances existing among the races in our plural society and the strengthening of national security. The Honourable Prime Minister, Malaysia, Datuk Hussein Onn, has called on all Malaysians from all walks of life to fully commit themselves, in the spirit of the Rukunegara, to the building of a united, secure, socially just, progressive and resilient nation.

7. I am sure that all the members of your Association will endorse the statement made by the Honourable Prime Minister and give it your full support by carrying out your duties to the best of your ability to ensure the success of the Third Malaysia Plan. As intelligent, professional and civic-conscious leaders of the community, you will work for the welfare and happiness of our people and the progress of the nation. I am confident that you will respond well to the

message of the Honourable Prime Minister and do your bit to give your support and cooperation to the Government in eliminating all threats of the nations' enemies such as communist terrorists, anti-national and subversive elements, thugs and drug addicts.

8. I would also like to take this opportunity to urge all of you to participate in the important task of nation-building which must be shared by all our people irrespective of race, colour or creed and contribute your share to the promotion of goodwill, harmony and understanding among ~~at~~ the **citizens** of our multi-racial society.

9. In addition to the educational projects which you are organising for the benefit of our students which I mentioned earlier, I hope many of the members of the Australian and New Zealand Graduates Association of Malaya will take an active part by participating in the Rukun Tetangga Schemes in

your sectors which have been set up to promote peace, goodwill and understanding among the various races in our society and assisting the police in safeguarding the security of your homes and surrounding areas.

10. On a happy occasion such as your National Annual Dinner, I would like, on behalf of the State Government to thank your Chairman and Members of your Association once again for your contribution to the socio-economic development of the nation. I am sure this occasion will enable all of you to renew friendships with one another and with your guests in the spirit of goodwill and understanding which is fundamental to the establishment of national unity and the progress of the nation.

11. I am told that you are raising funds for your Club House to provide facilities for social and recreational activities of your members. I hope that your efforts will meet with success.

Thank you.