

COURTESY VISIT TO A PAST PRESIDENT YBHG TAN SRI ELYAS OMAR

23 JULY 2016

This is the first of a series of visits organized for the OFA KL & Selangor (KL&S) Committee to honour and to meet eminent Old Frees. The group arrived at 12.30 pm on 23rd July 2016 for a courtesy Raya visit to one of our Past Presidents, YBhg Tan Sri Datuk Seri Utama (from now on just Tan Sri, as the preferred salutation) Elyas Omar. The 11-member team comprising Dato' Kamil, Ivan, Geoffrey, Chee How, Adi, Syed Azhar, Chong Yew and Rodney was led by our President Dato' Mahyidin. The party was warmly greeted by Tan Sri at the courtyard and later by his lovely wife, Puan Sri (Datin Seri Utama) Pengiran Normala as well as his 95-year old father-in-law, Pengiran Jalaludin at his house in Ampang Jaya.

The aim of the visit was to introduce the new committee members to an eminent Old Free / Past President and to gain an insight of the years of the school during his time. Tan Sri took his MCE in 1954 and HSC in 1956. The team was entertained with Tan Sri's stories which included the good old days at the school and as the President of the Association. He quoted the incident of asking advice from his teacher, Captain Md Noor on his plans to attend Kirby College in England for teachers training after the MCE and was told in no uncertain terms to go to Form Six. This was good advice which had helped Tan Sri to excel to where he is today.

Tan Sri was the third President of OFA KL&S from 1984 to 1992 and was the one who started the tradition of our monthly luncheon. Tan Sri narrated how during his early days of organising the luncheon tradition some skeptics in his office felt that the event could never live on as they were concerned that there may be occasions where no one will turn up. Tan Sri's answer was that "there will always be one person that will attend and that one person is Tan Sri himself". (kudos Tan Sri!).

Our President then briefed Tan Sri regarding some of the recent and upcoming activities of the Association, in particular the upcoming Bicentenary event. These include the recent flag-off of the overland drive from PFS to Dittissam, the birth place of Rev. Hutchings, the Founder of the School, the Speech Day, Bicentenary Dinner program and the following day's Bicentenary Golf tournament. An Official invitation was extended to Tan Sri to join in the Bicentenary dinner.

The group was later invited to a sumptuous lunch, where some of the dishes were especially prepared by Puan Sri herself. At this time, our President presented Tan Sri with an OFA Bicentenary memento and the book "The Tale of the White Crocodile". Before the group parted ways, Puan Sri invited members to drop in again next year for her other specialty dish of Sarawak laksa. Could this be the start of an annual courtesy/culinary visit?

On behalf of the OFA KLS, we wish YBhg and family the best of health and thank you for your contribution to PFS and the Association. God Bless you.

Tan Sri with Puan Sri and daughters



Tan Sri and Puan Sri with children and grand children



Team greeted by Tan Sri



Exchanges of views



Presentation of book souvenir (Tan Sri flanked by Ivan and Dato' Mahyidin)



Presentation of OFA momento (Tan Sri flanked by Dato Kamil and Dato Mahyidin)



Feasting



Group photograph



With Courtesy of
Tan Sri Elyas Omar
For the use of family photos.

Editorial Committee:
Dato' Mohd Mahyidin Mustakim,
Datuk Mohd Nasir Ali,
Mr Ivan Ooi, and
Mr Adi Satria
Rahmat SM Sheriff

15 August 2016