



MALAYAN CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS' COUNCIL



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GOD'S FAITHFULNESS OUR HERITAGE

1956
-
2016



YEARS

God's Faithfulness Our Heritage

YEAR 1956-2016



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EDITORIAL



In the last 60 years, the Malayan Christian Schools' Council has generally worked behind the scenes and hence its work is not known to many. This 60th Anniversary commemorative publication is intended to bring into wider awareness the work of MCSC and the contribution of the many dedicated volunteers past and present behind the organisation. It is also a timely reminder of the rich heritage and legacy passed on to us by those faithful missionary and education pioneers, a legacy which Mission Authorities and MCSC have been called by God not only to preserve but also to be faithful in building upon for the children of the land today and in the years ahead. Ultimately, this publication is an acknowledgement of God's handiwork through MCSC.

MCSC is a creature born out of necessity. When the Malayan Christian Schools' Council came into being before Independence there were already more than 200 thriving mission schools spread across Malaya and Singapore. Generations of Malaysians had passed through the portals of these schools. In those early years, the impact and influence of these Christian mission schools in the local community in an undeveloped nation yet to be born must have been incalculable.

The 13 Mission Authorities which owned and managed these mission schools needed a common vehicle to co-ordinate education policies and united action on common issues, especially in matters connected with the Government. MCSC was formed for this purpose. Its primary role was and still is to guide and act on behalf of the Mission Authorities and indirectly all the mission schools in the country. As such, MCSC has no life apart from the Mission Authorities and the Christian mission schools.

Like all the mission schools, MCSC's true life and work is in God's hand. Therefore, to celebrate its 60th Anniversary, MCSC has appropriately chosen the theme – *"God's Faithfulness, Our Heritage"*. The theme *"God's Faithfulness, Our Heritage"* affirms our conviction that the Malayan Christian Schools' Council and Christian mission schools have been preserved and sustained by God's faithfulness, and because of their historic and illustrious contribution to the nation they are truly a heritage to be treasured.

Yap Kok Keong

Chairman

Christian Brethren Education Board



MESSAGES FROM MISSION AUTHORITIES



In 1511, the Portuguese and the first Catholic chaplains led by Admiral Afonso de Albuquerque arrived in Malacca, and St Paul's Church located at the summit of St Paul's Hill was originally dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the simple chapel was known as Our Lady of Grace or Our Lady of the Hill was built in 1521. The chapel was deeded to the Society of Jesus (Jesuit Fathers) in 1548 by the Bishop of Goa, which the title deeds received by Saint Francis Xavier SJ. The chapel was further enlarged and in 1590 this building was renamed as the Church of the Mother of God.

In 1548, Saint Francis Xavier SJ with the help of his fellow Jesuits, Fr Francisco Peres SJ, and Brother Roque de Oliveira SJ, established a school in the premise of the chapel known as St Paul's College. This was the first school established in Malaya and South East Asia. In 1852, the Infant Jesus Sisters of St Maur and the Institute of the Brothers of Christian Schools (La Salle Brothers) sailed over to found Christian schools in major towns in Peninsular Malaysia. In 1882, the Mill Hill Missionaries established the St Joseph's School in Kuching.

Education through Christian Mission Schools in Malaysia has been the guiding energy for many students throughout the years and the Malayan Christian Schools' Council (MCSC) has been instrumental in pursuing God's faithfulness becoming Our Heritage today in the Christian Mission Schools in Malaysia.

With this, I thank God for His blessings showered on all who have worked tirelessly over the past 60 years in MCSC as builders of society through Christian Mission Schools where generations of students have benefited through a holistic education and nurtured in the right atmosphere of good values, so as to prepare them to be responsible, caring and honest citizens.

In celebration, we also recognise the work of MCSC which includes mapping proper education policies in place to ensure that tradition, ethos and continuity are preserved in our Christian Mission Schools as education is an effective tool to empower individuals in contributing to building our society and nation.

As I rejoice and congratulate the Malayan Christian Schools' Council on the occasion of their 60th Anniversary, I wish you a joyful and blessed celebration.

God bless you all abundantly.

With special blessings and prayers,

Most Rev Julian Leow Beng Kim, D.D.

The Titular Roman Catholic Archbishop of Kuala Lumpur.



MESSAGES FROM MISSION AUTHORITIES



It is with gratitude to Almighty God that the Methodist Church in Malaysia congratulates and rejoices with the Malayan Christian Schools' Council on this occasion of your 60th Anniversary.

Education has been a “game changer” for our nation that has made possible the upliftment, progress and modernisation of Malaysia. Historically, the Church in Malaysia is a major contributor to education. God sent visionary, passionate and hardworking pioneer missionary educators from the United Kingdom, United States of America and other Western nations to start and build schools here more than a century ago.

For example, the oldest of the Methodist mission schools is the Methodist Boys' School, Penang that celebrated its 125th Anniversary this year. The MBS Heritage Centre of this school records the many lives that have been touched by this institution including its famous sons such as the former Prime Minister of Malaysia, Tun Abdullah Haji Ahmad Badawi and former Chief Minister of Penang, Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon.

God has likewise used the MCSC to be a significant channel that helped the mission schools face and navigate the difficult seas of change, especially when official governmental policies pose great challenges to the ethos, operational values and management of our mission schools post the Independence era.

The Church is grateful for the generations of stalwart educationists in the MCSC movement who are deeply convicted about the education cause, and passionately persevered in maintaining the Christian educational ethos in touching and transforming young lives.

May Almighty God continue to sovereignly lead the MCSC, together with the mission schools in Malaysia to make a holistic difference to young lives and this nation – underpinned by our scriptural heritage, spurred on by the good work of our forefathers and undergirded by the empowering supporters of today.

Bishop Dr Ong Hwai Teik
The Methodist Church in Malaysia



MESSAGES FROM MISSION AUTHORITIES



FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

About two hundred years ago, missionaries from Britain and other lands came to the then Malaya to bring education and establish schools. They came in response to their calling from God, with a vision to equip children with knowledge and the ability to choose, decide, and make wise choices in their lives. Many of these missionaries conducted their classes in huts and borrowed rooms. Often they shared their knowledge and skills with people of very different cultures and traditions and laid a solid foundation for the educational institutions they founded. Many of these missionaries are unknown to us but they left a legacy that has blest many generations.

It is unfortunate that due to a lack of foresight and poor policies, the standard of education has dropped considerably in recent years. The hard work of the founding missionaries who provided education for the poor and rich also began schools for girls who were considered not educable. Parents were persuaded by them to send their daughters to school with the school fees being paid for and the facilities made available. Such sacrificial pioneering has left a very meaningful legacy in our mission schools of today.

We need to strive to capture the VISION AND PASSION of the early pioneers. The Malayan Christian Schools' Council has in the past sixty years worked very hard to maintain and establish the ethos and traditions of these mission schools. There are some who may have given up trying to maintain the good traditions and standards of our mission schools but the MCSC has pressed on without fear or favor to uphold the good academic and extramural standards set in years past. We need to support their efforts with prayer and physical contributions so that these schools can be enhanced for the betterment of the present generations. We also need to encourage our youth to consider seriously the teaching profession as a mission and vocation so that the future of our schools will have good Christian teachers and administrators to run them.

All praise and glory to God that He has kept many of our schools intact and some of the top schools in the country are still mission schools. We need a continued vision among all, including the Government, Mission Authorities, School Boards, Parent-Teacher Associations, Alumni and the public at large, especially Christians, to preserve our precious traditions and the fabric of our buildings and premises. With much prayers and sacrificial giving, I believe we can and must make a commitment towards the future of our schools.

I wish to congratulate the leaders of the MCSC for their hard work in past years and their networking with the Ministry of Education in sustaining our schools in their efforts to uphold the character and ethos of our mission schools. It is my earnest prayer that God would continue to bless their efforts and that the future generations of Christians will respond to the call to lead in education and help restore the standard of both academic and extracurricular activities to greater heights in the nation and the world at large.

Bishop Datuk Ng Moon Hing
Anglican Church Malaysia



MESSAGES FROM MISSION AUTHORITIES



It is indeed an honor for me to pen a few words in the Malayan Christian Schools' Council's 60th Anniversary Commemorative Book. Six decades are considerably a long period, certainly longer than the history of our nation's independence. The foresight of the early leaders of the MCSC is truly commendable. They have chartered and trail blazed a course that has significantly influenced and impacted the field of education and the overall health of this beloved nation. We want to also congratulate and commend the dedication and hard work of the past and current leadership, educators, teachers and everyone who have faithfully guarded and implemented the vision of impacting the nation through these Christian Schools that were established in the past and present.

We understand the changes of socio-political landscape have a direct impact on how the vision is to be realized in the days ahead. This calls for great wisdom from above and unity amongst the leadership. We look to God for His gracious hands to lead MCSC into the future.

It is my prayer that MCSC will continue to be instrumental in seeing the various Christian Schools move on into the years ahead with purpose and strength of character and consequently contributing to the desired result of nation building. It is a tall order in the current challenging environment but by the grace of God, I pray that MCSC and community at large will reach the plans the Lord has in store for them.

Congratulations MCSC!

Rev. Caleb Soon
Moderator of Gereja Presbiterian Malaysia



MESSAGES FROM MISSION AUTHORITIES



It is with much pleasure that I pen a few words of appreciation and encouragement to MCSC on the occasion of its 60th Anniversary Celebrations. It is indeed heartening to recall how the Lord has been so faithful for the past 60 years to see to the establishment and progress of the many mission schools in the country. Scores of foreign missionaries in the past came and had given the best part of their lives to serve and to provide a sound foundation for education in our beloved country. Many past and present national and community leaders have benefitted from the legacies that have been faithfully passed down from these mission schools.

The first mission school established by the Christian Brethren Mission Authority in the country was the Bukit Bintang Girls' School, Kuala Lumpur in 1893. Thereafter, the Bukit Bintang Boys' Primary and the Secondary Schools were established in 1956 and 1958 respectively in Petaling Jaya, Selangor. These were considered the premier schools in their heydays. The motto adopted by these mission schools was "Nisi Dominus Frustra" (Without God, all is in Vain). These schools flourished through godly and dedicated principals and teachers who provided a strong foundation in education to the children of the general populace. Children of different ethnicity, social-economic and religious background were welcome to the doors of the schools. The mixed racial background of the students reflected a progressive and harmonious environment for the development of these young minds. Some of these past students have excelled in national and corporate leadership positions that have made the schools proud. Alas, when God's presence is no more acknowledged in the mission schools through the change of government policies, and the closing down of the Bukit Bintang Girls' School in 1997, there was a gradual decline in the standards of education and morality among the students resulting in a host of present-day social ills. Indeed "Without God, all is in Vain." The same may also be the experience of many mission schools of other Mission Authorities.

The challenge for MCSC on the occasion of its 60th Anniversary Celebrations is to recover the Vision and Mission of the church through education. Unless the presence of the Lord God Almighty is acknowledged in all our churches and Mission Authorities, there can be little to uplift the present dilemma facing our mission schools. Bold steps need to be taken in faith to get the mission schools back on track. This may mean a concerted effort to unite and pray for wisdom and guidance from the Lord to get back full control of our mission schools. Priority need to be given to develop and enhance the school curriculum and assets to meet the challenges of a fast changing environment both globally and in our land.

God is faithful and the heritage of the mission schools need to be passed onto other faithful men and women who come after us. Remember what Jesus said - **"With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible" Matt 19:26. To God be the Glory!**

Elder Wong Sai Weng

On behalf of the Brethren Assemblies



SPECIAL MESSAGES



Embassy of Malaysia to The Holy See
Ambasciatori Palace Hotel
Suite 115 and 116
Via Veneto 62 - 00187 Roma

Tel. No. : +39 06 4201 2893
Fax No.: +39 06 4201 2893
Email: mwholysee.kln@1govuc.gov.my



Mission Schools in Malaysia were set up by God-fearing servants who wanted to help the people of the land achieve economic, social and spiritual progress, regardless of race or social background. They were run and managed fairly independently by committed educators who desired to impart knowledge to students from backgrounds which were traditionally not viable or even acceptable. Girl schools, for example, were something of a novelty when they were first introduced by these Mission Authorities, but they have since then contributed towards educating a generation of female leaders that the country has been blessed with.

The emphasis on discipline, character, ethics and morality were all fundamental to the system that was introduced by these Mission Authorities. These were in the days before centralized education system with standardized outcomes. These were the days before computer and technology allowed for vast treasuries of knowledge to be made available to otherwise rural and desperately poor minorities. Yet, these teachers, who came on one way tickets and some even took on local citizenship, were completely committed to the cause of assisting the poor and underprivileged. Their lives demonstrated the very values they taught, even though most of their lessons were about other subjects such as Mathematics, Science or History. These ones were fired with a passion for God's Kingdom and to serve all men.

Today, mission schools still give out light. The top performing secondary school in the SPM examinations (for two years running) is from a mission school background. For mission schools that once produced Prime Ministers and business tycoons, their legacies and standards are no longer what they used to be. But the intentions and motives as to why they were set up still remain as important foundations that can still be built upon by a new generation of educators and leaders who see the vision of building a nation that is educated, caring and united. The baton that has been dropped must be picked up again by fresh hands and new eyes.

Now is the time for the rebuilding of the "walls that have been broken down". Now is the time to take up the mantle of education that was left for us as a heritage and show this nation how education should really be carried out without discrimination, indoctrination, fair to all, focused on developing character and become a beacon of hope and sign for all those who are seeking for the 'silver bullet' that can solve our educational woes. The country needs compassionate, competent and effective citizens who seek to serve the greater good, not just to obtain some reward in the afterlife, but also to have a deep sense of the needs of the present and the know how to meet it.

This legacy of high standards of education and the unifying force of compassion has been the heritage of the Mission Schools, and it would be folly to turn our backs on such clear opportunities to build on what has gone before.

Congratulations!

Yours sincerely,

Tan Sri Bernard Giluk Dompok

Ambassador & Patron, Federation of Councils of Christian Mission Schools, Malaysia.



SPECIAL MESSAGES



I am delighted to congratulate the Malayan Christian Schools Council (MCSC) for celebrating its 60th Anniversary.

Indeed I have been heartened by the way MCSC has embraced the notion of making education its significant milestone in a way that will be remembered. The commitment of the team of dedicated volunteers comprising volunteer teachers and retired educationists in making a mark in this year of celebrations is commendable. We are all conscious of the fact that we have an opportunity to be involved in ensuring the development of our nation through education. To this end, MCSC has served our country willingly, guided by a strong sense of duty.

Your kind invitation for me to write a message for the 60th Anniversary Commemorative Magazine has given me an opportunity to reflect on my days as the former Chairman of FCCMSM. I was humbled by the fact fellow members had entrusted me with the responsibility of moving FCCMSM forward by aligning itself more closely to the Ministry of Education (MoE). As the Chairman, that task had always been at the forefront of my thoughts and actions. Working together as a team sharing a strong passion for education, we were aware that we had a lot of work to do to get to where we would like the mission schools to be. The accomplishments had included meetings with the Minister of Education, the formulation of a number of professional circulars, annual funding for the maintenance of schools, the privilege given to the Bishop to recommend the appointment of the heads of schools in the form of maximum consultation etc. In spite of the administrative challenges, we had every reason then to feel blessed that MoE had listened.

I would like to use this opportunity to call upon all who have come together to celebrate MCSC's 60th Anniversary to continue to support its noble cause of serving our nation through education. To everyone who has contributed to the meaningful success of MCSC you deserve a round of applause.

Here's to the next 60 years and beyond. Read and enjoy the MCSC's 60th Anniversary Commemorative Magazine!

With God's blessings,

Mary Yap Kain Ching, JP
Former Chairman of FCCMSM

Editor's Note:

Datuk Dr Mary Yap Kain Ching, served as Chairman of the Federation of Councils of Christian Mission Schools Malaysia from 27.7.2010 until May 2013. She was elected Member of Parliament and appointed Deputy Minister of Education. She is currently the Deputy Minister of Higher Education.



SPECIAL MESSAGES



God's Faithfulness, Our Heritage

1956 - The formation of Malay Christian Schools' Council (MCSC)

1957 - the year of independence of Malaya

Today, 60 years on, how do we stand? It is significant that our national anthem spells out the principles by which we are to live.

*Negaraku,
Tanah tumpahnya darahku
Rakyat hidup, bersatu dan maju
Rahmat bahagia, Tuhan kurniakan
Raja kita, Selamat bertakhta!*

*My Country
The land where my blood is spilt
The people living united and progressive
May God bestow blessing and happiness
May our King have a successful reign!*

We have been blessed with peace, progress and prosperity. God has certainly bestowed His blessing upon us and granted us joy through all our ups and downs. This year we celebrate 60 years of His faithfulness in granting us a rich heritage of young men and women who grew up in the mission schools that were built between the years of 1852 right up to 1967. Many of them are leaders in our nation as well as responsible citizens in the solid foundation of the bedrock of our society. We have grown to become an almost developed nation.

I put on record our gratitude to the early missionaries who came to our land and poured out their lives in sacrifice to build our schools. Only in eternity will we know the extent of their service in the building of our nation. Secondly, to the pioneers who established the MCSC, our gratitude for their foresight in the formation of this body that has worked conscientiously together to guard the rights and privileges of the mission schools by being the liaison with the Ministry of Education. Thirdly, to all past and current office bearers, our heartfelt appreciation for the time and energy spent to carry out the onerous duties you have been and are called upon to perform in order for our young people to enjoy their education in our schools.

On that historic day of 07 April 2010, the Federation of the Councils of Christian Mission Schools in Malaysia (FCCMSM) was formed. It was a coming together of the Councils in Malaya, Sabah and Sarawak, a suggestion from our patron, Tan Sri Bernard Dompok. This has reinforced the outreach of each local Council and given us a stronger voice to the government. Since that day, the MCSC has worked very closely with the Sabah and Sarawak Councils and won many concessions from the Ministry of Education. With MCSC being in Kuala Lumpur, we bear the brunt of the work and the need for a permanent secretariat was felt. We look to God Almighty to provide the wherewithal required to fund this secretariat.

My heartfelt thanks go to Mr Yap Kok Keong, Chairman of MCSC for the past eight years, who agreed to be the editor of this souvenir magazine - a task of no mean effort. He valiantly carried the responsibility to its completion. A vote of thanks to the team that helped with collection of materials and with proof reading as well. And now the magazine is in your hands - God's Faithfulness, Our Heritage! Look for your school badge, school song and motto within its pages, and the history of the establishment of mission schools in Malaysia with their ethos, culture, traditions and special characteristics, all of which give glory to our Lord God Almighty.

Soli Deo Gloria - Glory To God Alone

Moey Yoke Lai
Chairman, Malay Christian Schools' Council



SPECIAL MESSAGES



Congratulations to all of you at the Malayan Christian Schools Council (MCSC) on the occasion of your 60th anniversary. Schools under MCSC have a long and strong heritage. They have been serving our students long before our nation was founded. MCSC predates the independence of Malaya.

By eastern reckoning, a person of 60 years old is at the beginning of his or her prime! Geared with a wealth of wisdom that comes from years of experience, you know the highways and the byways, the opportunities and the pitfalls. You are now more ready than ever to lead, guide and encourage.

The Sabah Council of Christian Mission Schools is relatively young. Though some of our challenges are peculiar to Sabah, other challenges, especially national ones, are best met with a collective voice. We are thankful for the partnership rendered by MCSC, and the Sarawak Council of Christian Mission Schools. Together, as the Federation Council of Christian Mission Schools (FCCMSM), we will continue to contribute towards nation-building through our mission schools.

We wish MCSC every God's blessing. We are proud to be part of the family.

Ven. Moses Chin

Chairman, Sabah Christian Mission Schools' Council



First of all, I would like to thank the Executive Committee of Malayan Christian Schools' Council (MCSC) for giving me the opportunity to pen a few words in your publication in conjunction with the 60th Anniversary Celebration of the existence of MCSC.

Sixty years ago, in the Mission Authorities which owned Mission Schools in Malaya had the wisdom to set up the Malayan Christian Schools' Council to look after the affairs of all Mission Schools in Malaya.

MCSC has continued to do so till today and in the future as long as Mission Schools continue to exist and operate as an integral part of the Ministry Of Education in Malaysia.

The Sarawak Christian Schools' Council (SCSC), existed as a Ministry of The Association Of Churches Sarawak (SCSC) besides having a different set - up, does not have as long a history of existence as MCSC, but plays the same roles as MCSC, that is looking after the affairs of all Mission schools in Sarawak.

In order to enhance that role and pursue common objectives, on 7th April, 2010, the Federation of Councils of Christian Mission Schools Malaysia (FCCMSM) was set up, comprising three bodies namely, the Malayan Christian Schools' Council, the Sabah Christian Schools' Council and the Sarawak Christian Schools' Council. The setting up of FCCMSM is an important and significant milestone in the struggle of Christian Mission Schools toward nation building. Through the Federation (FCCMSM), the Mission Authorities have been able to form a partnership with the Ministry Of Education, working together to enhance the roles of Mission Schools in providing education to our people. In this respect, MCSC being more established and nearer to the centre of administration at Putrajaya has often played the role of "the big brother" leading and steering the Federation.

The Government, since 2009 has set aside yearly financial allocation for Mission Schools. The much needed funds have enabled the Committee of Management or Lembaga Pengurus Sekolah to carry out repairs and upgrading of facilities in their respective schools. The upgrading works have no doubt transformed the façade of many Mission Schools especially in the rural areas of Sarawak and improved the teaching and learning environment.

Therefore, on behalf of the Sarawak Christian Schools' Council, I would like to extend our appreciation and congratulations to MCSC in celebrating 60 years of contribution toward nation building, especially in the field of education.

Douglas Telajan

Chairman, Sarawak Christian Mission Schools' Council



SPECIAL MESSAGES



*And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year
"Give me light that I may tread safely into the unknown"
And he replied:
"Go out into the darkness and put thine hand into the hand of God.
That shall be to thee better than any light
And safer than any known way".*

M.L.Haskins

Surely, it's because M.C.S.C's leadership has, all these 60 years, been grasping that suggested "hand of God" that we are all able to celebrate our Diamond Jubilee; and also why we remember with gratitude all those who kept this boat afloat down through the years, often in somewhat stormy weather. It is fitting that we pay tribute in this commemorative book to all those dedicated members who courageously safeguarded the Mission Schools' character and idealism.

Way back in the early 60's, for me personally, joining the MCSC Committee was a **"treading safely into the unknown"** coming as I did from a little Irish 'kampong' which was 100% Catholic. But what a delightful experience it turned out to be. I felt so privileged to have the opportunity of sharing views and ideals with our lovely Anglican, Methodist, Brethren and Presbyterian brothers and sisters. And so it has continued down through the years: always a listening ear when some problem needed solving; some suggested names when suitable candidates for a H.M. was of essence; delight in Teachers' Day Celebrations or solace when educational matters seemed rather discouraging.

Many of our wonderful members and Chairpersons have gone to their Eternal Reward; some are still bravely and unselfishly carrying on. At this time of Jubilee, hopefully many others will be inspired to take up the challenge and follow in their footsteps. Then Longfellow's "Psalm of Life" will echo down the corridors of our Malaysian Schools:

*"Lives of great men all remind us
We can make our lives sublime
And departing, leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time."*

Datin Paduka Sr Enda Ryan FMM

Editors' Note:

Datin Paduka Sr Enda Ryan FMM has been with MCSC for the last 50 years. She is still active in the Executive Committee. Her faithfulness, humility and joy in service have been an inspiration to us who are privileged to serve with her. She best mirrors our 60th Anniversary theme: "God's Faithfulness, Our Heritage."



SPECIAL MESSAGES



“Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.”

[Deuteronomy 6:6-7]

I was introduced to the Malayan Christian Schools Council (MCSC) shortly after my retirement from the Ministry of Education Malaysia in 1994. I was not a total stranger, though, to the organization's dramatis personae - having met many of them in the course of my duties with the Government. They were men and women for whom I had the greatest respect because of their loving and tenacious commitment to the Mission Schools which they had led and served. These schools owed their existence to the early Christian Missionaries who had come to Malaya, especially since the 19th Century, to set up schools, initially in the Straits Settlements of Singapore, Penang and Malacca and subsequently in the Federated and Unfederated Malay States. The schools concentrated on the education of children who generally came from poor and disadvantaged environments. They were vastly popular, mainly because of the quality of teaching imparted by the Christian missionaries themselves as well as by local teachers who had been trained by them.

Since the 1920's, however, changes had occurred in the administration and funding of these schools when the British colonial government had asked that the schools be registered and follow a standard curriculum. In return, the British authorities began to pay the salaries of the teachers directly. This remained the scenario after Independence when a succession of Education Acts created the category of fully-assisted schools under which the Christian Schools were classified. Their Boards of Governors/Managers were maintained but these had no actual influence in the curriculum and administration of the schools. The privilege of “maximum consultation” was, however, accorded to the Mission authorities, although this was virtually restricted to the appointment of school heads.

Regular visits to the Ministry of Education and the various State Departments of Education are indeed made by the MCSC, not only for the above purpose, but also in connection with the renewal of land leases, repairs on school buildings and the erection of additional classrooms. The government representatives do respond to our requests, at least partially; but we are also indebted to the generosity of the “old boys” and “old girls” of the Mission Schools who never fail to answer the clarion calls from their ‘alma mater’. The various Christian churches have always been alert to the needs of Mission Schools - in their appointment of chaplains for School Chapels and their provision of places of worship as well as classrooms for the teaching of Bible Knowledge for the SPM Examinations. In addition the MCSC had periodically organized seminars for Heads of Mission Schools and held promotions for the recruitment of teacher-trainees from the Christian community in order to sustain a “Christian presence” in our schools.

The “Battle” for the survival and dignity of Christian Schools is still being waged by the stalwarts of the MCSC, and this must go on. At the same time, however, some of our churches have embarked on a parallel stream of Christian Private Schools and Colleges to meet the needs of Christian parents. We would need to trust in the wisdom of the Lord in His observation of this new development.

We thank the Lord for the faithful men and women who have gone before us in this great work, and we pray for His infinite love and mercy for those who soldier on in His name!

Goh Keat Seng
Former Chairman of MCSC



SPECIAL MESSAGES



GOD'S FAITHFULNESS; OUR HERITAGE.

It is through God's mercy and faithfulness that we have been able to reach our sixtieth year as a Council. It is our precious heritage in Christ and the commitment of many faithful servants of His that has made this possible.

My association with the Council began in the 1970's when I returned to Kuala Lumpur and was appointed the Anglican Representative, replacing the late Mr P.V. Jacob.

My years in the Council have been very fulfilling as I have had the privilege of working with people like the late Mr. David Boler and Brother Lawrence. I also got to know many educators from the Catholic orders and Sister Rita Rodrigues is still a very special friend. I also remember Brother Felix whose Irish humour was very refreshing.

I remember with thanksgiving the many Christian Teacher's Seminars we organized and the speakers who were inspiring and full of experience in schools. Teachers from all over West Malaysia attended at their own expense. This annual event became something they looked forward to and the numbers increased to hundreds as much was shared and friendships established across denominations and schools. This was before the electronic media was available as it was hard work on typewriters and notices written by hand.

The focus of M.C.S.C and its leaders has always been the welfare and development of the pupils in our Christian Mission Schools and the preservation of good morals and high work ethics. We ensured that committed Christian teachers were appointed as administrators so that the high academic standards and good discipline would be maintained. Good Christian values were established in all spheres of the school life and this is what endures among alumni to this day.

I served as Honorary Secretary and later as Treasurer and Chairperson and it was with different nominees from different denominations. But this I considered as something very unique and indeed precious because we had a unity that was real and it kept us united in our search for suitable candidates as Principals and requests which took us to the Ministry on a variety of issues. With prayer along the corridors of the Ministry we approached different officers and Directors and were always met with respect and courtesy. What joy it was when on a special trip to Malacca I was met by the Director who turned out to be someone I had taught in sixth form. He gave me all that I requested. Years later, another former student granted all my requests as Director General. God's mercies were bountiful and His presence always went before us. The atmosphere of cordiality and appreciation was always present in our numerous trips to state department and the Ministry.

It is my prayer that this same cordiality will prevail in the years to come and that M.C.S.C will continue to grow from strength to strength with the prayers and support of all the churches in this country. Our schools are our best investment for the kingdom. The Bible Knowledge Quizzes which have run for twenty years now are testimony to this. Let us share our resources generously.

Gloriosa Rajendran

Former Chairman of MCSC



SPECIAL MESSAGES



Heartiest congratulations to MCSC on celebrating 60 years of God's goodness.

When MCSC was first founded in 1956, the nation was looking forward to independence in 1957 and the mission schools it was founded to oversee were experiencing their heyday as top-notch, much sought after schools. But today even with the sprouting of new fully funded Government schools with resort-like facilities, our vintage-age mission schools, dependent on the largesse of the Government for capital funds to repair and refurbish schools, against all odds, still manage to hold their own.

Why?

Every brick, every tile, every pillar of our mission schools has been dedicated with a prayer to the eternal God, our refuge from ages past.

Every student was invited to contribute to the school and not just to take "for it is in giving we receive." I remember how my heart burst with pride as a 7 year old schoolgirl crossing the road to the beach to get pails of sand to build my school in Junior MGS Melaka.

The philosophy undergirding every mission school was to stretch the full potential of every student made in the image of God even if the surroundings were less than luxurious. I remember attending a musical at SMK Methodist (ACS), Ipoh. It rained very heavily that night and water leaked through the roof tiles but the show went on even though some students had to hold an umbrella to shelter the pianist. (This was before we succeeded in getting government grants to do major repair work on our buildings.)

As someone who has studied in mission schools, taught in mission schools, headed a mission school and served as Deputy Education Secretary and Education Secretary of the Methodist Council of Education and as Hon. Secretary of the Malayan Christian Schools Council for over 10 years, I can see God's hand leading us to wrest a blessing from the authorities, to be steadfast and diligent in writing and presenting memorandums. The favour shown to us was in memory of dedicated service of those who have gone before us.

May God give His wisdom and favour to MCSC !

MISS YIN KAM YOKE

Editor's Note:

Miss Yin was a dedicated and well-loved principal of Methodist Girls' School, Ipoh. She served the Methodist Council of Education as Secretary and as MCSC Hon. Secretary from 2000-2013. During her term of office, her tireless efforts, passion and commitment successfully laid the groundwork for MCSC to move forward. She is much respected and appreciated by all in MCSC.



THE MALAYAN CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS' COUNCIL EXPLAINED

The Malayan Christian Schools' Council was born in the 1950s out of necessity for the pioneers and heads of mission schools to get together to discuss common issues and programmes, and to be the representative of mission school interests to the Government. Over the last 60 years, MCSC's primary role has remained much the same. However its responsibilities and scope of work have multiplied many fold.

The Council consists of 13 Mission Authorities which own the mission schools in the country. They have set up their respective Education Councils or Boards to oversee the mission schools under their care. The operation of the Council is entrusted to the Executive Committee.

MISSION SCHOOL AUTHORITIES OF PENINSULAR MALAYSIA (2016)

MALAYSIAN CATHOLIC EDUCATION COUNCIL

La Salle Brothers (FSC) (36)
Convent of Infant Jesus Sisters (IJS) (56)
Canossian Sisters (FDCC) (6)
Franciscan Missionaries of Mary (FMM) (4)
Marist Brothers (FMS) (1)
Brothers of St. Gabriel (SG) (2)
Archdiocese of Kuala Lumpur (3)
Diocese of Melaka-Johor (6)
Diocese of Penang (12)

METHODIST COUNCIL OF EDUCATION

Methodist Schools (57)

ANGLICAN MISSION SCHOOLS BOARD

Anglican Schools (15)

PRESBYTERIAN EDUCATION BOARD

Presbyterian Schools (4)

CHRISTIAN BRETHERN EDUCATION BOARD

Christian Brethren Schools (3)



Distribution of Christian Mission Schools in West Malaysia within the Malayan Christian Mission Schools' Council



Data on Mission Schools

Number of secondary schools – 81 (SMK)

Number of primary schools – 111 (SRK)

Number vernacular schools – 13 (SJK(C) & SJK(T))

Total: 205

Total number of mission schools in the whole country – 433 (2016)

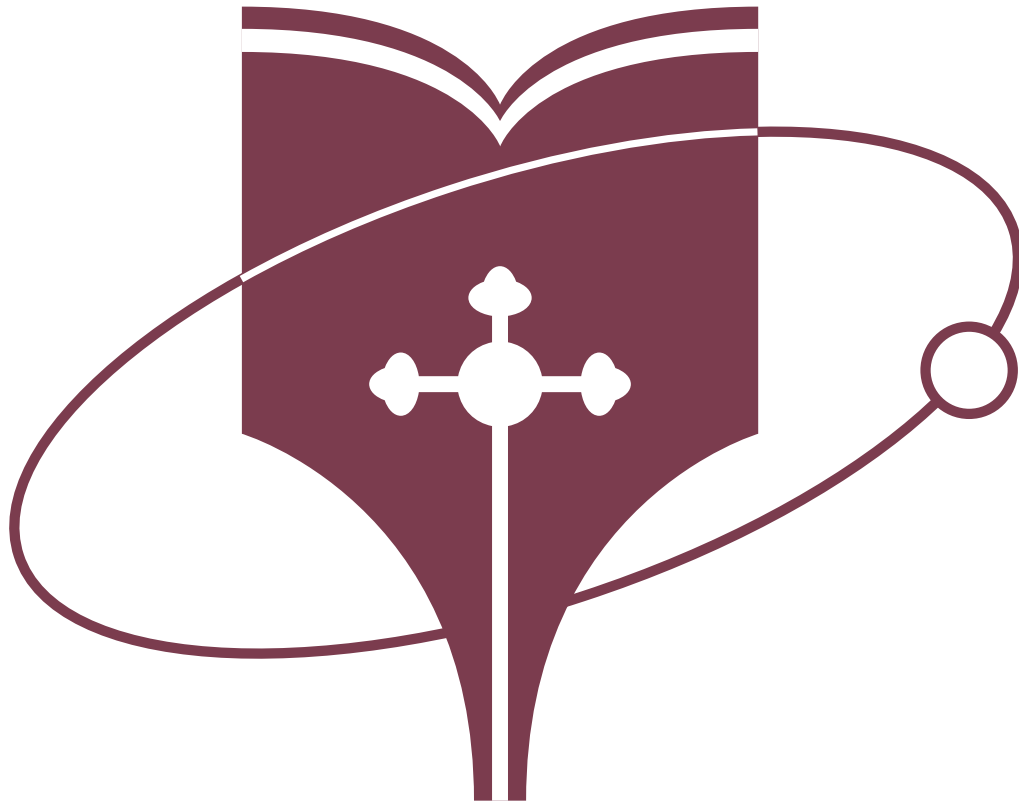
Total number of students in mission schools in the whole country – 240,000 (approx.)

Editor's Note:

The figures given may vary slightly because as time passes a few mission schools may have had their status changed from Mission Schools to "Sekolah Kerajaan".



THE EMBLEM



The Malayan Christian Mission School' Council emblem wonderfully embodies simply and clearly much of what the organisation stands for. Basically, there are 5 elements graphically represented.

1. The book represents knowledge and study.
2. The pen represents letters and writing.
3. The orbiting satellite represents Science and the orbit represents the fellowship of Christians in MCSC working together around the emblem of the cross.
4. The cross represents the Christian faith which is the foundation of the character of mission schools and the work ethos of MCSC.
5. The purple colour brings to mind the purple robe worn by Jesus Christ at his trial - a symbol of royalty, humility and suffering

It is a simple emblem yet embodying within it such a strong statement of the character, purpose and work of the Malayan Christian Schools' Council. We acknowledge with gratitude the work of Mr Alan Chong See Yeng, the designer of this emblem which MCSC has been using since the emblem was created for MCSC twelve years ago in 2004.



MCSC Council Members 2016 ~ 2018

Executive Council Members



Moey Yoke Lai
Chairman
Ch. Brethren Ed Board



Lee Kok Hwee
Vice Chairman
Gereja Presbyterian Msia



Tay Choon Neo
Secretary
Meth. Council of Ed



Dcss Yit Ching Li
Treasurer
Ang. Miss. Schools Board



Angeline Lazaroo
Assistant Secretary
MCEC



Ken Wong Kin Yin
MCEC



Khor Hong Yin
Meth. Council of Ed.



**Datin Paduka Sr
Enda Ryan FMM**
MCEC



Sr Mary Tey FDCC
MCEC



Rev Father Alvin Ho SJ
MCEC



Susila Packianathan
Ang. Miss. Schools Board



Dato' A.R. Peter
MCEC



Yap Kok Keong
Ch. Brethren Ed. Board



Rev Edward Devadason
Methodist Church



**Ann Khoo Nee Lee
Chii Yuan**
Ch. Brethren Ed. Board



Joshua Chua
Gereja Presbyterian M'sia



MCSC Council Members 2016 ~ 2018

Council Members



Sr Jane Koh FMM

MCEC



Bro Andrew Loke FSC

MCEC



Bro Ambrose Loke FSC

MCEC



Sr Luke Morales IJS

MCEC



Dr Lim Boon Hock

Meth. Church



Bro Robert Teo FMS

MCEC



Mdm Chia Loy Tian

MCEC



Steven Solomon

Meth. Church



**Satkunamary A/P
Gnanakkan**
Anglican Church



Indyrany Kannaiya

Meth. Church



PIONEERS & PAST MCSC LEADERS

Pioneers and Office Bearers ~ 1956 to 2015

It was Rev R.S. Hutchings who petitioned for the establishment of Penang Free School in 1816. Although Penang Free School is no longer considered one of our mission schools, it marked the beginning of the establishment of mission schools in our country. St. Thomas School in Kuching followed in 1848 and St. Xavier Penang in 1852. Since then many more mission schools were set up by various church denominations over the next 100 years.

To provide fellowship and coordination among mission schools, a formal body called Malayan Aided Schools Council (MASC) was set up. The minutes of that period, the early 1950's, are still preserved in our archives. The MASC Secretaries in 1956 were: Dr Ho Seng Ong (Singapore branch) and Rev R.A. Kesselring (Federation branch). At a meeting in 1957, it was decided to change the name to Malayan Christian Schools' Council (MCSC) and to register MCSC with the Registrar of Society. Since its formation, the Constitution of MCSC has remained substantially unchanged to this day.

With the rapid changes in Government policies and the nation becoming more prosperous and more able to fund education for all its citizens, the setting up of mission schools tapered off and no more mission schools were set up in Peninsular Malaysia after Malaysia came into being.

Up until 1971, the Board of Management/Governors functioning under the purview of the Mission Authorities had the freedom to run their mission schools including hiring and firing of staff. Many dedicated Christian educators, especially Catholic Brothers and Sisters were engaged in managing or teaching in these schools. The post-war years - the 50s, 60s and 70s were remembered fondly by alumni as the golden period of mission school history.

Lamentably, with the handing over of control to the Government after the Aziz Report many changes which had a negative impact on mission schools took place: The teaching staff was appointed by the Ministry of Education and teachers became Government servants. Many mission schools were classified as "controlled" schools and enrolment into them was strictly controlled by the Ministry of Education. The medium of instruction was changed from English to Bahasa Malaysia. These and a host of education policies and implementation measures affected the mission schools negatively resulting in mission schools gradually losing their ethos, culture and appeal. The flow of Catholic Brothers and Sisters into the schools also practically ceased. Over time, excellence and enrolment dropped in many schools.

Under these discouraging circumstances, Mission Authorities and MCSC leaders continued to soldier on, keeping the torch of mission schools lifted high and burning wherever they can. Many quiet battles were fought behind the scenes and the struggle continued with each succession of MCSC leaders and government leaders. In recent years, because of the perseverance and faithfulness of MCSC leaders past and present, there is some light at the end of the long tunnel.



Pioneers and Office Bearers Since the Beginning

1956 : The MCSC existed earlier as the MASC or Malayan Aided Schools Council with & earlier its own constitution. The Secretaries in 1956 were : Dr Ho Seng Ong (Singapore branch) and Rev R.A. Kesselring (Federation branch).

1957: At a meeting in 1957, it was decided to change the name to **Malayan Christian Schools' Council**.

Year	Chairman	Vice Chairman	Secretary	Treasurer
1958	Bro Celestine Jennings FSC			
1959	Bro Celestine Jennings FSC		Mr G.S. Arumugam	
1960	Bro Lawrence Spitzig FSC			
1961	Bro Celestine Jennings FSC		Rev R.A.Kesselring	
1962	Bro Celestine Jennings FSC		Mr D.R.Daniel	
1963	Bro Celestine Jennings FSC		Mr D.R.Daniel	
1964	Dr Ho Seng Ong	Ms Elena M. Cooke	Bro Joseph FSC	
1965	Bro Michael Jacques FSC	Ms Elena M. Cooke	Dr Thio Chan Bee	
1966	Bro Michael Jacques FSC	Ms Elena M. Cooke	Dr Thio Chan Bee	
1967	Bro Michael Jacques FSC	Ms Elena M. Cooke	Dr Thio Chan Bee	
1968	Bro Michael Jacques FSC	Ms Elena M. Cooke	Dr Thio Chan Bee	
1969	Ms Elena M. Cooke	Bro Lawrence Spitzig FSC	Mother Anne IJS	
1970	Ms Elena M. Cooke	Bro Lawrence Spitzig FSC		
1971/72	Bro Lawrence Spitzig FSC	Ms Elena M. Cooke	Mr D.R.Daniel	Mr Tan Chin Guan
1973/74	Bro Lawrence Spitzig FSC	Mr P.V. Jacob	Mr D.R.Daniel	Ms Elena M. Cooke
1974/75	Bro Lawrence Spitzig FSC	Mr P.V. Jacob	Mr D.R.Daniel	Mr David Boler
1975/76	Bro Lawrence Spitzig FSC	Mr P.V. Jacob	Mr D.R.Daniel	Mr David Boler
1977	Bro Lawrence Spitzig FSC	Mr P.V. Jacob	Mr D.R.Daniel	Mr David Boler
1978	Bro Lawrence Spitzig FSC	Mr David Boler	Mr D.R.Daniel	Mrs Gloriosa Rajendran
1979	Mr D.R.Daniel	Bro Joseph Yeoh FSC	Mr David Boler	Mrs Gloriosa Rajendran
1980	Mr D.R.Daniel	Bro Joseph Yeoh FSC	Mr David Boler	
1981	Mr D.R.Daniel	Bro Joseph Yeoh FSC	Mr David Boler	
1982	Mr D.R.Daniel	Bro Joseph Yeoh FSC	Mr David Boler	
1983	Mr D.R.Daniel	Bro Joseph Yeoh FSC	Mr David Boler	
1984	Mr D.R.Daniel	Bro Lawrence FSC	Mrs Gloriosa Rajendran	Mr David Boler
1984/85	Mr D.R.Daniel	Sr Rita Rodrigues IJS	Mrs Gloriosa Rajendran	Mr Oh Kong Lum
1985/86	Mr D.R.Daniel			
1986/87	Mr D.R.Daniel	Mr Oh Kong Lum	Mr Rex Michael	Mrs Gloriosa Rajendran
1987	Mr D.R.Daniel	Mrs Gloriosa Rajendran	Sr Rita Rodrigues IJS	Ms Yeap Gaik Khoon



Year	Chairman	Vice Chairman	Secretary	Treasurer
1988/89	Bro Michael Jacques FSC	Mr D.R. Daniel	Mrs Gloriosa Rajendran	Ms Yeap Gaik Khoon
1989/90	Bro Michael Jacques FSC	Mr D.R. Daniel	Mrs Gloriosa Rajendran	Ms Yeap Gaik Khoon
1990/91	Bro Michael Jacques FSC	Mr David Boler	Mr Yong Chee Seng	Mr Ronald Alfred Ferdinand
1991/92	Bro Michael Jacques FSC	Mr David Boler	Mr Yong Chee Seng	Canon Mark Choong
1992/93	Bro Michael Jacques FSC	Mr David Boler	Mr Yong Chee Seng	Canon Mark Choong
1993/94	Bro Michael Jacques FSC	Mr David Boler	Mr Yong Chee Seng	Canon Mark Choong
1994/95	Mr Goh Keat Seng	Bro David Liao FSC	Mr Yap Kok Keong	Canon Mark Choong
1995/96	Mr Goh Keat Seng	Bro David Liao FSC	Mr Yap Kok Keong	Canon Mark Choong
1996/97	Mr Goh Keat Seng	Bro David Liao FSC	Mr Yap Kok Keong	Canon Mark Choong
1997/98	Mr Goh Keat Seng	Bro David Liao FSC	Mr Yap Kok Keong	Mrs Gloriosa Rajendran
1998/99	Mr Goh Keat Seng	Bro Michael Jacques FSC	Mr Yap Kok Keong	Mrs Gloriosa Rajendran
1999/2000	Mr Goh Keat Seng			
2000/01	Mrs Gloriosa Rajendran	Bro Ambrose Augustine Loke FSC	Ms Yin Kam Yoke	Mr Yap Kok Keong
2001/02	Mrs Gloriosa Rajendran	Bro Ambrose Augustine Loke FSC	Ms Yin Kam Yoke	Mr Yap Kok Keong
2002/03	Mrs Gloriosa Rajendran	Bro Peter Foo Teik Siang FSC	Ms Yin Kam Yoke	Mrs Cherry Siew
2003/04	Mrs Gloriosa Rajendran	Bro Peter Foo Teik Siang FSC	Ms Yin Kam Yoke	Mrs Cherry Siew
2004/05	Mrs Gloriosa Rajendran	Mr A.R.Peter	Ms Yin Kam Yoke	Mrs Cherry Siew
2005/06	Mrs Gloriosa Rajendran	Mr A.R.Peter	Ms Yin Kam Yoke	Mrs Cherry Siew
2006/07	Mr Yap Kok Keong	Mr A.R.Peter	Ms Yin Kam Yoke	Mrs Cherry Siew
2007/2008	Mr Yap Kok Keong	Mr A.R.Peter	Ms Yin Kam Yoke	Ms Chin Set Ling
2008/2009	Mr Yap Kok Keong	Mr A.R.Peter	Ms Yin Kam Yoke	Ms Chin Set Ling
2010/2011	Mr Yap Kok Keong	Dato' A.R.Peter	Ms Yin Kam Yoke	Bro Robert Teoh FMS
2011/2012	Mr Yap Kok Keong	Dato' A.R.Peter	Ms Yin Kam Yoke	Bro Robert Teoh FMS
			Asst Sec: Ms Satkunamary G	
2012/13	Mr Yap Kok Keong	Dato' A.R.Peter	Mrs Vimala Mathews	Bro Robert Teoh FMS
			Asst Sec : Ms Tay Choon Neo	
2013/14	Mr Yap Kok Keong	Mr Lee Kok Hwee	Ms Tay Choon Neo	Ms Moey Yoke Lai
			Asst Sec: Dcss Wong Yoke Chan	
2014/15	Mr Yap Kok Keong	Mr Lee Kok Hwee	Ms Tay Choon Neo	Ms Moey Yoke Lai
			Asst Sec: Dcss Wong Yoke Chan	
2015/16	Mr Yap Kok Keong	Mr Lee Kok Hwee	Ms Tay Choon Neo	Ms Moey Yoke Lai
			Asst Sec: Dcss Wong Yoke Chan	
2016/17	Ms Moey Yoke Lai	Mr Lee Kok Hwee	Ms Tay Choon Neo	Dcss Yit Ching Li
			Asst Sec: Ms Angeline Lazaroo	



PIONEERS AND OFFICE BEARERS SINCE THE BEGINNING



Bro Celestine Jennings FSC



G. S. Arumugum



Bro Lawrence Spitzig FSC



Rev R.A. Kesselring



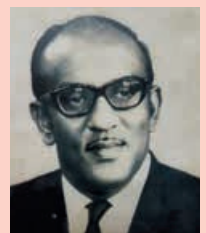
Dr Ho Seng On



Dato Bro Michael Jacques FSC



Elena M. Cooke



D.R. Daniel



Bro Joseph Yeoh FSC



Dr Thio Chan Bee



Mother Anne Tan IJS



Oh Kong Lum



Sr Rita Rodrigues IJS



David Boler



Gloriosa Rajendran



P.V. Jacob



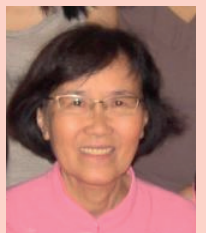
Tan Chin Guan



Bro David Liao FSC



Rex Michael



Yeap Gaik Khoo



PIONEERS AND OFFICE BEARERS SINCE THE BEGINNING



Yong Chee Seng



Goh Keat Seng



Yin Kam Yoke



Yap Kok Keong



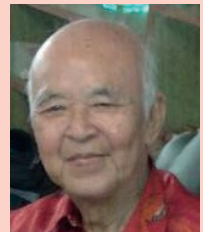
Dato A.R. Peter



**Bro Peter
Foo Teik Siang FSC**



**Ronald Alfred
Ferdinand**



Canon Mark Choong



Cherry Siew



Chin Set Ling



**Bro Ambrose
Loke FSC**



**Vimala
Matthews**



Bro Robert Teoh FMS



Tay Choon Neo



Lee Kok Kwee



**Dcss Wong
Yoke Chan**



Satkunamary



Moey Yoke Lai



Capturing Some Memories

50th Anniversary Service “Great Is Your Faithfulness”



A group photo of past leaders in 2007 at the simple service celebrating the 50th Anniversary in St. Paul Church after the AGM in Assunta School



A frame from the video prepared especially for the 50th Anniversary Celebration. A small group singing “Great Is Your Faithfulness”



Capturing Some Memories



Sr Rita given the honour of cutting the cake surrounded by Bro Michael Jacques, Mr Yong Chee Seng, Dato' A.R.Peter, Mr Goh Keat Seng, Mr Yap Kok Keong, Mrs Bhupalan, Miss Yin Kam Yoke, Mr D. R. Daniel, Bro Lawrence Spitz, Mr David Boler and MCSC supporters in the background.



2005 AGM at the SMK Assunta Board Room



Capturing Some Memories



Council Members after AGM 2005



An Act of Affection and Appreciation

Celebrating Dato' Bro Michael Jacques FSC's 90th Birthday in a restaurant in Bangsar in 2006

**OUR HERITAGE - THE MISSION SCHOOLS WE LOVE****MISSION SCHOOLS IN WEST MALAYSIA AND THEIR YEAR OF ESTABLISHMENT****DE LA SALLE BROTHERS**

	<i>Name of School</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Year Established</i>
1.	SK St Xavier Cawangan	George Town	1852
2.	SMK St Xavier	George Town	1852
3.	SK St Francis Melaka	Melaka	1880
4.	SMK St Francis Melaka	Melaka	1880
5.	SK St Paul Seremban	Seremban	1899
6.	SMK St Paul Seremban	Seremban	1899
7.	SK St John (1)	Kuala Lumpur	1904
8.	SMK St John	Kuala Lumpur	1904
9.	SK St Xavier	Pulau Tikus	1907
10.	SK St Georges 1 Taiping	Taiping	1915
11.	SK St Georges 2 Taiping	Taiping	1915
12.	SMK St Georges Taiping	Taiping	1915
13.	SK St Michael (1) Ipoh	Ipoh	1920
14.	SK St Michael (2) Ipoh	Ipoh	1920
15.	SMK St Michael Ipoh	Ipoh	1920
16.	SK St Teresa Sungai Petani	Sungai Petani	1929
17.	SMK St Teresa Sungai Petani	Sungai Petani	1929
18.	SMK St Andrew Muar	Muar	1930
19.	SK St. Patrick Kulim	Kulim	1933
20.	SMK St Patrick Kulim	Kulim	1933
21.	SK St. Michael Alor Setar	Alor Setar	1934
22.	SM St. Michael Alor Setar	Alor Setar	1934
23.	SK St Anthony Teluk Intan	Teluk Intan	1947
24.	SM St Anthony Teluk Intan	Teluk Intan	1947
25.	SK Assumption	Butterworth	1949
26.	SK Stella Maris Kuala Kangsar	Kuala Kangsar	1952
27.	SMK La Salle Klang	Klang	1952
28.	SK St. Georges Balik Pulau	Penang	1953
29.	SK De La Salle Kampar	Kampar	1953
30.	SMK St. Georges Balik Pulau	Penang	1953
31.	SRK La Salle (Cina) Brickfields	Kuala Lumpur	1953
32.	SK La Salle (1) Brickfields	Kuala Lumpur	1954
33.	SK La Salle (1) Jinjang	Jinjang Utara	1957
34.	SK La Salle (2) Jinjang	Kuala Lumpur	1958
35.	SK La Salle Petaling Jaya	Petaling Jaya	1959
36.	SK St John (2)	Kuala Lumpur	1960

**St Xavier's Institution**

School motto
Labor Omnia Vincit
Labour Conquers All

**St John's Institution**

School motto
Fide et Labore
Faith and Zeal

**St George's Institution**

School motto
Honor Virtutis Praemium
Honour is the reward of virtue

**St Michael's Institution**

School motto
Quis Ur Deus
Who can compare to God

**St Paul's Institution**

School motto
Virtute et Labore
Virtue and Labour



Name of School	Location	Year Established
37. SK La Salle (2) Brickfields	Kuala Lumpur	1961
38. SMK La Salle Petaling Jaya	Petaling Jaya	1962
39. SK La Salle (1) Sentul	Kuala Lumpur	1963
40. SK La Salle Klang	Klang	1963
41. SK La Salle (2) Sentul	Kuala Lumpur	1964
42. SMK La Salle Brickfields	Kuala Lumpur	1964
43. SK La Salle Ipoh	Ipoh	1965
44. SK St Andrew Muar	Muar	1965
45. SMK La Salle Sentul	Kuala Lumpur	1965



St Francis' Institution

School motto
Age Quod Agis
Whatever you do, do it well

MISSION SCHOOLS UNDER BROTHERS OF ST. GABRIEL

Name of Schools	Location	Year Established
1. SRK St. Thomas	Kuantan	1953
2. SMK St Joseph Johor Baru	Johor Bahru	1955

MISSION SCHOOLS UNDER THE MARIST BROTHERS

Name of School	Location	Year Established
1. SMK Katholik Petaling Jaya	Petaling jaya	1957



MISSION SCHOOLS UNDER THE ARCHDIOCESE OF KUALA LUMPUR

Name of School	Locaton	Year Established
1. SMK St Thomas	Kuantan	1950
2. SJK (C) Sino-English	Seremban	N/A
3. SMK Katholik Bentong	Bentong	1957

MISSION SCHOOLS UNDER THE DIOCESE OF MELAKA - JOHOR

Name of School	Location	Year Established
1. SK Montfort Batu Pahat	Batu Pahat	1960
2. SK St Joseph Johor Baru	Johor Bahru	1956
3. SJK (C) St Joseph Johor Baru	Johor Bahru	1937
3. SJK (C) Katholik Melaka	Melaka	1928
4. SJK (C) St Mary Melaka	Melaka	1928
5. SMK Katholik Melaka	Melaka	1958

MISSION SCHOOLS UNDER THE DIOCESE OF PENANG

Name of School	Locaton	Year Established
1. SK St Francis Sitiawan	Sitiawan	N/A
2. SJK (C) Sam Tet Ipoh	Ipoh	1934





Name of School	Location	Year Established
3. SMJK Katholik Tanjung Malim	Tanjong Malim	1961
4. SMJK Sam Tet Ipoh	Ipoh	1952
5. SMK Convent Teluk Intan	Teluk Intan	N/A
6. SK St Georges Balik Pulau	Balik Pulau	N/A
7. SJK (C) Kim Sen	Bukit Mertajam	N/A
8. SJK (C) Shang Wu	George Town	1909
9. SJK (C) Heng Ee	George Town	1967
10. SJK (C) Sacred Heart Balik Pulau	Balik Pulau	1909
11. SMJK Sacred Heart Balik Pulau	Balik Pulau	1950
12. SMK St George Balik Pulau	Balik Pulau	N/A
13. SK Assumption	Butterworth	N/A

MISSION SCHOOLS UNDER THE FRANCISCAN MISSIONARIES OF MARY

Name of School	Location	Year Established
1. SK Assunta (1) Petaling Jaya	Petaling Jaya	1955
2. SK Assunta (2) Petaling Jaya	Petaling Jaya	1955
3. SMK Assunta Petaling Jaya	Petaling jaya	1958
4. SK Assunta Convent Kuantan	Kuantan	1958



School Motto
Ad Veritatem Per Caritatem
To Truth through Charity

MISSION SCHOOLS UNDER THE CANOSSIAN SISTERS

Name of Mission Schools	Location	Year Established
1. SMK Canossa Convent Melaka	Melaka	1905
2. SK Sacred Heart Convent Melaka	Melaka	1905
3. SK Canossian Convent Kluang	Kluang	1951
4. SMK Canossian Convent	Kluang	1951
5. SMK Canossian Convent	Segamat	1956
6. SK Canossian Convent Segamat	Segamat	1956



School Motto
VIA VERITAS VITA
WAY TRUTH LIFE



CONVENT OF THE INFANT JESUS SISTERS

<i>Name of Schools</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Year Established</i>
1. SMK Convent Lebu Light	George Town	1852
2. SK Convent Lebu Light	George Town	1852
3. SK I J Convent (1) Melaka	Melaka	1860
4. SK I J Convent (2) Melaka	Melaka	1860
5. SMK I J Convent Melaka	Melaka	1860
6. SMK Convent Taiping	Taiping	1899
7. SMK Convent Bukit Nanas	Kuala Lumpur	1899
8. SK Convent Kota Taiping	Taiping	1899
9. SK Convent (1) Bukit Nanas	Kuala Lumpur	1899
10. SK Convent (2) Bukit Nanas	Kuala Lumpur	1899
11. SJK (T) St Teresa's Convent	Taiping	1903
12. SMK Convent Ipoh	Ipoh	1907
13. SJK (C) Ave Maria Ipoh	Ipoh	1907
14. SMK I J Convent Teluk Intan	Teluk Intan	1919
15. SK Convent Teluk Intan	Teluk Intan	1919
16. SMK Convent Pulau Tikus	George Town	1922
17. SMK I J Convent Johor Baru	Johor Bahru	1925
18. SK I J Convent johor Baru	Johor Bahru	1925
19. SK Convent (1) Klang	Klang	1928
20. SK Convent (2) Klang	Klang	1928
21. SMK Convent Klang	Klang	1928
22. SMK Convent Butterworth	Butterworth	1930
23. SK Convent 1 Butterworth	Butterworth	1930
24. SK Father Barre's Convent Sg Petani	Sungai Petani	1933
25. SMK Convent Bukit Mertajam	Bukit Mertajam	1934
26. SK Convent Bukit Mertajam	Bukit Mertajam	1934
27. SRK St Nicholas Convent	Alor Setar	1934
28. SMJK Convent Dato Keramat	George Town	1935
29. SRJK (C) Dato Keramat	George Town	1935
30. SK I J Convent Tanah Rata	Tanah Rata	1935
31. SMK Ave Maria Convent Ipoh	Ipoh	1938
32. SK Convent Muar	Muar	1938
33. SMK Convent Muar	Muar	1938
34. SMK Convent Kajang	Kajang	1939
35. SK Convent Kajang	Kajang	1939
36. SMK Convent Sentul	Sentul	1940





CONVENT OF THE INFANT JESUS SISTERS

<i>Name of Schools</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Year Established</i>
37. SJK (T) St Joseph's Convent	Kuala Lumpur	1940
38. SRJK (T) St Philomena Convent	Ipoh	1945
39. SK St Teresa Convent Brickfields 1	Kuala Lumpur	1945
40. SK St Teresa Convent Brickfields 2	Kuala Lumpur	1945
41. SK St Bernadette's Convent	Batu Gajah	1946
42. SMK St Bernadette Convent	Batu Gajah	1946
43. SM I J Convent Jalan Peel	Kuala Lumpur	1949
44. SJK (C) Notre Dame	Melaka	1949
45. SR I J Convent Jalan Peel	Kuala Lumpur	1949
46. SM I J Convent Pulau Tikus	Penang	1950
47. SRK Father Barre' Convent	Sungei Petani	1951
48. SK St Teresa Sungai Petani	Sungai Petani	N/A
49. SK St Anne's Convent Kulim	Kulim	1953
50. SM St Anne's Convent Kulim	Kulim	1953
51. SK Convent Green Lane	George Town	1953
52. SRK I J Convent	Melaka	1953
53. SMK Convent Sitiawan	Sitiawan	1954
54. SK Convent Aulong	Taiping	1954
55. SK Convent Batu Pahat	Batu Pahat	1955
56. SMK Convent Batu Pahat	batu Pahat	1955
57. SK Marian Convent Ipoh	Ipoh	1957
58. SRK Marian Convent, Setapak	Kuala Lumpur	1957
59. SK Convent Sentul (1)	Kuala Lumpur	1959
60. SK Convent Sentul (2)	Kuala Lumpur	1959
61. SK Convent Sitiawan	Sitiawan	1960
62. SMJK Notre Dame Convent	Melaka	1960
63. SM I J Jalan Mesjid	Penang	1961
64. SK St Anne's Convent	Klang	1961
65. SJK (C) St Teresa Convent Brickfields	Kuala Lumpur	1962
66. SK Tarcisian Convent	Ipoh	1965
67. SMK Tarcisian Convent	Ipoh	1965



MISSION SCHOOLS UNDER THE METHODIST COUNCIL OF EDUCATION

<i>Name of Schools</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Year Established</i>	
1. SK (P) Treacher Methodist (TMGS)	Taiping	1889	
2. SMK (P) TREACHER METHODIST (TMGS)	Taiping	1889	
3. SK PYKETT METHODIST	Georgetown	1891	
4. SMK LAKI-LAKI METHODIST	Georgetown	1891	
5. SK PEREMPUAN METHODIST	Georgetown	1892	
6. SMK PEREMPUAN METHODIST	Georgetown	1892	
7. SK METHODIST (ACS) KLANG	Klang	1893	
8. SMK METHODIST (ACS) KLANG	Klang	1893	
9. SK METHODIST (ACS) IPOH	Ipoh	1895	
10. SMK METHODIST (ACS) IPOH	Ipoh	1895	
11. SK (P) METHODIST 1, BRICKFIELDS	Kuala Lumpur	1896	
12. SMK (P) METHODIST	Kuala Lumpur	1896	
13. SK (P) METHODIST (MGS) IPOH	Ipoh	1897	
14. SMK PEREMPUAN METHODIST IPOH.	Ipoh	1897	
15. SMK LAKI-LAKI METHODIST	Kuala Lumpur	1897	
16. SK Horley Methodist Teluk Intan	Teluk Intan	1899	
17. SMK HORLEY METHODIST	Teluk Intan	1899	
18. SEKOLAH KEBANGSAAN METHODIST	Nibong Tebal	1903	
19. SK Methodist (ACS) Kampar	Kampar	1903	
20. SMK METHODIST (ACS) KAMPAR	Kampar	1903	
21. SK Methodist (ACS) Sitiawan	Sitiawan	1903	
22. SMK METHODIST (ACS) SITIAWAN	Sitiawan	1903	
23. SMK METHODIST NIBONG TEBAL	Nibong Tebal	1903	
24. SK (P) Methodist (MGS) 1 Melaka	Melaka	1904	
25. SK (P) METHODIST (MGS) 2 MELAKA	Melaka	1904	
26. SMK (P) METHODIST (MGS) MELAKA	Melaka	1904	
27. SMK METHODIST (ACS), PERAK	Parit Buntar	1907	
28. SK METHODIST (ACS) MELAKA	Melaka	1910	
29. SMK METHODIST (ACS) MELAKA	Melaka	1910	
30. SK METHODIST (ACS) SEREMBAN	Seremban	1915	
31. SMK METHODIST (ACS) SEREMBAN	Seremban	1915	
32. SK (P) METHODIST (MGS) KLANG	Klang	1924	
33. SMK (P) METHODIST (MGS) KLANG	Klang	1924	
34. SK Methodist Sg. Siput (U)	Sg. Siput (U)	1929	
35. SMK METHODIST SG SIPUT (U)	Sungai Siput	1929	
36. SK METHODIST TG. RAMBUTAN	Tanjong Rambutan	1929	
37. SK Methodist Tanjong Malim	Tanjong Malim	1931	



MISSION SCHOOLS UNDER THE METHODIST COUNCIL OF EDUCATION

Name of Schools	Location	Year Established
38. SMK METHODIST TANJONG MALIM	Tanjong Malim	1931
39. SK (L) Methodist (MBS) Sentul	Kuala Lumpur	1936
40. SMK (L) METHODIST SENTUL	Sentul	1936
41. SK (P) Methodist (MGS) Kuantan	Kuantan	1938
42. SMK (P) Methodist (MGS) Kuantan	Kuantan	1938
43. SJK(T) Methodist Malim Nawar	Malim Nawar	1946
44. SK Methodist Malim Nawar	Malim Nawar	1946
45. SK (P) Methodist (MGS) Raub	Raub	1947
46. SK Methodist Telok Datok	Banting, Kuala Langat	1953
47. SMK METHODIST TELOK DATOK	Banting	1953
48. SK METHODIST AYER TAWAR	Ayer Tawar	1955
49. SMK METHODIST AYER TAWAR	Ayer Tawar	1955
50. SK METHODIST PELABUHAN KLANG	Pelabuhan Klang	1956
51. SK METHODIST (INTEG) (M) SG. PELEK	SEPANG	1957
52. SK Methodist Petaling Jaya	Petaling Jaya	1960
53. SK HO SENG ONG METHODIST	Ipoh	1964
54. SK METHODIST (ACS) LUMUT	Lumut	1965
55. SK (P) Methodist (MGS) Teluk Intan	Teluk Intan	1967
56. SK Methodist Pokok Assam	Taiping	1982



Note: Schools no longer on mission school land or closed

1. SK (L) Methodist, Kuala Lumpur
2. SK Methodist, Parit Buntar
3. SMK Methodist (MGS) Raub
4. SJKT Methodist, Kapar
5. SJKT Methodist, Buntong, Ipoh



MISSION SCHOOLS UNDER THE SYNOD OF DIOCESE OF WEST MALAYSIA ANGLICAN CHURCH

Name of Schools	Location	Year Established
1. SMK St. Mary	Kuala Lumpur	1912
2. SK St. Mary	Kuala Lumpur	1912
3. SMK (P) Pudu	Kuala Lumpur	1914
4. SK (P) Pudu 1	Kuala Lumpur	1914
5. SK (P) Pudu 2	Kuala Lumpur	1914
6. SK All Saints	Kamunting	1936
7. SK St. Gabriel	Kuala Lumpur	1946
8. SK. St. Mark (M)I	Perai	1952
9. SMK St. Gabriel	Kuala Lumpur	1953
10. SK Yong Peng	Yong Peng	1954
11. SK St Aidan	Bahau	1955
12. SJK (C) St Michael & All Angels	Ipoh	1932
13. SMK St Mark	Butterworth	1958
14. SMK St David	Melaka	1959
15. SK St Mark	Butterworth	1959



MISSION SCHOOLS UNDER THE PREBYSTERIAN CHURCH MALAYSIA

Name of School	Location	Year Established
1. SK Kulai 1	KULAI	1953
2. SK Kulai 2	KULAI	1953
3. SJK (C) Chong Eng	KLUANG	N/A
4. SJK (C) Chung Hwa	MUAR	N/A
5. SJK (C) Gau San	PONTIAN	N/A

MISSION SCHOOLS UNDER THE CHRISTIAN BRETHREN

Name of School	Location	Year Established
1. *SK (P) Bukit Bintang 1	Kuala Lumpur	1957
2. *SK (P) Bukit Bintang 2	Kuala Lumpur	1958
3. *SMK(P) Bukit Bintang	Kuala Lumpur	1893
4. SK (L) Bukit Bintang (1)	Petaling Jaya	1957
5. SMK (L) Bukit Bintang	Petaling Jaya	1958
6. SK (L) Bukit Bintang (2)	Petaling Jaya	1964



* Schools no longer listed as mission schools, renamed SMK Seri Bintang Utara and moved to Cheras in 2000



Mission School Culture, Ethos and Traditions

Mission Schools are characterised by their distinctive culture, ethos and traditions especially in the early days of their formation. They were founded and built on the prayers, tears and sacrifice of the early missionaries and with the support of the local community. These Christian Brothers and Sisters and pioneer educators, many of whom came from different parts of the world served faithfully as teachers and heads of mission schools. These were men and women of great faith and faithfulness who dedicated their lives to their calling to establish and build up these schools which became our heritage. Our nation owes them a debt of gratitude.

In the early days, the culture, ethos and tradition of mission schools were basically illumined by the Gospel. Attention was focused on the needs of students who came from a great diversity of background especially the poor, and girls who did not have access to a formal education.

Emphasis was on holistic education - academic excellence, co-curriculum participation and character formation. As a result, thousands upon thousands of students who went through mission schools have contributed immeasurably to the betterment of family and country. Even though many mission schools today have lost much of their heritage, the residual ripple of positive influence continues to permeate unnoticed in homes and society from generation to generation.

Mission schools have pursued the aspirations of the Rukun Negara and the National Philosophy of Education long before these were formulated.

It is well expressed by Bro Cassian FSC in his dissertation in the extract below:

“The Catholic school readily identifies itself with the RUKUN NEGARA which proclaims a Malaysian consensus on the primacy of the spiritual in the life of the nation, and with the Malaysian Constitution which guarantees freedom of worship to all religions and to all citizens. The individual student is helped to be more personally aware of God in his/her life and gradually to integrate this awareness with personal attitudes and action and the development of healthy moral values. A maturing personal spirituality becomes the basis for the fullest development of the total person: moral, emotional, academic, physical, social and aesthetic.”

The other characteristics of mission schools will also include such things as the following:-

- attention to persons
- special concern for the economically poor
- commitment to excellence
- creative and adaptive education
- promotion of justice and peace
- a spirit of goodwill and of service

“It is our intense pre-occupation with the lives of the young and their hopes and aspirations and their anguish and sorrows that move adults to paint new horizons and pave new paths for the generations to come. This can only come about when we are ready to return to our founding inspirations of restoring the sacredness of human persons as the channel for the building of a more humane world.”

- Brother Anthony Rogers fsc



"Education is the moulding of the heart; in order to pursue such an aim it is necessary to use kindness with one, firmness with another; reason with the third. But everyone has to be dealt with love especially the poor girls (boys) who do not enjoy affection in the family. These girls (boys) must find that we are mother (fathers) to them."

- St. Magdalen of Canossa

Kindness with one and to all



THE PHILOSOPHY OF MISSION SCHOOLS

- Education for All and for Unity
- Compassion for the Poor and the Weak
- Discipline in the Context of Love
- Prayer and the Presence of God
- Passion, Dedication, Perseverance and Self-sacrifice

This philosophy and values system of mission schools are reflected in the emblems/badges of mission schools. Sadly many of these are unappreciated by the newer generation and have been altered or discarded. However, some mission schools have been steadfast in preserving them and their distinctiveness.

Some samples of mission school badges/emblems and mottoes are shown below. The mottoes are often in Latin, the ancient language of scholars, reflecting their origin and vintage. The meaning contained within them encapsulates the philosophy of these schools and the ethos and culture they seek to inculcate in their students.

Assunta School Badge

The Ship - The trials that are encountered in life.

The Sea - The ocean of knowledge that we must travel.

The Entwining Scallop - The cord that binds the Franciscan family.

The Star - The guiding light through our tribulations in life.

Ad Veritatem Per Caritatem - School's motto in Latin which means

'To Truth Through Charity'.



Ad Veritatem Per Caritatem – To Truth through Charity

The Assunta School's motto is derived from two Latin words – 'caritas' and 'veritas' – love and truth. In Latin, words change their endings according to how it is used in the sentence. Hence, after the words 'to' and 'through' we get 'caritatem' and 'veritatem'.

Since God is truth personified, perfect truth, the motto means our charitable works will eventually lead us to Him. With this motto, the school hopes to inspire her students to be charitable in their



day-to-day living and their interaction with others.

The motto is used by every FMM School and University worldwide. It is proudly incorporated into the design of the school's badge and flag as a permanent reminder to guide the lives of every student that passes through the doors of Assunta.

The BBGS Emblem

Nisi Dominus Frustra - Without God All Is In Vain

It is God who gives meaning to life.

Without God, life is meaningless as a person will not find true fulfilment despite all her efforts.

In the positive, "With God All Is Possible" teaches us dependence on God for all our daily needs and endeavours.

The Bukit Bintang Girls' School ethos and core values are embedded in their school motto and school song – in addition to the BBGS heritage of character development, discipline, obedience, godliness, excellence, humour without malice and kindness to all mankind. BBGS traditions such as choral speaking, choir singing and the fine arts; class and toilet cleanliness; floral arrangement and landscaping; competitive sports and entrepreneurship through food sales and fun fairs instilled certain disciplines and skills in the alumni that must be passed on to future generations.

These inculcated a sense of caring for one another, a striving for all that is noble, pure, good and kind. The cardinals of love and truth were practised.

Such lofty ideals have led to the setting up of the **Elena Cooke Education Fund** in 2010 by the BBGS Old Girls' Association with the "Vision – Inspiring Women to BE their BEST" and the "MISSION – making our impact through.... Scholarships, Education and Enriching Friendships"

The education fund is named after their beloved principal - Miss Elena Cooke in honour of her distinguished leadership and vision and her sacrificial service.





The Emblem and Motto of All Canossian Schools

- On the blue background, there is a four pointed star that emits light in the direction of a book.
- The book is a symbol of knowledge.
- The star is a symbol of high ideals, which drives a person towards good and noble deeds. The four factions on the star symbolize that the important purpose of our life is to find true success in accordance with four principles of social symbols and slogans :

TRUTH

Sincerity in speech and action, awareness and forthrightness.

JUSTICE

Honesty, courtesy and respect for the rights of others.

AFFECTION

Feelings of love for all humans, respect and willingness to help and to share with others as creatures equally created by God.

FREEDOM

Mutually considerate and respect for the principles and rights of others.

- VIA (WAY)
How to live our lives with confidence despite difficulties and distress.
- VERITAS (TRUTH)
How in a situation that is confusing we are able to differentiate between right and wrong.
- VITA (LIFE)
How to achieve success in life and retain it over time.
- The crown resting on the badge symbolizes the supremacy of God over all and all for the glory of God.



School Mottoes of some well-known mission schools:

St Xavier's Institution (Penang)	<i>Labor Omnia Vincit</i>	Labour Conquers All
St Francis' Institution (Malacca)	<i>Age Wuod Agis</i>	Whatever you Do, Do it Well
St John's Institution (K.L.)	<i>Fidel et Labore</i>	Faith and Zeal
St Paul's Institution (Seremban)	<i>Virtute et Labore</i>	Virtue and Labour
St Georges' Institution (Taiping)	<i>Honor Virtutis Praemium</i>	Honour is the Reward of Virtue
Methodist Boys School (K.L)	<i>Ora et Labora</i>	Pray and Work
St Mary's Secondary School (K.L.)		I Serve
Treacher Methodist Girl's School (Taiping)		Live Worthily
Main Convent, Ipoh		Simple in Virtue, Steadfast in Duty



THE MEMORABLE COLOURS OF SCHOOL LIFE

Distinctive uniforms

School Houses

School Icons

School mottoes, songs,

Interschool rivalries: competitions, debates

Annual drama or musical productions

Active uniform bodies: Scout, Guide movements; Boys' Brigade and Girls' Brigade

Choral speaking, musical groups, talentimes

Chapel services, school fellowships

Teaching of Bible Knowledge for Lower School Certificate and Cambridge School Certificate

Founder's Day

Sharing Day

Fund raising projects to maintain and build new school buildings and facilities:

(Tuckshop Day, Food Sale, Jumble Sale, Job Week, Fun Fair, Walkathon....)

and more

From "The Rivals" (MGS KL)



DRAMA



From "The Wizard of Oz" (SMI 1983)

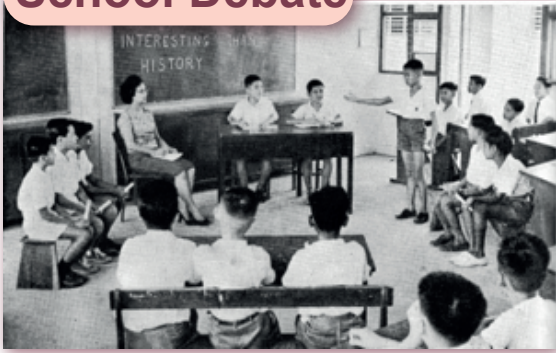
St. Michael's Institution Orchestra

MUSIC





School Debate



Christmas Pageant (MGS 1965)

Chapel Service



The Assunta Military Band performing during Sports Day 2008.

Scout Movement



It's great to be young! (Taiping Convent)



There are too, more leisurely occupations like the above art class in the sunny tropics.

Lessons outdoor - that's how they teach in the old days!

Or the art of Guiding, still in the regions of the Equator.





*Assunta School - Those were the days!
- Wonder who's on the extreme right?*

It is not uncommon for children studying in mission schools to be classmates for 10 to 13 years. It is no wonder then that common youthful experiences - laughter and tears - during these formative years forged friendships that last well beyond school life. As they leave the school and enter the working world and take on new responsibilities, the knowledge, skills and values inculcated in them stand them in good stead. Therefore, they remember their alma mater with nostalgia and would rally to her cry for help when they hear her call.

The support of loyal alumni has been one of the strong pillars of mission schools. One of the strongest and most effective of such alumni groupings is the Malaysian Federation of Lasallian Associations. The people resources and the financial help given to Lasallian schools and students by way of scholarships and other means go on all the time. Most of the time, this kind of alumni charitable acts, in big ways and small ways, especially help given to poor students by former students are done quietly and unbeknown to the public. Many donors would even want to remain anonymous. Such practice has been part of the culture of our mission schools.

Liew Foong Ying Memorial Scholarship set up in SMK Pudu, Kuala Lumpur to help poor students fulfil their dreams of going to university.

Another good example is the T Mori Education Fund started by 3 former students of the Methodist Boys' School which illustrates very well some of the ethos and culture that mission schools can justifiably be proud of.



Giving Back to the School and to Society in the Name of Love



When old boy Lee Tak Suan and his group of three friends Tan Sri Tay Ah Lek, Datuk Wong Chee Kooi and Pong Wah Cheong initiated a scholarship programme for students from the Methodist Boys School it was done quietly out of love for their Alma Mater and as a way of giving back to society. The programme began in 2002 and went on until 2016, providing poor but bright students from the school with an annual scholarship for their tertiary education. After that period they decided to embark on a more ambitious project - the T Mori Education Trust Fund to honour their principal and to give the opportunity for more alumni to participate in this worthy project.



Lee Tak Suan:

“Mr T Mori, our principal was a great man. He was a great disciplinarian yet all of us loved him for what he had bestowed upon us as a teacher and principal... “So we want to remember him and show our love for the school through this project. ...Just saying that we love our school doesn’t mean anything as it does not evoke any emotion to a third party.”

The Fund was launched on 20th November 2010 at the Royal Selangor Golf Club

An extract from Mr Yong Chee Seng’s opening address at the launching ceremony:

“In my perception, what makes our school great is not only the brick and mortar. The real substance is the human element – the people, students, teachers, staff, alumni, parents, supporting friends and the public. MBSKL has become what it is today because over the years principals, students, teachers, parents, the church and the alumni association have toiled and endeavoured to create, with their contributions, a culture and tradition of loyal support, giving us our physical structure and more importantly a spirit of oneness among us.

Allow me to ask. “How many schools in this country, be it national schools or any other type of schools have such noble and comprehensive support from alumni as our MBSKL?”

The establishment of this trust fund is indeed a historical milestone in the annals of our beloved MBSKL which, tonight, sees another solid brick built into her rich edifice of culture and tradition which ranks second to none. Naming this fund after our beloved principal, Mr Takamizu Mori or fondly known to us as Mr T Mori, is a wise and most appropriate choice. Most of us here tonight know Mr T Mori. To many of us, our lives have been touched by his true dedication to educate the students of MBSKL in particular and students of the country in general. Many of Mr Mori’s deeds were not confined to MBSKL alone. His colourful life and charitable heart took him into activities which served the nation, the youth and sports in particular, in ways which few can compare.

Mr T Mori is a true blue MBSian. He came to Malaya with his parents, a sister and a brother in 1908. He joined MBSKL in 1918 and did brilliantly in academic studies and in almost every sport played in the school. Winning an award to study at the Raffles College in Singapore, he completed his Diploma in Arts and returned to his alma mater to teach in 1931. Except for a break between 1941 and 1945 when his whole family was incarcerated by the British Government, he faithfully served MBSKL as teacher, senior assistant and principal until he retired in 1969.

In his tenure in MBSKL he has touched the lives of many students, colleagues and staff under him. He is well-remembered for his no-nonsense approach in administering discipline. Recalcitrant students felt the sting of his canes which he used with fairness and justice. Frequently when I meet up with students who had a taste of his cane, they recollect with humour



and even gratitude that they got their just desserts. I have not encountered anyone who went under his cane, recount their punishment with grudge or resentment. On the contrary, the recollection inevitably is with a sense of happy recollection. Not long ago I met a former student who is a grandfather now, who lamented; “Mr Yong, why schools do not appoint headmasters like Mr Mori now, eh? When we played truant he caned the daylights out of us and before caning ask us which cane to choose also!” Yes, many students express their gratitude to Mr Mori for his fatherly care for us, especially those who were under-privileged whom he noted and went out of his way to care for. We have heard that on many occasions when he spotted students who were not in the tuck-shop during interval he would ask them why. He had a keen eye to spot needs. Out of his own pocket he would give out money so that they can have a snack. Indeed the hot meal programme was started during his tenure.

Mr Mori was a faithful and dedicated member of the YMCA giving his time and whole-hearted support to serve the youth. He was president of the KL YMCA for many years and also headed the national YMCA. His dedication and his sincerity in serving the YMCA persuaded him to sacrifice his own financial security by mortgaging his home to provide finance to build the block which we now see standing at Brickfields.

When his active playing days were over, Mr Mori did not cease to serve society. He was very much involved in the Football Association of Selangor and Malaysia as their secretary and council member. He was also a member of the Juvenile Court, visitor to the Sungei Buloh Leprosarium and a member of the Malaysian Youth Council.

When our first Prime Minister, Tunku Abdul Rahman needed to go on official visit to Japan, Mr T Mori, being a personal friend, was appointed liaison officer and interpreter. Appropriately his services were recognized by our Yang di Pertuan Agong who awarded him the KMN and the Japanese Imperial Government awarded him the Order of the Sacred Treasure of Japan.

And so it is very right and appropriate that we name this fund the T. Mori Education Trust Fund for its objectives are very much after the heart of Mr T Mori.

Tonight, while we pay tribute to and honour a great man, a true son of Malaysia, an exceptional and outstanding MBSKL alumnus, we must acknowledge and express our heart-felt gratitude to Mrs Mori Snr. and to members of the family.

Mr Mori had given his life to serve us.



Mission Schools Ethos and Traditions create Memories and Friendships that last a Lifetime

Many alumni groups of mission schools drawn together by common memories of shared values and experiences continue their friendship through the years - right into old age. Today, "WhatsApp" enables such alumni groups to keep in touch and make sharing much easier.

As the years go by such alumni groups would gradually become smaller and smaller as one by one the members fade away. Those who remain would still gather, off and on, to laugh and joke about a thousand and one things in life, and mostly about the idiosyncrasies of their teachers, even the punishment they had received for the youthful follies and naughty pranks of yesteryears.

The school they studied in, sometimes for as long as 13 years are always somewhere in their hearts.

One example of such a group (MBS KL, year of 1960):



The MBSKL year of 1960 alumni group in front of the school office just before their walk down memory lane : their "home-ground, fun-ground and food-ground".

Such nostalgic visits by former students are common occurrences and take place all the time in many mission schools. Somehow the school spirit lives on and unites them all.



La Sallian lessons for life

SUNDAY 26 November 2006

BY M. MAHABOOB

THE year was 1951 and I had just completed a short stint in a kindergarten run by the Catholic nuns. After that, my father enrolled me in St Georges Institution of Taiping, on the advice of the then parish priest of St Louis Catholic church, Father Noel Clement.

Coming from a staunch Muslim family, his move might have seemed odd to many. But my father was firm in his conviction that only a Christian education could shape me into a disciplined citizen.

My father had come to Malaya from India in the early 1940s. Back home, he had seen how the Christian schools were run by the nuns and missionaries. So, he was determined that my elder sister, I and another sibling should go through this same system. The school that I was taken to was run by the La Sallian brothers. They used to be clad in white robes and lived in quarters located in one section of the school.

When I first enrolled in the school, there were few Malay pupils; in fact, there were less than 10. The other students were Chinese and Indians. But my father never wavered in his decision, although there was a government school in our neighbourhood, which most Muslim parents sent their kids to.

I spent 11 years in my school and had the pleasure of being taught by dedicated Christian brothers from Ireland, Canada, (then) Burma and, of course, Malaya. What struck me most was their impeccable conduct and dedication. Their winning point was the caring attitude they showed to one

and all.

I was small-sized and often took the front seat in class or stood in front at assembly. The whole school could identify me easily.

In 1960, the then brother director, known as Brother Philip, would go on his rounds to check our fortnightly progress reports. This method of checking was the hallmark of the school.

I went through this rigid scrutiny from Year One until I completed Form Five, in 1961. Any lapse in my marks or conduct never failed to catch his meticulous eye. But I was fortunate in this aspect because my academic performance was above average throughout. So I used to get a stroke on the head, or a pat on the back.

One day in 1960, my form teacher singled me out to take part in a concert to raise funds for the school's new science block. I was to play a professor in a comedy sequence. The show was a great hit and donations poured in. The brothers were simply delighted.

When I was in Form Five, come Fridays, Bro Philip would instruct all the Muslim boys to line up, then head for a mosque nearby to pray. I did not comply with the directive because I was taking an important Science subject for my final exam and the lesson clashed with prayer time. The brother director insisted on seeing me in his office and requested that I get my parents' consent to my skipping prayers. It was the first time the school had done something like that.

My father was elated by Bro Philip's mindfulness and gladly gave his consent. He reasoned that the Almighty is all-knowing and that I would be forgiven because skipping prayers was

not a deliberate act on my part. This was an eye-opener for those Muslim parents who were rather apprehensive about schools run by the Christian brothers.

Towards the middle of 1961, the Form Six entrance exam applications came out. It cost only RM5 to register, but I could not afford to. When my form teacher took a headcount, he was surprised that I was not planning to take the exam. Without hesitation, he pulled me aside, paid the money and requested that I sit for the exam. This was the second time the school authorities had gone out of their way to help me, even though I was a Muslim.

When the results were released, I was one of the lucky few who had passed. But my father insisted that I get a job. Upon hearing this, Bro Philip came to the rescue once again. He offered to support me financially, as I would be required to attend classes in Ipoh. But, again, my father stood his ground and turned down his offer, with apologies. I had no choice but to accede to his wish.

After Form Five, I became a school-teacher. And because I emulated the good values taught in school, I became a headmaster while still very young – much to the envy of many.

All this recognition would not have been possible if I had not been exposed to the true La Sallian spirit. Kudos to the La Salle brothers for their selfless contributions to Malaysian education.

■ This page is for stories that are heart-warming or thought-provoking. If you have an original one to share, write, in not more than 900 words, and e-mail it to starmag@thestar.com.my.

Heart & Soul





Recognition and Undertaking from the Ministry of Education concerning the Traditions and Character of Mission Schools

Extracted from Professional Circular No. 1 2013

“2. Sekolah mubaligh atau dikenali juga sebagai sekolah Mission adalah sekolah yang diwarisi semenjak sebelum merdeka dan ditubuhkan hasil usaha pertubuhan mubaligh Kristian. Sekolah ini terdiri daripada kedua-dua kategori iaitu sekolah kerajaan dan sekolah bantuan kerajaan.”

“3. Sekolah mubaligh telah menerima dan melaksanakan sepenuhnya system pendidikan kebangsaan. Sekolah ini dibenarkan untuk menkekalkan watak dan identity sekolah tersebut. Surat Pekeliling Ikhtisas Bilangan 1 tahun 2013”

Translation

2. Missionary schools, also known as mission schools are legacies handed down since independence and are established as a result of the work of Christian missionaries. They are designated under the two categories namely Government Schools and Government-aided Schools.

3. Missionary schools have accepted and implemented fully the national system of education. These schools are allowed to make permanent their character and identity.”

(Profession Circular No. 1 2013 signed by the Director General of MOE)





CONTEXT AND CHALLENGES

CONTEXT ONE

“If a Mission School cannot achieve what a Mission School should do, it should either be changed into a new education institution so that the goal can be achieved or it should be closed!”

It is very sad to see that the quality of education in Malaysia has gone down tremendously. This also applies to all the Mission Schools. In the past, many Mission Schools have ‘produced’ profound people but now we seem to have lost the catalyst (the character, values and ethos) that had inspired us in the first place.

I think a Mission School should:

- Be child-centred: providing a wholesome (physical, emotional, psychological, social, spiritual, ecological) education and not just focus on the academics.
- Focus on character building by instilling moral or Christian values which will bring us far in life.
- Help students realize their full potential be it academically or otherwise.
- Create an atmosphere of mutual acceptance and respect of one another which is based on the belief that all are God’s children, created and loved by Him, no matter what our ethnic, social or religious background are.

If a Mission School cannot achieve what a Mission School should do, it should either be changed into a new education institution so that the goal can be achieved or it should be closed!



Sr Celina Wong IJS
Provincial, Sisters of the
Infant Jesus Malaysia

CONTEXT TWO

Are our students truly educated when they leave the portals of our mission schools? Have we succeeded in our mission?

MARKS OF AN EDUCATED PERSON

1. Has your education made you a friend of all good causes?
2. Has your education made you a sister/brother to the weak?
3. Do you see anything to love in a little child?
4. Would a lost dog follow you in the street?
5. Do you enjoy being alone?
6. Do you believe in the dignity of labour?
7. Can you look into a mud puddle and see the blue sky?
8. Can you go out in the night, look up in the sky, and see beyond the stars?
9. Is your life linked with the ***Infinite?***



Datin Paduka
Sr Enda Ryan FMM



CONTEXT THREE

An extract from "Lessons from Our History as our Legacy for the Future"

"Over the years we have become more aware of numerous challenges confronting our current Lasallian Schools due to the vastly altered world of the Young and also the educational scenario. We are concerned about the changes in the education policies in the country, especially the far-reaching implications of the drop in the standards of teaching and learning and especially in the use and teaching of the English Language, as a path to a universal education. While we desire to promote Academic Excellence we are convinced at the same time that we must ensure that no student is left behind and be offered opportunities to develop the God-given talents to live life fully."



Bro Anthony Rogers FSC
Director, Christian Brothers'
Schools, Malaysia

CONTEXT FOUR

"What is the future of mission schools in the context of the National Educational Blueprint 2013 - 2025?"

"Today, except for a few mission schools here and there, most mission schools have lost their lustre. Many have even forgotten their identity and heritage. With falling standards and more modern, better funded and equipped schools being built in the vicinity and neighbouring townships, many mission schools are experiencing rapid decline in enrolment. This is a far cry from the days when parents queue and struggle to get their children into these schools.

What is to become of the remaining 425 mission schools in the country? How can they continue to play their role in nation building as they have done so well in the past? MCSC believes that mission schools can still play a unique role in meeting the educational needs of the nation, if the Government would truly value their contribution and encourage and support them to do so. The part that mission schools can play is all the more compelling in the light of the aspirations and challenges outlined in the Malaysia Education Blueprint 2013-2025."

Yap Kok Keong

Former Chairman of MCSC



CONTEXT FIVE

“A never ending challenge!”

Dear Sister,

Love and Peace of our Lord Jesus be with you!

How are you keeping in your new school?

I tried to call you some time back but it said “not in service”.



Obstacles will come our way especially when we want do something good for the glory of God. However **we must persevere and not give up**. Call upon His Name, Jesus, to help us and His Mother, Mary, to intercede for us as she did for the wedding couple at Cana. **Pray and entrust all to Him.**

The officer in JPN said that you have not passed your interview. I told him that you were awarded the Anugerah Perkhidmatan Cemerlang twice. He said that you will be called again in June or July for another interview. Have you been notified yet? Let us know the date and we will lift you up in prayers.

Can you give me your new hand-phone or house phone number?

Now I have also to look for **another person for replacement for SMK Canossian Convent in Kluang**. The principal is retiring in August 2016.

Do you know of anyone with NPQEL in Johor state like Muar, Batu Pahat, etc. or in Melaka. If you do please let me know ASAP.

Hope to hear from you again.

Thank you and God bless.

Sr Mary Tey FDCC

CONTEXT SIX

A sample of some of the challenges faced by mission schools heads and how all stakeholders contributed and worked together to solve problems on the ground.



“When the national electricity bill tariff increased in February 2014, the electricity bills of my school increased from RM 4K-6K per month to RM 5K-7K per month. Together with the other utility bills, the total bill amounted to an astounding RM75K for the year 2014. The electricity bills just escalated beyond my comprehension! Worse still, the school did not have the funds to pay for it! Where do I get the wherewithal to pay for it?”



The school had received warning notices from TNB (Tenaga Nasional Berhad) threatening to cut off our electricity due to unsettled electricity bills. It was like an electric shock passing through my spine! As the school principal, the onus was on me to find ways and means to settle the bill.

Unlike other schools, the utility bills of government-aided mission schools, like my school, are not fully paid for by the government. According to Surat Pekeliling Kewangan Bil 12 Tahun 2010, the monthly allocation to subsidise my school's utility bills is only RM2K. Therefore, we only receive a total of RM24K for the whole year. However, there is an outstanding amount of RM60K of utility bills to be paid!

I called TNB to explain to them my situation and the seriousness of the matter. If the electricity supply was cut off, it will definitely affect all lessons and activities in school. It would get the attention of the mass media and hit the headlines. If so, not only the school, but TNB, the Jabatan Pelajaran and Kementerian Pelajaran Malaysia will be in the limelight, too. After a long conversation over the phone, the TNB officer finally agreed not to cut off the electricity supply but advised me to pay up by instalments.

I managed to use some school funds and canteen rental to pay off RM11K of the utility bills. However, I still had RM40K of unsettled electricity bills!

My school is a government-aided school which provides education to Malaysian students of all races. Naturally, I expected the government to bail us out in this "electric-shocking" issue. With high hopes, I wrote officially to JPN to request for an extra allocation of RM40K to pay off the outstanding electricity bills. I personally handed the letter to the Pengarah. She wrote a letter to request KPM for the extra allocation. However, on 28 November 2014, I received a disappointing reply from KPM. The words "tiada peruntukan tambahan" (no extra allocation) gave me another electric shock!

In Bajet 2015, the government announced that the subsidy of utility bills will be increased from RM2K to RM5K per month for government-aided schools. I was delighted! My joy was short-lived! The new allocation was only for vernacular schools, and not for mission schools.

My heart sank as I cried out aloud to God. I contacted the ADEC (Anglican Diocesan Education Council) and MCSC (Malayan Christian Schools' Council) to intervene. They immediately brought the matter to the attention of the Ministry of Education. They obtained verbal approval of new allocation for mission schools. However, the written approval has yet to be seen till this day. **Nonetheless, I saw how ADEC and MCSC with the support of churches play such an important role as care-takers of the mission schools.**

I then requested the Board of Governors and PIBG to help. They kindly contributed RM20K. However, another RM20K of electricity bills still remained unsettled.

In efforts to encourage the practice of saving electricity, I launched a campaign called, "JOM, JIMAT ELEKTRIK" in my school. All teachers and students were informed of this "electric-shocking" issue. All of them gave their maximum co-operation to save electricity. A student-based "Squad Jimat Elektrik" was



Angie Ng Siew Keng
served as the principal
of SMK(P) Pudu,
from 1 Dec 2012
to 25 May 2016



formed to monitor the use of electricity carefully. One of the rules is that the fans or lights in classrooms are not allowed to be switched on before the first period. Another rule is that air conditioners can only be used from 9.30am to 4pm only. If a class broke the rules, the punishment was that the class would not be allowed to use electricity for the whole day. The punishment was effective to curb repeat offences. Hence, the school was able to cut down costs on electricity. Moreover, the practice taught students to use electricity wisely.

Just when I thought that things were looking up, more “electric shocks” came in the form of the malfunction of the school wiring system which was in operation for 50 to 80 years. We had increasingly frequent electric tripping in school. The electrician was called in to inspect and solve the issue. Some problems were solved but a number of faulty circuits could not be detected. On 4 November 2014, at 6.50am, a fire broke out from an electric cable near an ELCB (earth leakage circuit breaker) located outside the computer room. It was first noticed by a staff member who came to work early. My office staff, En. Hazman, managed to put out the fire with a fire extinguisher before the fire spread. I dare not imagine if the fire had started an hour earlier! The computer room or the whole school might have been reduced to ashes. Truly, I had a terrible “electric shock” that day! Indeed in the invisible realm, God sent His angels to protect His school. Praise God!

After investigation, the electrician gave me a report stating that the ELCB was overloaded and caused the cable to catch fire. The estimated cost was RM350K! I almost fainted! Again I cried to my God to provide.

Following the government's standard operating procedures (SOP), I submitted a detailed report to JPN and personally went to see the Pengarah Pendidikan, and the heads of the department of building and finance to ask for the allocation of funds to address the urgent matter. Sadly, the same answer was given: “tiada peruntukan” (no allocation of funds). I felt helpless! It was like another “electric shock” passed through my entire body.

Miraculously, God made a way, when there seemed to be no way! Unexpectedly, on 21 Nov 2014, I received a cheque of RM150K from the Treasury of Malaysia. It was the PRK (Pakej Rangsangan Kerajaan) for mission schools which I applied for in 2013 for school maintenance. It arrived at God's perfect timing. Hallelujah! Praise the Lord!

The chairman of BOG, PIBG and PESOGA (Madam Michelle Yong, Dato' Tan Koon Teck and Madam Susan Kuah) introduced me to good contractors, who gave me sound advice and stood by me throughout the whole “electric-shocking” journey. I greatly appreciate them.

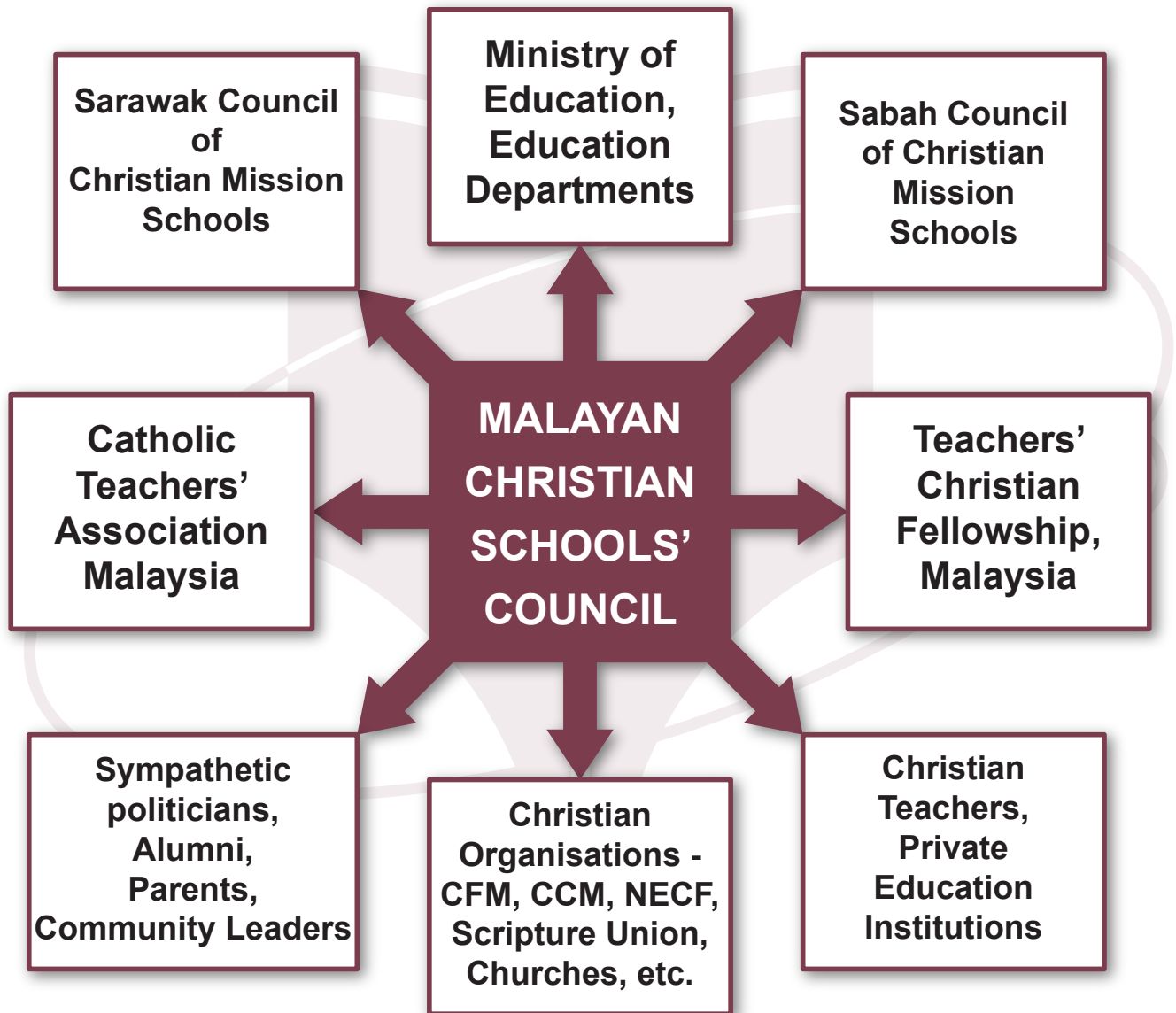
By spending only RM110K, which was one third of the original estimated cost, the faulty electrical circuits were rectified and the issue of skyrocketing electricity bills was brought down significantly. Together with all other measures taken, the electricity bills were reduced from RM5K-7K to RM3K-5K per month since June 2015. Using school funds and with the help of BOG and PIBG, all outstanding electricity bills of 2014 and 2015 were resolved! We now have sufficient funds to pay off utility bills in 2016! We also have funds to install two extra fans per classroom to provide a cooler environment for students to study.

The scary season of “electric shocks” in our school is finally over. To God Almighty be the glory for the great things He has done for our school! He sent wonderful people to help me. They gave me sound and practical advice to resolve the “electric-shocking” issue!



WORKING WITH OTHERS FOR GREATER EFFECTIVENESS

MCSC is basically driven by a small team of volunteers consisting mainly of retired educationists. Therefore, for greater effectiveness working with others, especially the Ministry of Education, is absolutely crucial.





WORKING WITH THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

The most important entity that the MCSC has to work closely with is the Ministry of Education. Since the Education Act of 1961 and the Aziz Report of 1971, mission authorities have progressively lost control of their mission schools. Over the years, the land leases of some mission schools have also expired. Therefore, working hand in hand with the Government is vitally important since the latter sets the policy and implementation processes that affect all schools, mission schools included. Memorandum after memorandum especially over the last 10 – 15 years, had been presented to Education Ministers and Director Generals on the problems faced by mission schools. These were followed by consultation and many dialogue sessions and some of these have yielded positive results in the form of ministry circulars.

In the last few years the MOE has been very responsive and some of the problems faced by mission schools especially in the area of funding have been resolved or attended to. Operationally, MCSC continues to face many difficulties as civil service officers retired or are posted away and new ones may not understand the special position and role of mission schools or the background of the circulars. Therefore, even with these circulars in place, to ensure just and proper implementation of these circulars become a continual challenging and frustrating process.

Quit Rent Matters:

Many meetings were held to obtain nominal quit rent for mission schools. The issue of nominal quit rent is now largely resolved. One such meeting was with Dr Goh Chong Teik, Deputy of Land and Co-operative Development over land issues in 1999.





Positive MOE Responses: Ministry Professional Circulars issued in recent years which address some of the long-standing issues faced by mission schools

Surat Pekeliling Ikhtisas Bil. 1/2010

Perlaksanaan Dasar Menghadkan Jumlah Maksimum Sepuluh (10) Matapelajaran dan Penambahan Dua (2) Matapelajaran Tambahan dalam Peperiksaan Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia
(The Implementation of the Maximum 10 subjects and an Additional 2 subjects for the SPM Certificate)

SPM Bible Knowledge is accepted as one of the additional elective subjects which can be taken by students.

Surat Pekeliling Ikhtisas Bil. 2 Tahun 2011

Penubuhan Persatuan Agama Bukan Islam di Sekolah-Sekolah Kerajaan dan Sekolah-Sekolah Bantuan Kerajaan

(The setting up of non-Islamic Religious Societies in Government and Government Aided Schools)

This circular sets clearly the guidelines for non-Islamic societies in all schools. Non-Islamic Societies which have existed before the circular should be allowed to continue and new ones can be set up according to the guidelines given. The approval authority is now the Principal or Head of the school and if he or she does not approve the application to set up the society, an explanation in writing should be given.

Surat Pekeliling Ikhtisas Bil. 4 Tahun 2011

Pelaksanaan Pengajaran "Bible Knowledge" kepada Murid-Murid Beragama Kristian di Sekolah-sekolah Bantuan Kerajaan Selepas Waktu Sekolah

(The Implementation of the Teaching of "Bible Knowledge" to Christian Students in Government-Aided Schools after School Hours)

This circular states that "Bible Knowledge" can be taught to Christian students in Government-aided schools (mission schools and vernacular schools) outside school hours.

Surat Pekeliling Ikhtisas Bil. 1 Tahun 2011

Pemberian Kuota 10 peratus untuk Pemilihan dan Penempatan Murid Ke Sekolah Mubaligh Kepada Lembaga Sekolah

(The Allocation of Quota of 10% in the Choice and Placement of Pupils into Mission Schools by the Board of Governors)

The Board of Governors can nominate up to 10% of the students for placement in mission schools.



Surat Pekeliling Ikhtisas Bil. 1 Tahun 013

Perlantikan Pengetua Sekolah Menengah dan Guru Besar Sekolah Rendah Mubaligh

(Appointment of Principals and Headmasters of Secondary and Primary Mission Schools)

The appointment of Principals and Heads of mission schools has always been a point of contention and frustration experienced by Mission Authorities. Mission Authorities have held on to the promise of maximum consultation in these appointments when the mission schools were handed over to be run by the Government. However, there was no specific written document to fall back on when points of contention arise. This circular is very important as it sets out clearly in writing the process of appointment of Principals and Heads of mission schools when vacancies arise. The Mission Authority concerned is given 30 days to propose its candidate to fill the vacancy and if the candidate is qualified for the post he or she would be appointed. While the final say still lies with the Ministry and problems of implementation remain, now, at least there are clearly written guidelines and a standard procedure in place.

The Matter of Funding for Mission Schools

For decades the Government has been unwilling to allocate funds for mission schools on the excuse that the land and property belong to the Mission Authority or Church. As a result many mission schools, despite the best efforts of the Mission Authority and alumni, went into a state of decline or disrepair, especially in terms of infrastructure, appearance and environment. Only a few schools with the strong sustained support of the alumni and church manage to keep up with the progress needed.

This has changed over the last 6 years.

Since 2009, the Government has allocated funds for the upkeep of all mission schools besides subsidies for utilities as well, for which we are very thankful. Now yearly, an annual provision is allocated in the national budget. For this, the MCSC/FCCMSM is very grateful. With these allocations, the Board of Governors (with PIBG and alumni representatives) working with the Principal/Head and teachers had brought long-awaited and much welcomed changes to all the mission schools in Malaysia. Improvements are still on-going. SYABAS!



WORKING WITH THE CHRISTIAN FEDERATION OF MALAYSIA

MCSC CFM SYMPOSIUM ON "THE FUTURE OF MISSION SCHOOLS"

25th – 28th October 2000



Prayer and Conference in Session



Church Leaders at the Conference



The cheerful workers behind the scene



The small discussion groups



MCSC Symposium (16th August 2008)

“MISSION SCHOOLS - MEETING THE NEEDS OF THE NATION” at Methodist College, KL



Some of the Participants



With Dr Wee Ka Siong,
Deputy Minister of Education
and Bishop Ng Moon Hing



Panelists: Dr Lim Teck Ghee,
Dr Patricia Martinez, Mr Goh Keat Seng, Mrs Glo Rajendran



ADVISORY AND COORDINATING ROLE

MCSC is increasingly playing an advisory role within the Federation of Council of Christian Mission Schools Malaysia (FCCMSM) because of its long history and also as the mission schools in Sarawak and Sabah are beginning to experience the kind of problems that MCSC had faced years before. MCSC being in closer proximity to Putrajaya is in a position to represent the Sabah and Sarawak regional councils on various issues as well, besides speaking on their behalf. On major matters however, they fly over and we go to Putrajaya together.

Many Christian NGOs, churches and even Christian teachers facing problems often turn to MCSC for help or advice as MCSC has access to and is in good working relationship with MOE. Some of the issues which MCSC had engaged alongside the Christian Federation of Malaysia with regards to the proposal to incorporate Christian teaching in the curriculum of Moral Education at upper secondary level, the matter of a neutral prayer in schools acceptable by students of all religious background, the appropriate portrayal of Christian festivals in school texts, and the accuracy of the role and contribution of non-Malays in history textbooks. The MCSC also played an indirect role in helping the Christian community to understand the National Education Blueprint 2013 – 2025.

Christian Fellowships in Schools

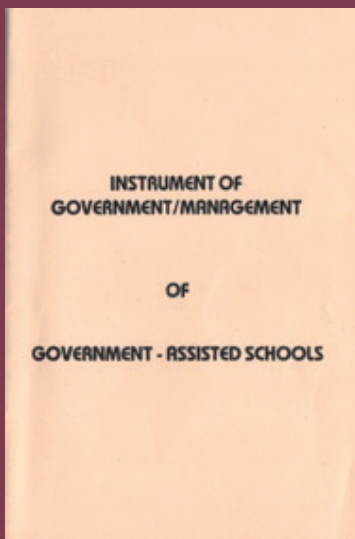
For many years, the formation and continued existence of Christian Clubs or Societies in schools, including mission schools has been an unmitigated hassle. This concern is shared by CFM, NECF and Christian parents. Even the press had reported on this occasionally. This issue has been one of MCSC's struggles for many years and is raised each time we are able to meet senior MOE officials. This was also one of the items in our memorandum sent to the Minister of Education on many occasions. After the issue of the MOE circular "Surat Pekeliling Ikhtisas Bilang 2 Tahun 2011" governing the setting up of non-Islamic religious clubs and societies, the matter is now much clearer and less of an issue. Notwithstanding, operational problems still persist.

While MCSC encourages the formation and proper functioning of Christian Clubs and Societies in schools, especially mission schools, it is not directly involved.

MCSC played an advisory role in Scripture Union's production of "A Blueprint for Starting a School Christian Fellowship". This booklet was produced in response to the needs faced by school administrators as well as Christian teachers and parents. School teachers or parents wishing to start a new school CF and encounter problems could turn to the "Blueprint/Blue Book" for guidance. They may also turn to MCSC for advice and help in difficult cases. The "Surat Naungan" which is one of the documents required for the registration of new CFs is issued by MCSC when requested.

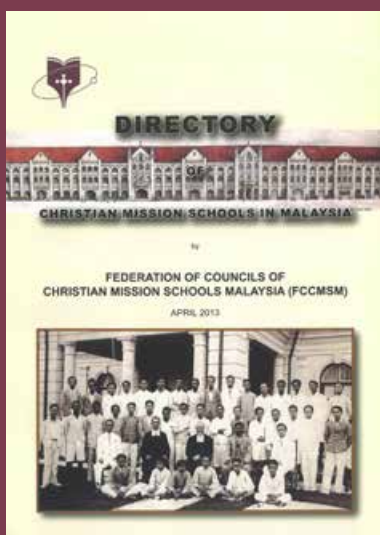
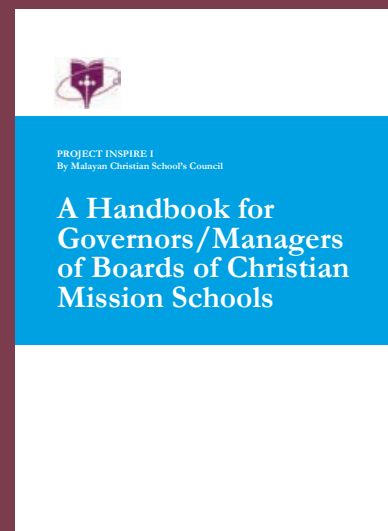


PUBLICATIONS: RESPONDING TO THE NEEDS OF MISSION SCHOOLS

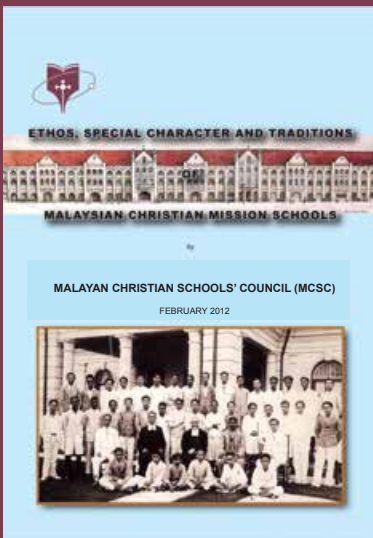


Each mission school is managed by a Board of Governors/Managers constituted under the provisions of Section 53 (1) & (2) of the Education Act 1995. Following the passing of this Act, an MCSC team studied all the existing instruments of Government and produced this Instrument of Government which has been adopted by all mission schools in Peninsular Malaysia. Before this some mission schools did not have such an Instrument to guide the Board.

The Board of Governors/Managers is one of the distinctive pillars of mission schools. The purpose of this handbook is to enable, equip and empower BOGs to play a more significant and effective role. This handbook is intended to be used together with the Instrument of Government.



There are more than 400 mission schools under 25 Mission Authorities. This can be perplexing. The DIRECTORY is an extremely significant document as for the first time all the mission schools in Sabah, Sarawak and Peninsular Malaysia along with all their basic information are compiled into one volume. This book has been distributed to all Senior Education officials in the Ministry of Education and State Departments to enable them to understand how the MCSC and FCCMSM function and who to contact when the need arises.



Ethos, Special Character and Traditions was written in response to the searching question of a politician in Government, “What’s so special about your mission schools”? He could hardly be faulted as through the years much of the distinctive culture and character of mission schools have been lost and almost forgotten. It is MCSC’s aspiration, despite the many constraints which it faces, to preserve what remains and to restore precious aspects of the ethos and traditions of mission schools where ever possible for the good of the community and country.

This booklet was produced as part of the FCCMSM Symposium 2014 programme. It contains some very useful information about MCSC and FCCMSM. The Symposium was of great significance for MCSC and FCCMSM as many well known personalities at the forefront of social and educational reforms were brought together to give their views on matters of great concern to MCSC/FCCMSM as well as the thinking public. The Symposium was very timely as MCSC and FCCMSM sought to chart their vision and aspirations for the future in the light of the Education Blueprint 2013 – 2025.



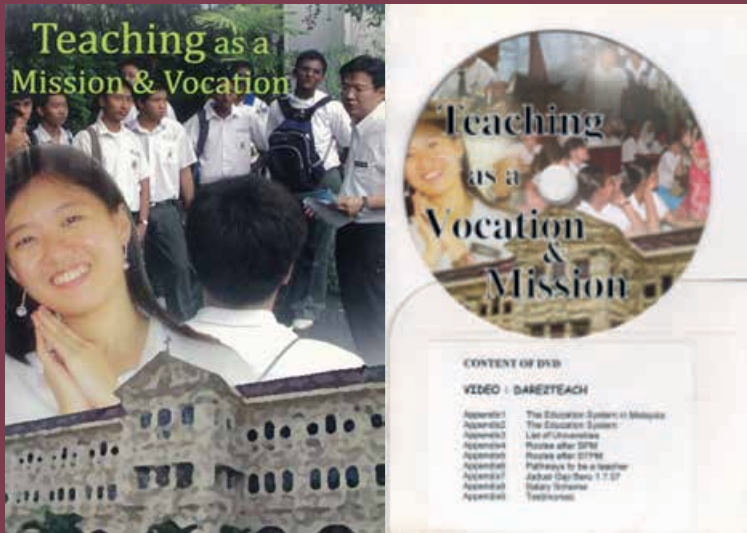
The existence and formation of Christian Clubs/Societies is a recurring problem which has been of concern not just to MCSC but also to the Christian Federation of Malaysia, Scripture Union Malaysia and the wider Christian community.

After several memoranda and dialogue between MCSC/ FCCMSM and the Ministry of Education, an MOE circular was issued which spells out clearly the status and guidelines concerning the formation of religious societies in Government and Government Aided Schools. A Blueprint was actually produced by Scripture Union and TCF with guidance and input from MCSC in the process.



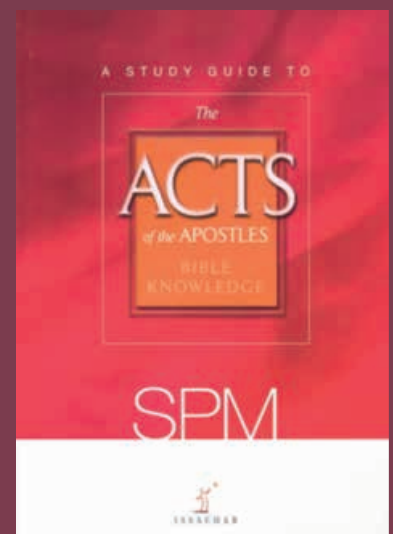
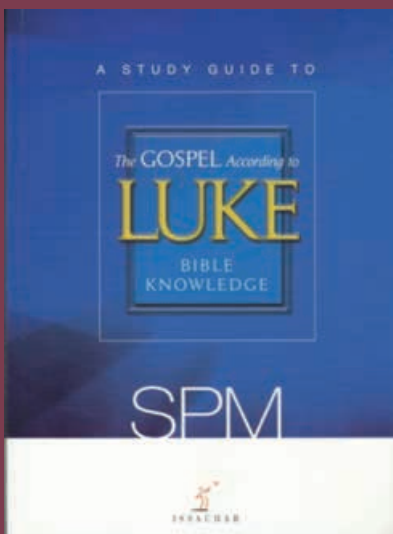
Teaching as a Mission & Vocation contains valuable information to inform and encourage young people to take up teaching as their vocation. At one time there were many Christians in the teaching profession. They were prepared to walk that extra mile for the school and their students. Today very few are left in the

education system and in our mission schools. How can we find Christians to head our mission schools if there are no Christian teachers left in the profession? We are grateful to the Teachers' Christian Fellowship and the Catholic Teachers' Association for their help and input.



Bible Knowledge is an examination subject at SPM level from the days of the Cambridge School Certificate until today. To enable and encourage students to take this subject, MCSC produced these two volumes of combined text and study

guide for the Acts of the Apostles and The Gospel According to Luke which are widely used by students taking this subject. We are grateful to Mdm Goh Kim Guat for writing the guide and Isaachar Publisher for making it affordable for the use of students.





PUBLICATIONS: PROJECT INSPIRE

Educationists past and present working on "Teaching as a Mission and Vocation"



**PRESERVATION AND PROMOTION OF "BIBLE KNOWLEDGE" SPM SUBJECT 9221**

The study of Bible Knowledge has since the formation of MCSC in the 1950's been a subject of many Council meetings. Although this subject has been abolished at the Form 3 level, the Ministry of Education has fulfilled its commitment to retain that subject at SPM level. Candidature had declined drastically since the 1960s when many students in mission schools used to sit for the subject as part of the Form 3 Lower Certificate and the Senior Cambridge.

The candidature was just 20 when MCSC, the Catholic Teachers' Association Malaysia, the Teachers' Christian Fellowship, priests and pastors took up the cause of promoting SPM Bible Knowledge subject. MCSC with the help of experienced teachers, led by Miss Moey Yoke Lai, Bro Anthony Rogers FSC and parish priests in different localities conducted a number of training seminars around the country through the Teachers' Christian Fellowship and the Catholic Teachers' Association Malaysia for teachers of BK, including Sabah and Sarawak to encourage the teaching and learning of the subject. The Ministry of Education had also been helpful in this respect. In 2007, a 3-day training seminar for BK teachers organised by the Ministry of Education was held in Pangkor. The candidature steadily rose to a peak of 1000 about 5 years ago but has since fallen steadily to just below 400 last year.

Over the years MCSC had to intervene on several occasions on behalf of the Christian community with regard to this BK subject:

1. The standard of English has fallen a great deal over the years and students find the Revised Standard Version too difficult. MCSC requested for the change to Good News Version in 2004 and this was agreed to by the Examination Syndicate with effect in 2007. This is the version in use for the last 10 years.
2. MCSC also obtained the kind help of Madam Goh Kim Guat who prepared the guide book for The Gospel According Luke and The Book of Acts. MCSC undertook the printing, stock keeping and distribution of the 2 guide books for the subject. This has been of tremendous help to students and teachers throughout the country.
3. In 2009 there was a mini crisis as the subject, Bible Knowledge 9221/1 was left out of the list of elective subjects for SPM. This announcement was quite sudden and sent shock waves throughout the Christian community, including CFM and MCSC. It caused so much alarm that MCSC had for the first time in its history gone to the press with a statement on 17th December. It was reported in *The Star* the next day. The intended change was not carried out and Form Five students can continue to take the Subject 9221/1 if they choose to.



PRESS STATEMENT *(an extract)*

“MALAYAN CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS’ COUNCIL SHOCKED BY SPM 10+2 EXCLUSIVITY

“The Malayan Christian Schools’ Council is shocked at the Government’s decision not to include Bible Knowledge in the 2 additional SPM subjects as announced recently. This is despite repeated representations and memoranda to the authorities concerned since June this year...”



The MCSC Exco turned out in full force and in unity to meet with the press

4. The other occasion when MCSC had to come into the picture was when the inexplicable poor result in a particular year caused widespread distress among parents, candidates and BK teachers. The Examination Syndicate was kind enough to meet with a delegation from MCSC. The meeting was a cordial and fruitful one. The officials listened to the MCSC delegation with openness and promised to look into the appeal and study the issues brought to their attention.

It is a continuing challenge to keep this subject alive and appreciated by the Christian community as a whole. More effort by all stakeholders – church leaders, Christian parents and Christian teachers must do their part to encourage Christian students to take up this subject. One such effort is the Oral and Postal Bible Quizzes.



ORAL BIBLE KNOWLEDGE QUIZZES AT REGIONAL AND NATIONAL LEVEL

Among the efforts of encouraging the study of SPM BK is the annual oral Bible Knowledge at State/Regional and National level.

The Background

Mr Goh Keat Seng, MCSC chairman in 1997 with his son Chee Su, produced the basic Quiz Rules. He also helped raised the funds needed for the first Quiz held on **31 August 1997 in Bukit Bintang Boys' Secondary School, PJ**. Chee Su and members of the BBBS Christian Fellowship and teacher advisor Mrs Micky Kua ran the low-budget Quiz. 12 teams in Selangor and Wilayah took part.

The Milestones

- 1997 - the 1st Oral Quiz
- 1998 - the 2nd Oral Quiz
- 1999 - teams from 3 states
- 2000 - 40 teams from 4 states
- 2001 - 64 teams. (MCSC took over responsibility for the quiz)
- 2002 - 85 teams from 6 states.
- 2003 - 89 teams from 7 states.
- 2004 - 96 teams from 5 states
- 2005 - 96 teams from 7 states/regions.
- 2006 - 10th year 162 teams
- 2007 - 123 teams
- 2008 - 147 teams
- 2009 - 120 teams (Northern region ran it's own regional quiz in Ipoh)
- 2010 - 100 teams
- 2011 - 110 teams
- 2012 - 16th Oral Finals (Regional Quiz in Miri - 18 teams)
- 2013 - 17th Oral Finals (Southern Region in Melaka)
- 2014 - 18th Oral Finals
- 2015 - 19th Oral Finals (Sabah Regional in Kota Kinabalu)
- 2016 - 20th Oral Finals + 8th Ipoh, 5th Miri, 3rd Melaka, 2nd Kota Kinabalu + 1st Kuching Regionals

The first SPM Bible Quiz began in Bukit Bintang Boys' School 20 years ago. Like the little biblical mustard seed, it has grown into a huge tree with many branches. The success of this enterprise is an excellent example of the co-operative work of so many parties - the church leaders for their donations and moral support, mission schools for hosting the quizzes, the parents who encourage and accompany their children to the quiz centres, the multitude of Christian teachers and students of Christian Fellowships and many more supporters who helped in one way or



another. There are just too many to mention by name but MCSC would like to recognise the persevering effort of Mrs Kua Kun Han, Mrs Tee Heng Chan, former leaders of the organising committee, Miss Satkunamary the current quiz leader, Miss Moey Yoke Lai and Dr Wong Chow Lan of Ipoh for being teachers, judges and passionate promoters of the BK subject over the last 20 years, not forgetting the ones at the regional centres.

Each year, the champions are awarded scholarships to study at the Methodist College Kuala Lumpur as well. The passion of Bro Michael Jacques FSC, Miss Yin Kam Yoke, and Mrs Gloriosa Rajendren and Mr Yap Kok Keong gave this BK Quizzes the support and momentum which was very much needed. MCSC wishes also to thank the patron of our National Bible Quiz, His Excellency Tan Sri Bernard Giluk Dompok for his behind the scene support.

It is clearly evident that God had used so many people to preserve and prosper this programme, an enterprise which is foundational to the work and ethos of MCSC and the well-being of students in our schools.

Official Recognition by the Ministry of Education

MCSC finally obtained official recognition for these quizzes in 2013. MCSC has to apply for this each year and so far official sanction has been granted by all the State Directors. Official recognition enables teachers and students to participate without anxiety especially in representing their schools and travelling to the quiz venues which may be quite a distance away. Students can also obtain co-curriculum marks for their participation now.



They make sure it happens each year and year after year!



Servant Leaders : Tan Heng Chan, Kua Kun Han, Moey Yoke Lai, Dr Wong Chow Lan and Sakunamary



Dr Wong Chow Lan, Dr Ting Chek Sing, Yap Kok Keong, Mr Goh Keat Seng, Mrs Goh and Moey Yoke Lai



The 2016 Regional Bible Knowledge Quiz in Kota Kinabalu



The Northern Regional Bible Knowledge Quiz in Ipoh, Perak



The 2016 Southern Regional Bible Knowledge Quiz in Malacca



Selangor Regional Quiz



2016 Wilayah Regional Bible Knowledge Quiz in St. John's Institution



5th Bible Knowledge Regional Quiz in Miri



1st Regional SPM Bible Knowledge Quiz in Kuching



*2016 National SPM Bible Knowledge Quiz in SMK Assunta School, Petaling Jaya, Selangor.
The morning assembly before the Quiz*



Panel of Judges



THE POSTAL BIBLE QUIZ

This quiz sponsored by MCSC and conducted through the Scripture Union of Malaysia began 16 years ago as part of the encouragement to keep the study of the Bible as part of student life. Mrs. Kua Kun Han was again the primary driver in the beginning. Over the last 3 years, an average of 5000 students take this postal quiz in 4 languages – English, Chinese, Tamil and Bahasa Malaysia in 150 centres in Sabah, Sarawak and Peninsular Malaysia. Each year, Certificates are awarded by MCSC as a token of appreciation and encouragement.

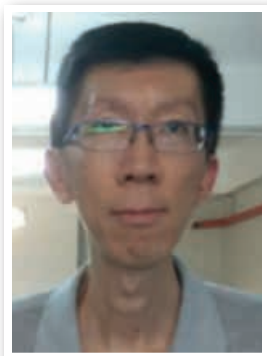
As one would imagine, the work involved in such an enterprise is massive –

- the teaching and preparation of the students
- the setting of questions
- the translation into the different languages
- the supervision,
- marking
- award of certificates

and the logistics involved to get all these done within a pre-determined time frame is challenging to say the least.

By God's grace, the Postal Bible Quiz has been on for 16 years and still going strong. MCSC is glad to be able to play its part to keep this going for the good of our students. There is a whole team of Christian teachers in the 150 centres who supervise the postal centres and another team in the Scripture Union office setting questions and handling the logistics each year.

The Team



Miss Esther Lee, Mr Chai Siew Meng of SU
(Logistics)



Miss Elsie Cherian & Ms Tan Guat
(Question Formulators)



KLANG VALLEY CHRISTIAN TEACHERS' DAY CELEBRATION

The success or failure of a school, indeed the education system itself depends on the quality of the teachers and their dedication to their profession. Like thousands of alumni members, MCSC remembers with gratitude and nostalgia the dedicated teachers who had contributed so much to the special character and tradition of excellence in our mission schools especially the period after the Second World War until the early 1980s.

MCSC still feels the heartbeat of our school teachers, the joy, challenges and the frustrations they face daily in our schools today. Therefore each year, MCSC, working together with the Catholic Teachers' Association of Malaysia and the Teachers' Christian Fellowship, organizes a Teachers' Day Celebration for Christian teachers in the Klang Valley. This event which brings together Christian teachers from public and private educational institutions and from different churches for fellowship in worship and mutual encouragement has been extremely meaningful. It is also an opportunity to remind one another of the special calling and vocation of Christian teachers.

Pictures from some selected years

Year 2000 - Theme: "Co-Workers in God's Vineyard"



A Teachers' Choir



*The Speaker, Mr Low Chai Hock
with 3 generations of school heads –
Mr Boler, Ms Esther Richards
and Mrs Glo Rajendran*



Fellowship over High Tea



Year 2004 - Theme: "Rekindling Your Passion To Teach"



The speaker Miss Ding-Khoo Seok Lin and participants



The Invitation



*Friendship: Mrs Cherry Siew,
Ms Chin Yoon Poh and Miss Yin Kam Yoke*



Some participants in prayer

Year 2005 - Theme :

"How do I live my Christian Values in the Classroom" and "May I Teach My Values"

Speaker: Dr Brian V. Hill from Australia

Inspirational examples sharing their experience



*Dato' Dr Bro Michael
Jacques FSC*



Miss Elena M. Cooke



Year 2009 - Theme: "Staying the Course", Speaker : Miss Seah Jiak Choo



*Sr Mary Tey FDCC
Our Key Note Speaker Miss Seah Jiak Choo,
the Singapore former Director of Education,
Ms Margaret Martinez,
and Bro Michael Jacques FSC*

Year 2015 - Theme: "From Sparrows to Eagles", Speaker: Miss Goh Hai Bee





Year 2016: A forum on “Mission through Education in the context of Malaysia Today”



Participants in Worship



Forum in progress: from left to right – Miss Goh Hai Bee (moderator), Mr Cheli Tamilselvam, Ms Sim Kwan Hoon and Miss Tan Lee Wah and the Emcee Mr Neubert Ambrose.

Quotable Quotes for Teachers

“The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains.
The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires.”
- William Arthur Ward.

“The best teacher teach from the heart not from the book.”

“A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops.”
- Henry Adams.



List of Seminars and Conferences held in the last 40 years

- 1977 1st Teachers' Seminar "The Christian Educator" 160 participants
- 1979 2nd Teachers' Seminar "the Child" 180 participants
- 1980 3rd Teachers' Seminar "The Christian Work Ethics" 100 participants
- 1981 4th Teachers' Seminar 83 participants
- 1983 5th Teachers' Seminar "School Discipline- the Christian Perspective"
- 1986 One day Seminar in Methodist College Kuala Lumpur (MCKL) "One in Vision"
- 1987 6th Teachers' Seminar
- 1994 8th Teachers' Seminar
- 1995 9th Teachers' Seminar
- 1996 Training Seminar for BK Teachers
- 15 September 1994 - "The Future of Mission Schools" organized by MCSC and attended by Heads of Churches held at Menara Wesley, Kuala Lumpur
- 25-28 October 2000 - MCSC-CFM Symposium on "The Future of Mission Schools" attended by Heads of Churches and educationist from East and West Malaysia held at Awana Resort, Genting Highlands, Pahang
- 16 August 2008 - MCSC Symposium on "Mission Schools – Meeting the Needs of the Nation" attended by Board of Governors, Chairmen of PTA of mission schools held at Methodist College Kuala Lumpur (MCKL)
- 26-27 June 2009 - Conference on "Christian Mission Schools in Malaysia" attended by educationists, Mission School Council Members from Sabah, Sarawak and Semenanjung held at St John's Institution and Olympic Hotel, Kuala Lumpur
- 7 April 2010 - Formation of the Federation of Councils of Christian Mission Schools of Malaysia (FCCMSM) held at Wisma Anglican, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah
- 4 December 2012 - FCCMSM Roundtable Conference, "The Future of Christian Mission Schools in Malaysia" in response to the Preliminary Report of the Education Blueprint (2013-2025) held at Methodist College Kuala Lumpur
- 8-19 September 2014 - FCCMSM Symposium on "Mission School Aspirations and the National Education Blueprint" attended by educationists, Parent-Teachers' Association and members of Board of Governors held at Methodist College Kuala Lumpur



Working Through the Federation of Councils of Christian Mission Schools Malaysia (FCCMSM)

Conference of Christian Mission Schools 26 – 27 June 2009

This conference organised jointly by the Malayan Christian Schools' Council, the Sabah Council of Christian Mission Schools and Sarawak Council of Christian Mission Schools in St. John's Institution was a historic event. Never before had mission school leaders come together in this major way. Thus far, all the 3 mission schools' councils in the three regions had laboured on their own without much awareness of what one another was doing. Tan Sri Bernard Giluk Dompok, who is an alumnus of a mission school himself had the vision and passion and was willing to be the convenor and also to provide sponsorship for this conference. It was timely divine providence.

15 resolutions resulted from the conference. The most important was the delegates from all three regions - Sabah, Sarawak and West Malaysia agreed in principle to form a joint body to represent all Christian mission schools in the country and to further enhance cooperation.

By the end of 2014, 8 out of these 15 resolutions have been satisfactorily attended to by the MOE through ministry circulars or action. However, at the operation or implementation level problems still persist.

During the course of this conference, it was discovered that 15 mission schools under the Basel Church in Sabah were not included in the MOE's registry of Mission schools and this was quickly rectified post conference.

The Conference proper was preceded by a short service.



PRAISE



PRAYER





The conference was declared open by The Honourable Prime Minister, Yang Amat Berhormat Dato' Seri Mohd Najib bin Tun Abdul Razak. In attendance were Tan Sri Bernard Giluk Dompok, Minister of Primary Industries and Commodities, Deputy Minister of Education Datuk Wee Ka Siong, Datuk Ng Moon Hing, Chairman of the Christian Federation of Malaysia, Datuk Bishop Albert Vun of Sabah, Archbishop Tan Sri Murphy Pakiam ; 11 delegates from Sabah, 11 delegates from Sarawak, 14 delegates from MCSC and 5 from CFM.



Some of the guests in the school hall at the Opening Ceremony



Singing the National Anthem
- our loyalty to King and Country



A Special Gift -
"Make me a Channel of your Peace"

Formation of the FCCMSM

During the Conference of Christian Mission Schools held on 26-27 June 2009, YB Tan Sri Bernard Dompok, the convenor and patron of the conference and Bishop Ng Moon Hing, Chairman of the Christian Federation of Malaysia mooted the idea of forming a combined body to represent all the mission schools in Malaysia. This idea was enthusiastically received by all the delegates. The matter was discussed and agreed upon by all regional councils. After the conference, a charter for the proposed federation was drawn up. On 7 April 2010 the Federation of Councils of Christian Mission Schools Malaysia (FCCMSM) was inaugurated in Kota Kinabalu.



Delegates at the Inaugural meeting hosted by Datuk Bishop Albert Vun (centre)
and chaired by Mr Yap Kok Keong in Kota Kinabalu

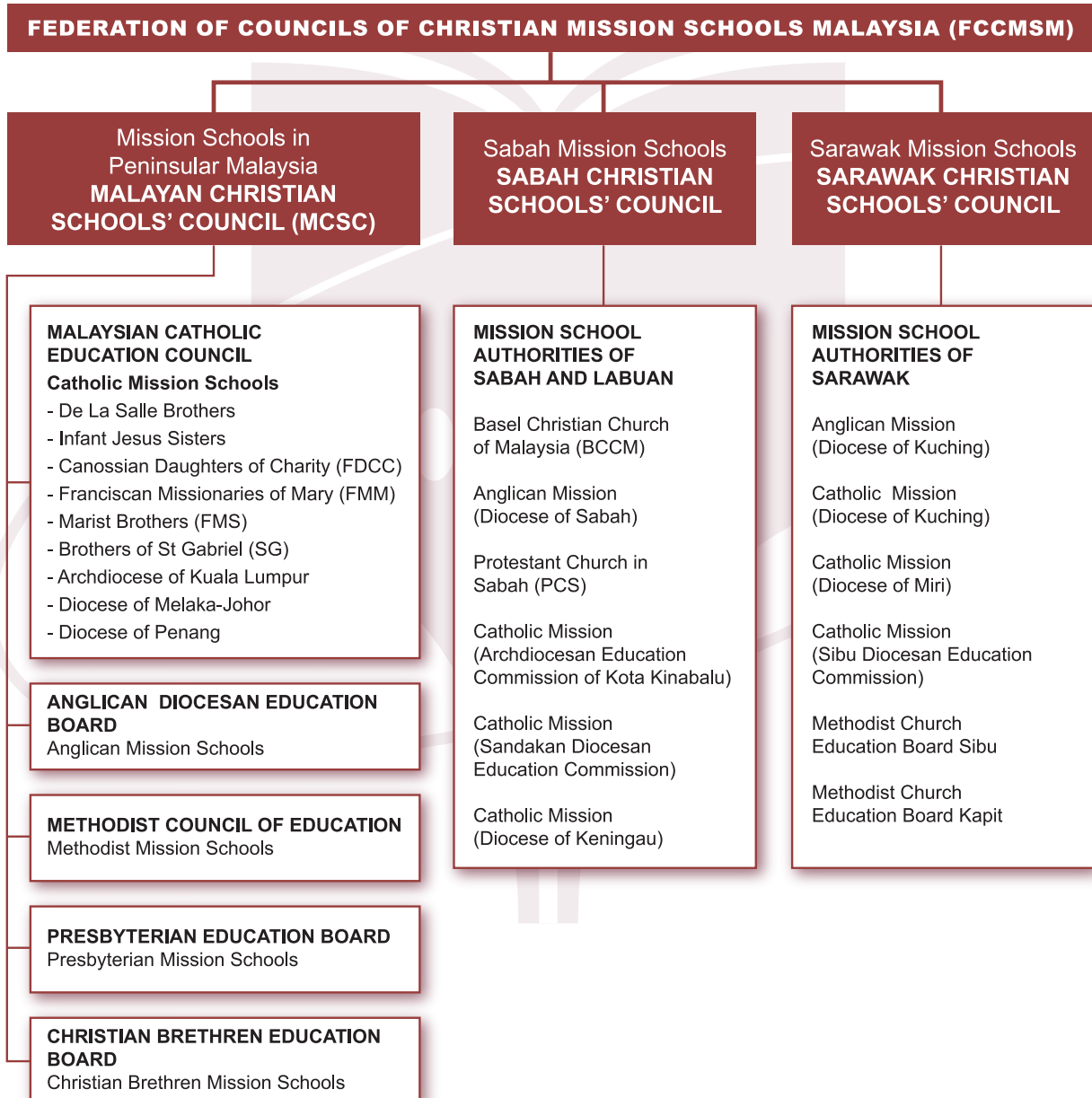


ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF CHRISTIAN MISSION SCHOOLS IN MALAYSIA

The Mission Authorities which owned mission schools in Malaya set up the MCSC (Malayan Christian Schools' Council) in 1956, to look after the affairs of all mission schools in Malaya.

On 7 April 2010, the Federation of Councils of Christian Mission Schools Malaysia (FCCMSM) was set up when three bodies (1) the Malayan Christian Schools' Council or MCSC, (2) Sabah Christian Schools' Council, and (3) Sarawak Christian Schools' Council, accepted the FCCMSM Charter.

The ownership and organizational structure are reflected in the chart below:



FCCMSM is made up of the Sabah Council of Christian Mission Schools (with Labuan 2, altogether 107 mission schools), Sarawak Council of Christian Mission Schools (129 mission schools) and Malayan Christian Schools' Council (207 mission schools). Officer Bearers (Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer) of the FCCMSM hold office for 2 years and rotates among the 3 regions: 2010-2012 (Peninsular Malaysia), 2012-2014 (Sabah), 2014-2016 (Sarawak), 2016-2018 (Peninsular Malaysia).



The first Annual General Meeting was held on 20 October 2010. The formation of the FCCMSM was indeed a historic event as for the first time the mission schools in the country had a common platform and a common voice in dealing with mission school matters, especially in matters relating to the Ministry of Education. It is also very propitious as the Ministry of Education too would like to know who is who in the complex structure of mission school ownership and the Mission Authorities managing them. At the request of the MOE and for the first time a comprehensive Directory of Mission Schools with useful additional information was produced.

The formation of FCCMSM was also extremely timely as over the next 3 years, critical issues had arisen which could not have been handled properly if FCCMSM had not been established. We are now able to speak with one voice and it is much easier for MOE to resolve issues with us.

One clear example is **The Round Table Meeting with the Minister of Education** to sort out various issues - in particular two critical ones:

- The absence of mission schools as a distinct category in the National Education Blueprint 2013 – 2025. This was rectified after the Round Table Conference.
- The uncertainty surrounding the principle of maximum consultation between the MOE and the Mission Authority in the appointment of school heads. This was also clarified with a special circular after the conference.



The Round Table Meeting in Session chaired by the Hon. Minister of Education



Front Row: Datuk Dr Mary Yap Kain Chin, the Chairman of FCCMSM, Tan Sri Bernard Dompok, Minister of Plantation Industries and Commodities, The Honorable Minister of Education Tan Sri Dato' Haji Muhyiddin bin Haji Mohd Yassin, Dato' Dr Rosli bin Mohammad, The Secretary General of the MOE and Tan Sri Abd Ghafar bin Mahmud, the Director General of MOE
Back Row: Representatives from the FCCMSM



The other very crucial and ongoing matter is the Government allocations for mission schools.

Decisions on the quantum and distribution of Government allocations to mission schools which began in 2009; and the on-going process on the channelling, and monitoring of these allocations. These decisions and follow-up actions were made very smoothly by FCCMSM with good Christian spirit and grace which surprised many observers.



Other Meetings

There were other meetings with senior education officials to discuss common issues and to deal proactively with problems faced by mission schools. The latest being with the Director General of Education on 22 July 2016 where some outstanding issues were brought to his attention for resolution.



*Representatives at the meeting with Datuk Dr Khair bin Mohamad Yusof,
Director General of Education Malaysia*

MCSC, acting alone, used to send memorandum on key issues to the MOE from time to time. Now, FCCMSM enables all 3 regions to speak collectively and more effectively and it is also easier for the MOE to address the matters raised as the officials know that FCCMSM represents all the Christian mission schools. Through FCCMSM it is now possible to organise key events relating to education and mission schools at national level such as the FCCMSM Symposium organised in September 2014. Each region will undoubtedly have its own special problems and the respective regional council has the freedom and responsibility to attend to them on their own.

In the last few years, since the formation of FCCMSM on 7 April 2010 much net-working among Christian educators from the 3 regions has taken place. The friendship and trust built up will make it easier to embark on future projects such as **setting up a joint secretariat** to plan common projects and pursue follow-up action more speedily for the good of all the children of our beloved nation.



FCCMSM Symposium “**Mission School Aspirations and the National Blueprint**” 2014 organised by FCCMSM in Methodist College Kuala Lumpur.

The Objectives of the Symposium:

- a. To understand and affirm what mission school aspirations are and their place in the National Education Blueprint 2013 – 2025
- b. To chart a way forward for Christian Mission Schools in Malaysia to meet the needs of the nation
- c. To explore the need and viability of establishing and sustaining new educational institutions which can complement the process of nation building



*The Deputy Education Minister
YB Datuk Dr Mary Yap Kain Chin
and some members of the
organising committee*



*Speakers and
Participants at
the Symposium*



Datin Noor Azimah Abdul Rahim delivers her address



Post Symposium Press Conference



YB Datuk Mary Yap Kain Chin the Deputy Minister of Education (Centre) and former Chairman of FCCMSM who gave the keynote address; Tan Sri Bernard Giluk Dompok, the patron of FCCMSM, Archbishop Julian Leow with some key speakers, paper presenters, FCCMSM leaders, organisers, and some participants of the conference.

For this FCCMSM Symposium, subject experts and key front line people at the cutting edge of the issues we were concerned with were invited to share their views and experience. Among them were: Datin Noor Azimah, Chairman of Parent Action Group for Education (PAGE), En. Wan Saiful Wan Jan, Chief Executive of Institute for Democracy and Economic Affairs (IDEAS); Datuk Dr. Denison Jayasoria, Institute of Ethnic Studies, UKM and member of National Unity Consultative Council and National Education Advisory Council; Tan Sri Dato' Dr. Ramon Navaratnam, Director of ASLI, Bro Anthony Rogers FSC, a writer and keen analytical observer of Asian affairs and Tan Sri Bernard Giluk Dompok our FCCMSM patron.

In line with the theme, 9 resolutions were eventually formulated to guide future action plans for mission schools. Some of these are currently being pursued.



A Special Message from Sarawak Council of Christian Mission Schools

“Warmest regards and heartiest congratulations to MCSC on her 60th Anniversary”

In Sarawak, the Education Ministry for Mission Schools was established in 1993, helmed by Mr Gerald Lee for the past many years. Its primary objective was to coordinate efforts to channel matters of interest and administrative problems of Christian Mission Schools to the relevant higher authorities. Ever since the disbursement of financial grant to our Mission Schools by the Ministry of Education, Malaysia, the leadership has changed hand. Mr Encharang Agas held the chairmanship till 2013 and was replaced by Mr Douglas Telajan to the present time. The secretary is Elder Ambrose Linang who is also the Secretary General of Association of Churches in Sarawak.

SCCMS, which is registered with the Association of Churches in Sarawak is helmed by the Committee members consisting of representatives of the various Mission Authorities, Mr Radin Adol (Anglican Church, Diocese of Kuching), Mr Dominic Pan (namely Catholic Church, Archdiocese of Kuching), Ms Catherine Robert Mowe, (Catholic Church, Diocese of Sibu), Mr Mathew Benson (Catholic Church, Diocese of Miri), Mr Wong Teck Ong (Sarawak Chinese Annual Conference) and Mr Kaso Linang (Sarawak Iban Annual Conference). Our Heads of Churches are the Mission Authority (Patron and Advisor).

SCCMS, similar in vision with our sister state of Sabah, has 128 schools under its jurisdiction. Anglican Church, Diocese of Kuching - 50 schools, Catholic Church, Archdiocese of Kuching - 35 schools, Catholic Church, Diocese of Sibu - 23 schools, Catholic Church, Diocese of Miri - 7 schools, Sarawak Chinese Annual School Conference - 5 schools and Sarawak Iban Annual Conference - 8 schools.

We take this opportunity to congratulate MCSC for being our most active partner in our quest in coordinating efforts in ensuring and enhancing our identities, ethos and traditions in our mission schools with the Ministry of Education, Malaysia. MCSC has been the vital link to our Memorandum of Understanding in ensuring these efforts will come to fruition for our survival in these trying times. We would like to take this opportunity to record our sincere thanks for inviting us to be part of your noble cause in strengthening our Federation. Let this partnership be nurtured for success and for the continued existence of our Christian mission schools in the educational field in Malaysia.

May the good Lord bless us in all our undertakings.

Ambrose Linang
Hon. Secretary



A special Message from the Sabah Council of Christian Mission Schools

SCCMS extends our heartiest congratulations to MCSC for her 60th Anniversary celebration.

During a meeting of representatives of Christian Mission Authorities of Sabah on 02.09.2009 which was chaired by the late Bishop Datuk Albert Vun, it was agreed to form the Sabah Council of Christian Mission Schools. In view of this agreement, a follow-up meeting was held on 27.09.2010, wherein the Sabah Council of Christian Mission Schools (SCCMS) was formally formed. The formation of the Council is to ensure cohesiveness among the various Mission Authorities or Churches to deal with matters pertaining to education, schools, kindergartens and play schools. It is necessary to have a body or organisation to look into educational matters concerning Christian Mission Schools so that we can all work together in partnership with each other, to ensure the well-being of our schools, and to ensure our rights are taken into consideration.

SCCMS is registered with the Sabah Council of Churches as one of its 'functional committees'. There are 100 Christian Mission Schools in Sabah and SCCMS is thus represented by the Roman Catholic Church (71 schools), the Basel Christian Church of Malaysia (15 schools), the Anglican Diocese of Sabah (11 schools), and the Protestant Church in Sabah (3 schools).

The Mission Statement of SCCMS is 'Glorifying God through Education'.

When SCCMS was formed on 27.09.2010, Datuk Mary Yap Kain Ching was elected the Chairperson and she held this post until May 2013 when she was appointed the Deputy Minister of Education (I). After that, Archdeacon Moses Chin took up the portfolio of Chairman until now. The current Executive Committee consists of the following.

Chairman: Archdeacon Moses Chin

Secretary: Miss Yap Pak Shun

Treasurer: Mr Matthew Chong

Committee members: Sr Rita Chew FSIC, Ms Winnie Voo, Mr Justine Asok,
Canon Paul Lau, Mr Tung Yow Choi, Elder Joseph Tsen Lip Miew,
Rev Francis Danil, and Mr Jeslis Enggam.

Advisors: Bishop/Head of Mission Authorities in Sabah which have established schools.

SCCMS would like to thank MCSC for allowing us to make reference to the MCSC Constitution when we drafted the Constitution for SCCMS. We would also like to thank MCSC for doing all the co-ordinating work with the Ministry of Education on matters pertaining to the Christian Mission Schools in Malaysia. It is indeed wonderful to work together with MCSC and the Sarawak Council to bring glory to God through Education.

The formation of FCCMSM on 07.04.2010 is a breakthrough for the three regions - Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak. We hope FCCMSM will continue to ensure that the identity and traditions of Mission Schools are maintained and that Christian Principles and Values are adopted in the teaching and management of Christian Mission Schools. Let us all work together in partnership to ensure that the rights of Christian Mission Schools are maintained and are always taken into consideration.

May all glory and honour belong to Almighty God!

Yap Pak Shun
Hon. Secretary



MCSC LOOKS AHEAD

60 years have come and gone since the formation of MCSC. We are thankful to God for his faithfulness and the heritage that those visionary pioneers of our mission schools have left behind for us. What has God called MCSC to aspire to and to work on in the years ahead?

First, some hard questions need to be asked. After serving the nation for the last 70 to 150 years, do mission schools still have a future as a distinctive category of schools in this country? In the face of such rapid educational changes and the challenges posed by the Ministry of Education's firm control over education policies and mission schools, what can MCSC or Mission Authorities realistically expect to achieve? MCSC's vision and mission must not be confined to the physical survival of mission schools in the education system but must encompass keeping alive the ethos, traditions and vibrant character which sets them apart. The values enshrined in their school mottos are noble values which any enlightened government would seek to inculcate in the young of every generation.

Our Vision for MCSC

- To be a watchful guardian of the welfare, ethos, traditions and character of Christian mission schools.
- To be a dynamic Christian education body, united by the love of God and nation and mission schools, articulating Christian concerns, participating and contributing to the holistic education development of the nation.

Our Mission

1. To re-build and strengthen the enduring features of mission schools which have contributed so much to nation-building in the past.
2. To forge new directions and pathways to realise our vision amidst the changing spectrum of educational institutions to meet the changing needs of the nation.

The Work Ahead

1. To work closely with the Government - through dialogue and discussion with the Ministry of Education and follow-up action on suggestions and issues raised in order to resolve them

“Our eyes are placed in front because it is more important to look ahead than to look back”

“Where there is no vision, there is no hope.”

~ George Washington Carver



proactively; and to give input in decision-making, thereby contributing to the development of national educational policy and goals.

2. To network with various stakeholders (Sabah & Sarawak Christian Mission Schools' Councils in FCCMSM), Christian private schools, churches and other like-minded Christian bodies in order to be more effective in realising the mission goals of MCSC.
3. To enhance the awareness and appreciation of the role and work of MCSC among Mission Authorities, MOE officials, Christian organizations, church leaders, alumni, BOGs of mission schools and the community at large through MCSC's participation at various meetings/seminars/forums organised by other NGOs especially those involving Christians; thus enabling MCSC to have a consistent public face and voice.
4. To organize seminars/forums and special events as appropriate to achieve the mission goals of MCSC such as Klang Valley Christian Teachers' Day Celebration, Regional and National Bible Quizzes, etc.
5. To ensure the retention, proper compliance and implementation, of circular provisions which have been accorded by the Government such as recognition of mission schools as a separate component within the education system; the appointment of heads of mission schools through maximum consultation; the teaching of Religious Knowledge; the setting up of religious clubs/societies; the 10% enrolment of pupils recommended by BOGs, etc.
6. To ensure that MCSC/FCCMSM publications are well distributed for maximum impact
7. To establish an FCCMSM Secretariat with paid staff to partner, support and help the regional Councils and the MCSC Exco (who are volunteers) to realise the vision and mission goals of MCSC/FCCMSM and to carry through the strategies outlined above.

“Vision is a picture of the future that produces passion”

~ Bill Hybels

“If you want to build a ship, don't herd people together to collect wood and don't assign them tasks and work, but rather teach them to long for the endless immensity of the sea.”

~ Antoine de Saint-Exupery



FOND MEMORIES - ALUMNI REMEMBER



An extract from an interview with

Y.A. Bhg. Tun Dr. Siti Hasmah binti Haji Mohamad Ali,
St. Mary class of 1941

What does St. Mary's mean to you?

It means a lot to me. It was the school which I first went to in standard one and I learnt to speak in English.

Was your time in St. Mary's enjoyable?

It really was. I, a Malay mixed with people of different nationalities but that did not really matter since all of us were friends.

What do you envision the future of St. Mary's to be like?

The school has made a lot of progress since after the war in terms of infrastructure, appointing well-trained teachers and the drastic increase of the number of students admitted into the school. There is still room for improvement of course. The school should improve further. The girls must be trained to not only excel in every field but to also envision themselves after their schooling years to be leaders.



From

Cecilia Zamira Louis,
*Cannossian Convent, Kluang,
1972 (Kindergarten - 1983 Form 5)
Teacher at SMK Damai Jaya,*

I was literally brought up by the Cannossian Sisters. I began my initiation into the “convent” at the age of 5 and have run and played through the school grounds right up to the age of 17. I really enjoyed my school days. The nuns made sure that we girls became young established women in our own right.

There was a “thing” about Convent girls which most people could distinguish, and it was our ability to stand on our two feet no matter what we were up against. I remember when I was in Form 6 (Co-ed) and the teacher asked the class to carry all the tables and chairs from the 1st floor to ground floor. My friends and I, completed the task and the teacher passed the remark “budak Convent semuanya boleh diharap, tak payah dipaksa”. The other “thing” was our need to reach out to the less fortunate. I remember, every year the girls would look forward to celebrating “Sharing Day”. The nuns never let us forget the less fortunate, and the need for humility when faced with a problem.

My friends and still reminisce our school days. I always share my “convent” tales with my daughters and they will always say “no wonder you are different”. I believe that if all schools were mission schools, we would have the best education system in the world.



Cecilia Zamira Louis
(back row, extreme left)

From

John Chong Eng Chuan

(St. John's Institution, KL 1976-1977 St. Thomas, Kuantan 1978-1980. Michael's Institution, Ipoh 1981-1985).

I consider myself privileged to have attended not one but three Catholic missionary schools during my time as a student: St. John's Institution Kuala Lumpur, St. Thomas Kuantan and St. Michael's Institution Ipoh where I spent most of my secondary school years.

As I reflect back now, I am struck by the consistency of my experience in all three missionary schools I attended. The camaraderie and friendship among students (many of whom are friends till this day), the dedication and commitment of the teachers and Christian Brothers to nurture and develop the right values while encouraging us to be the best we can be. In my view, it was truly an enriching and holistic education experience not just focusing on academia but developing leadership potential and bringing out the best in us, be it sports and athletics, music, arts and drama.

Two individuals stand out for me. The late Bro Ultan Paul Rosario FSC and the late Dato' Bro Vincent Corkery FSC who were former Brother Directors and Principals at St Michael's. Both men demonstrated in the manner they lived their lives, the importance of humility and respect for others. I will always cherish my experience in the three missionary schools I attended and regard my time there as a formative phase in my life.



From

Moey Yoke Lai

Chairman of MCSC 2016 – 2018

CEO Methodist College Kuala Lumpur



What BBGS Taught Me

BBGS has played a large part in building my character. We were taught to uphold principles of honesty and integrity, loyalty, courtesy and kindness at all times and in all circumstances. The dignity of the human spirit and that of labour were emphasized. Humility and regard for others, and unselfish consideration of your neighbours were upheld. Truth in the inward parts, when no one is looking, became an integral part of our makeup. Endurance, diligence and conscientiousness are the hallmark of BBGS girls. (By Miss Moey Yoke Lai, ex-student (1966) and ex-teacher (1974 - 1982), excerpt from the Centenary Magazine, 1993.)

Today, as CEO of Methodist College Kuala Lumpur, I appreciate even more the skills honed over the years when I sought to plant a little of BBGS in the schools where I served as principal – MBSSKL, MBSS Sentul and SMK Kepong Baru. Indeed, *Nisi Dominus Frustra - Without God All Is In Vain* – has been my anchor through all the vicissitudes of life. This is the one thing that remained with Miss Cooke as age laid claim on her whose torch has been passed on to us.

This torch is burning brightly in the Girls' Christian Union Camp which is still held every December in St Mary's Girls' School under the name Girls' Christian Camp. BBGS girls can send their daughters to this camp for them to catch a little of the BBGS spirit.

In 2012, the Elena Cooke Education Fund was activated to help students from disadvantaged backgrounds to strive for quality higher education in order to break the cycle of poverty. To-date we have helped 22 students gain entrance into colleges and universities post SPM and STPM. Of these, 2 have completed their studies and are gainfully employed and helping their families.

The BBGS spirit is very much alive today. The words of the school song has become reality in our lives.

*“BBGS we pledge to thee
Our love and toil in the years to be
When we are grown and take our place
As loyal women with our race.”*



From

Sim Kwang Yang

(Politician, philosopher, humanist and columnist for MalaysiaKini.

Former 3-term MP for Kuching Sarawak, He passed away on

27 November 2014 at the age of 66)

(extracted from "Then and Now")



A Christmas tribute to the La Salle Brothers!

I was a scraggy boy growing up on the mean streets of Kuching, very vulnerable to the street gangs that roamed my poor neighbourhood. I had just finished my six years of Chinese primary education and a year of transition class in English, when my late mother decided to send me to the famed St Joseph's Secondary School run by the La Salle Brothers. My brush with Christianity marked me for life:

I was taught by the La Salle Brothers throughout my secondary education, a life-changing experience that only fellow former La Sallian students can appreciate.

The first day in the English lesson was undertaken by Brother Adrian, one of those Irishmen who came across the oceans to teach us poor Sarawakian kids from their "Island of saints and scholars". He wrote out the poem *The Brook* by Lord Tennyson on the board and taught us to recite it. I still remember this poem to this day. I had never liked English much before that, but that first English lesson made me fall in love with the language and English literature, a subject I took right up to the Cambridge School Certificate (Form Five) level. It is a love affair that stays until my old age to-day.

We used to have morning assembly before class every morning. It would start with the singing of a hymn led by the late Brother Hilary who had a particularly melodious voice, followed by prayers. This would then be followed by the principal's announcements, and lectures on the need to study hard and excel on the sports field.

The La Salle Brothers were famous for their disciplinarian approach to education of course. The sight of the principal Brother Albinus in his long white robe with his long rotan cane sauntering through the corridor was enough to rein in the hundreds of schoolboys throughout the whole school ground. Students who came late to school did so at their own peril. The usual punishment for this and other acts of indiscipline was to be sent to wash toilets. Non-Catholic Chinese students and the Malay Muslim boys had only to stand erect at attention. Corporeal punishment was the shadow that lurked waiting for the naughty boys in our midst. The parents then did not mind the occasional canning of their children by the Brothers and the teachers. In fact, parents of very problematic children would try every means to squeeze their children into SJS, especially into the boarding house, precisely with the hope of whipping their spoiled babies into shape. I had seen with my very eyes how street gangsters had been so transformed into good students and useful citizens later.

But fear of punishment was not what motivated us to study. The Brothers created a community spirit among teachers and students and challenged us to our task at hand with the same kind of their single-mindedness with which they dedicated themselves to their vocation. It was a challenge to which we could only respond with enthusiasm. All the students instinctively knew it, and followed their leadership to the hilt.



The challenge to excel was not limited to academic performance only; we were expected to do well in all extra-curricular activities, especially in sports and games. As the principal Brother Albinus would harangue us, day in and day out, we were expected to return to school in the early afternoon, to take the various free extra classes, or spend the hours reading and studying in the school library. After that, at about four thirty, we all had to turn out on the school field, to play one game or other. Naturally, our school team emerged champion in all inter-school competitions in athletics and games, except in basketball and table-tennis, which were often won by Chinese schools.

The Brothers were dedicated to their cause: to provide education to poor students, without regard to creed or colour. Naturally, all the students studied in the classroom and played on the fields together without the kind of racial or religious polarisation and compartmentalisation so cancerous in Malaysian society to-day. The La Salle Brothers treated students of all races equally, and they had never made any attempt to convert anybody to their religion.

Later on in my years in Form Six, I too checked into the boarding house, and it was then I truly realised the austerity of the Brothers' daily life. They lived in very spartan rooms, and ate very simple meals. They rose long before sunrise, and spent hours praying, before they went to church for the morning mass. Then they spent the whole day, teaching in the morning, and supervising student activities in the afternoon, before retiring to prepare lessons and mark papers. They did this day in and day out, for decades on end. Many were touched by the dedication of the missionaries in the school and the policies of Mission Schools then, so much so that non-believers became Christians because of their influence. It was to learn from them that before they entered the Brotherhood, they had to take the vows of chastity, poverty and absolute obedience. Only with very strong religious faith can you become a La Salle Brother indeed.

Then some time in the early 1980s, the Brothers decided to hand over the management of St. Joseph's Secondary School to lay teachers. The school was increasingly coming under the thumb of the education ministry. In any case, the La Salle Order was established some 300 years ago to provide education for the poor, and Malaysia by that time was not considered poor anymore.

Every Christmas, my thoughts always turn to the La Salle Brothers who had shaped my character and infected my love for literature and learning in my most formative years. Those were the happiest most care-free years of my life. I had learned much more than knowledge from them; I had learned about giving something of myself to others and to causes much larger than myself. I had learned about the Goodness of God.

So Merry Christmas and may God bless you, Brother Albinus in Sarawak, Brother Columba in Ireland, Brother Adrian, Brother Mark and Brother Hyacinth wherever you are!

As for Brother Henry and Brother Hilary who had passed away, may your soul rest in eternal peace in God's loving embrace!

Editor's Note:

We are thankful to be able to reprint this extract as a tribute to the late Sim Kwang Yang – a Malaysian who had served our nation with distinction- an alumnus of mission schools that we can all be proud of. It is also a fitting tribute to the life transforming work of the Catholic Brothers in our country.



From

Angeline Lazaroo

1973 : Main Convent Kindergarten, Ipoh.

1974 - 1984 : Standard 1 - Form 5 at Main Convent, Ipoh.

1985 - 1986 : Form 6 at St. Michael's Institution, Ipoh.

Coming from a family where 3 generations were educated in a Mission School, it was only natural that I was enrolled in the alma mater of my mum, the Main Convent, Ipoh from Kindergarten till Form Five. After which, I joined my other schoolmates to make the brave crossing into the male-dominated territory of St. Michael's Institution into the Sixth Form.

I remember with great affection the faith education which I received from the IJ nuns – Sr. Winifred and Sr. Martha who prepared me for my First Confession and First Holy Communion in Std. 3. I remember the Masses which I attended at the School Chapel – both at the Main Convent and St. Michael's Institution during the special days of Obligation. I remember beaming with pride as a Catholic and attending the Holy Mass during school hours – a privilege which no longer exists for the present generation of students.

Being used to close supervision and controls in the Convent, I found it daunting, learning to think independently and to be self-reliant in my Sixth Form journey which opened up a whole new world of learning experience encompassing rich lessons in life and the humanitarian philosophy of a La Sallian education which moulded us to resound to the call to be “valiant and true”.

Etched in my memory, will also be the annual school play where the stage became a springboard of latent talents and the privilege for me to be part of a Musical, “Oliver” for the first time. These musical and drama productions gave many the experience of a lifetime fulfilling the need for an enriching educational experience.

Being a part of a heritage with an illustrious past which is firmly rooted in strong traditions and character, my husband (a Michaelian of 13 years) and I treasure the history, rich diversity, ethos and distinctive traits of our alma mater. We take pride in passing the values of faith, character-building, service and community which are the basis of the Michaelian spirit to our three beloved children.

Our story is our heritage to be shared as a legacy. We are privileged to have inherited much from a great and glorious institution – a school which is close to our hearts.



From
Hwa Jen
Class of Form V 1964
Methodist Boys' School, Penang

Reflections on My Years with MBS Penang

In April 1956, a year after my family arrived from Hong Kong, my younger brother Hwa Yung and I were both admitted to the special Std Three class in the Pykett Methodist School, on the decision of the Headmaster Dr Herbert Peterson. We grew up Cantonese and barely knew any English then.

Somehow we survived our first year in Pykett, including all the teasing and rather harmless bullying from the local boys. And we made friends and learned English and Malay along the way. In 1959, together with everyone else in Std Six, I took the first public national examination for promotion to Form One.

What I Have Come to Value about MBS Penang

So I became a student in the Methodist Boys' School from 1960 to 1966, where the old Suffolk House was to become our school canteen during school hours, but our unofficial, unauthorised play-ground and haunt after school.

Those were the good fun years of learning and growing, with good teachers and good friends. There was the Literary & Debating Society, the Science Society, and also the Boy Scouts and the Gang Shows. We played all kinds of games, and went hiking and camping. Then in Form Six, there were other activities like the Library Committee and the Interact Club.

Spirit and Identity: My school-mates and I will always consider ourselves MBS boys. It is in our blood, for we have always been proud of being MBS. It certainly helps to have a great School Song, but we love it because we love the school, for all that the school has given to us and what she means to us.

Good Teachers: We had many good dedicated teachers and we still think them fondly. They cared for us and about us, naughty boys though we all once were. Our teachers taught us, scolded us, cajoled us, pushed us and helped us to grow in mind and spirit. We were moulded in school into what we are today, and much of the credit goes to all these teachers.

Friendships: We spent many years together in school,--for some, it was 13 years altogether. We studied together, played together, and sometimes fought one another as must happen with boys. Even after we left school, went our separate and disparate ways, but meeting up every now and again, our friendship has remained intact and we still regard one another as companions in the journey of life. We share a bond that cannot be broken for it was forged during our growing-up years, intertwined with all our joys and troubles, our successes and our failures.

School should be a place where life-long friendships are made, values are nurtured, and character is built. It should be a place where every boy and girl comes to accept himself or herself as a person of value and integrity, and every other person as our equal who is worthy of our respect and honour. MBS has done this for us and for many generations past, and, I hope, will continue to mould this outlook in the future generations of students to come.

I am grateful for the continuing opportunity to serve on the School Board as a representative of the Methodist Church. My heart will always be with MBS, my alma mater, which I love and to which I will always be grateful and seek to give of my best.

(Adapted from Blazing the Trail, MBS Penang 2016)



*An interview with Ms Elizabeth Alfred
Class of 1965*

What are your fondest memories in St. Mary's?

Just enjoying everyday going to school as a child and young girl. Memories of playing tricks on other classmates at school and after school, like telling Vimala my classmate who is still my friend and whose children still laugh whenever I tell them that their mother was so gullible to believe that I had a magic piano - I would call her and then ask her if she would like to hear my magic piano. When she said 'yes', I then would ask my sister to play the piano while I was still talking to her!

Enjoying relationships with both teachers and other students from the class as well as from other classes - some of these friendships with teachers and students continue till today - that is 47 years later!

Other memories are of how much we could do with fifty cents like buying a nice bowl of mee hoon soup etc. Then of imitating an Indian national teacher who had just got married to a Malaysian. I was the culprit who would answer her questions using the Indian slang when she was teaching us health science. Years later, when her daughter got married to my friend's son, I confessed about my naughtiness to her at the wedding dinner - such was the relationship that we had with teachers those days!

Another memory is of playing under the school as the school was built above ground. Though it was dark, it was also kind of a secret place for us, like what we read in the Enid Blyton story books!

How do you think St. Mary's has helped to mould you?

St. Mary's has made me what I am today - a confident person and able to use the gifts that God has given me - gifts of administration to help set up Hospis Malaysia for the terminally ill in 1992, the YWCA Vocational Opportunity Centre in 1998 for marginalised girls besides setting up the Breast Care Welfare Association in 1988 and pioneering clinical drug trials in 1987.

The school's motto of 'I SERVE' is largely responsible for me becoming a nurse. Though I had to wait three years after leaving school to pursue this career, I finally won the day when I was able to go to Australia for my basic training and then to the U.K. for my post basic training in Midwifery, Coronary Care and Casualty nursing.

Being a pupil in the school from standard one to form five has also made me a person who is able to cope with disappointments and other set backs over the years. Also the Christian values taught during school assembly and through Bible Knowledge classes has contributed largely to how I have been able to be a worthy citizen of this country putting others above self and enjoying whatever I found myself doing like having to do Principles of Accounts and a year of temporary teaching before pursuing my nursing course.

What was your favourite aspect of St. Mary's?

How we enjoyed each other irrespective of race or religion. I believe that we had more "muhibah" then whereas today we seem to be behaving to keep mentioning about it!



From
Dato' Lawrence Chan Kum Peng
St. Michael's Institution, Ipoh (1962)

Recalling my school days at St. Michael's Institution, Ipoh, brings happy memories that I cherish. The dedicated and committed teachers especially the La Salle brothers helped build my character with the right attitudes and values, integrity, social skills and to achieve my potential.

They walked their talk and talked their walk. We learnt the importance of learning, playing, sharing and caring for each other, irrespective of our different racial, religious and social backgrounds.

With these precious lessons learnt, I am blessed to be able to apply these good values effectively in my studies, sports and co-curricular activities. I am very grateful to my devoted educators for instilling in me the Michaelian Spirit to be a responsible, caring and committed person to society and country.

I strongly believe in the noble aims of our mission schools, and as such, my children studied in St. Patrick's Institution and Mount Convent School in Singapore, and now my grandchildren in St. Joseph's School in Cairns, Australia.

Editor's Note:

Dato' Lawrence Chan was the peak performance coach/mental trainer who motivated our Malaysian Hockey Team in the 3rd World Cup Hockey Tournament 1975, achieving a historic 4th placing.

In 1992, he mentally prepared the Malaysian Badminton players to win the Thomas Cup, also went to the Atlanta Olympics to help Cheah Soon Kit, Yap Kim Hock and Rashid Sidek who won Olympics Silver and Bronze medals respectively.



From

Dr. Lim Poh Lian

I was a BBGS student from Standard 1 right up through Form 5. After SPM, I spent 3 months in Lower Sixth Form at St John's Institution, before going to Harvard University for my first degree in Biochemistry, and subsequently medicine at Columbia University.

BBGS played a tremendous part in forming the person I am today. Through the principal and teachers at BBGS, the traditions of excellence and service were instilled in me. Doing our best showed up in all sorts of ways, from academic work to good diction.

I will never forget the amazing dedication in our teachers - they stayed back after school and during school holidays to coach girls, accompany them for inter-school competitions, and even gave their own money to help students in need. I remember Ms Yeap (the principal) coming to our chess tournaments, Ms Moey and all our Christian Union Camp adventures, Mrs Simon, our Guider who worked with two of us to earn our Queen's Guide award, Ms Margaret Cooke, who encouraged me as a writer, and so many other wonderful teachers.

Special memories:

Choral Speaking competitions, food fairs, school plays like the Merchant of Venice, working on the BBGS school magazine, Christian Fellowship songs, winning the competition for the cleanest school toilets in KL for 3 years in a row (after which they told us to just keep the trophy!)

But the most important imprint BBGS made on me was introducing me to Jesus. Through Scripture Union, I heard the gospel and believed in Christ when I was 8. Through Bible Knowledge classes and Christian Fellowship, I grew in faith and knowledge of God. I have now travelled on 6 continents, worked in various outbreaks including SARS, and journeyed through cancer treatment, and experienced the truth of our BBGS school motto: "Nisi Dominus Frustra"; without God, all is in vain - but also, with God, nothing is impossible!

I owe a life-long debt of love and gratitude to BBGS, to our teachers. There is a long shining tradition of Christian mission schools in Malaysia, which have made a tremendous impact for good, and deserves our generous and unstinting support.

Editor' Note:

Lim Poh Lian is a Senior Consultant in the Ministry of Health, Singapore, and at Tan Tock Seng Hospital. She holds joint academic appointments at Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine, National University of Singapore School of Public Health and School of Medicine - a well-respected researcher who has contributed much to society.

Professor Lim heads the Travellers' Health & Vaccination Clinic, and is the Site Director of GeoSentinel in Singapore. She has been actively involved with the Steering Committee of WHO Global Outbreak Alert and Response in Health Emergencies, and has worked at various outbreaks at national and international levels on communicable disease such as SARS, dengue, etc.



From

Tay Choon Neo

Mission Schools are in my blood. My family had always sent the children to the English school, which was the Mission Schools. My mum (with white hand bag) went to MGS Malacca, with two of my father's sisters. Little did they know then that they would be sisters-in-law. Despite the different ages, they stayed in the same class until the Japanese War broke out and after that they were too old and embarrassed to go back to school. My cousin went to Sacred Heart Convent in Malacca. I studied in Kuala Lumpur because my father (he went Malacca High School) was transferred there and so I was an MGS KL girl all the way. First, in Jr MGS and then in Sr MGS. Now Mission Schools seem to be growing out my ears as I am working for the Methodist Council of Education and I am writing as the Hon. Sec. of MCSC!

All my 3 brothers also went to Mission Schools: La Salle Brickfields/Petaling Jaya, St. John's Institution and Methodist Boys' School KL. Terence recalls that it was in St John's that he developed a love for photography when he had an outing with famed photographer, Eric Peris. In MBS KL, Lawrence recalls fondly the various musicals the school had put up like Papageno in The Magic Flute, etc and how it created a deep interest in him for the performing arts as a hobby.

Sadly, the next generation, my niece and nephew, did not go to a mission school. Things had changed. But as we look back... school life was great then, with our mixed group of friends and teachers. We turned out pretty well too, thanks to the strong character building, values and ethos of mission schools. All Glory to God!





GLEANINGS FROM THE PRESS



DATUK DR KHAIR BIN MOHAMAD YUSOF
Ketua Pengarah Pendidikan Malaysia

Tidak dapat dinafikan bahawa Sekolah-Sekolah Mubaligh Kristian yang bertapak di tanah air ini sejak kurun ke 17 telah memainkan peranan yang penting dalam pembangunan pendidikan dan telah membuahkan hasilnya yang sungguh mengagumkan. Pada ketika ini, Sekolah-Sekolah Mubaligh Kristian sentiasa berusaha bergerak ke hadapan dan bersedia menghadapi pelbagai cabaran untuk mengekalkan watak dan identitinya yang unggul dalam aliran perdana sistem pendidikan Malaysia selaras dengan kehendak Pelan Pembangunan Pendidikan Malaysia 2013-2025. Pihak berkuasa Mubaligh merupakan sebuah pertubuhan yang sentiasa bekerjasama dan mendukung cita-cita Kerajaan untuk memajukan sistem pendidikan di Negara ini. Ia mempunyai struktur yang kukuh dan strategi transformasi pendidikan yang kreatif dan telah melakukan lonjakan berganda untuk meningkatkan prestasi serta mutu pendidikan negara ini.

Translation

“It cannot be denied that Christian mission schools established in this country since the 17th century has played an important role in the development of education and had produced results which is most amazing. Even today, Christian mission schools have always worked diligently to move forward and are ready to face all sorts of challenges to preserve their excellent character and identity in the foremost system of Malaysian education, in line with the Malaysian Education Blueprint 2013-2025. The Mission Authority is a body which always cooperates and assists the Government in its inspirations to advance the system of education in this country. It has a sound structure and education transformation strategy that is creative, and has made great strides raise the achievement and quality of education in this country.”

(Extracted from the message sent to the MCSC for the FCCMSM Symposium 2014 Programme Publication)



GLEANINGS FROM THE PRESS

NEW STRAITS TIMES MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2009

BROTHER LAWRENCE

He toiled for the benefit of many



MANY ex-teachers and students, particularly those from mission schools in the country, were saddened by the recent death of Brother Lawrence Spitz.

A doyen and an icon in the teaching profession, Spitz was well-known to many, including Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak, doctors, lawyers, engineers and civil servants.

It was heartening to note the large turnout for the wake and funeral service for this household name in the teaching profession.

It was, therefore, befitting that Najib, in his Teachers Day message, described teachers in the country like Spitz as the unsung heroes.

I am glad that Najib paid tribute to distinguished members of the teaching profession for their contributions.

I was proud to have served under Spitz for many years during his tenure as the brother director of St John's Institution in Kuala Lumpur.

Here was a man and an educationist who had toiled for the benefit of many Malaysians who today hold prominent positions.

He was a great educator who did so much for so many. I am sure they count themselves as being among the fortunate ones, whose lives and careers were moulded by him.

This Canadian, whose entire life was spent in the teaching

Brother Lawrence Spitz has served in many mission schools starting from 1938

profession, became a teacher at the age of 19 at St Joseph's Institute in Singapore in 1938 and served at other mission schools in Malaya, such as St Xavier's Institution in Penang and La Salle Petaling Jaya, before retiring from St John's Institution.

Even when the Japanese landed in Malaya, he was still teaching in the country.

He was sent to Pudu Prison and later as a prisoner of war at Changi Prison in Singapore.

Even during his 80s, he was still teaching in remote areas of Sabah.

Teaching was in his blood and you could never separate the man from his profession.

He was the personification of the teaching profession.

Our gratitude goes to the Little Sisters of the Poor for taking good care of this great humanitarian in his old age. May his soul rest in peace.

JAMES GONZALES
Kuala Lumpur

Only nod of HMs needed

Students can form religious clubs

By FOONG PEK YEE and LEE YUK PENG
newsdesk@thestar.com.my

PETALING JAYA: The Cabinet has decided that the setting up of non-Muslim religious societies in schools only needs the approval of school heads.

MCA deputy president and Health Minister Datuk Seri Liow Tiong Lai said the matter was discussed during the Cabinet meeting chaired by Deputy Prime Minister and Education Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin in Putrajaya yesterday.

"Such societies are good and should be encouraged," Liow said.

Students, he said, could apply to form a society when there are at least 15 of them interested in doing so, adding that Muhyiddin had said existing societies were allowed to continue.

MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Chua Soi Lek said he was happy with the Cabinet's decision.

"MCA believes the head of a school is the person who knows best (what is happening in the school) and not the state director of education," he said.

Dr Chua said religious-based societies were in line with the Rukunegara and should be supported.

He said he chaired a pre-council meeting with the four MCA ministers - Liow, Transport Minister Datuk Seri Kong Cho Ha, Housing and Local Government Minister Datuk Chor Chee Heung and Tourism Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ng Yen Yen - in Kuala Lumpur on Tuesday to discuss the matter.

»MCA believes the head of a school is the person who knows best«

DATUK SERI DR CHUA SOI LEK

Kong said the decision was reflective of the 1Malaysia policy that takes care of all communities.

Recent media reports on the Selangor Education Department's alleged order to close three non-Muslim religious societies at the Klang High School was traced to a circular dated Dec 16, 2000, stating the formation of such societies must be approved by the state education director.

MCA Youth chief and Deputy Education Minister Datuk Dr Wee Ka Siong said all must abide by the Cabinet decision and hoped it would put the matter to rest.

Meanwhile, Malaysian Consultative Council of Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Sikhism and Taoism president Rev Dr Thomas Phillips said it was a good decision.

"Spiritual development is important for children," he said. Malaysia Hindu Sangam president R.S. Mohan Shan also welcomed the Cabinet's decision.

STAR NEWSPAPER - AUGUST 5, 2010

Continuing the tradition of mission schools

Mission schools are as 'Malaysian' as can be. We really ought to be applauding, supporting and promoting their work as they are indeed an asset to our country.

THE canteen of an all-girl mission school in Ipoh is a riot of noise as the students throng to their favourite stalls. Shared by both the secondary and primary schools, it's situated between the two institutions.

This school can trace its lineage back to an educational institution founded in 1895 by British missionaries, although it only assumed its current name in 1959.

In 2010, it was named one of the Sekolah Harapan Negara.

The secondary school is in the slightly grander, older buildings dating from the 1920s while the primary school is in the 1950s structure alongside the assembly hall.

Recess is staggered and the girls eat at different times.

The racial mix is striking, with Malay, Indian and Chinese students in almost equal measure.

"I'm looking on, from the teachers' dining room where I'm sitting with the enthusiastic and chatty senior teachers - all of whom are women.

"You could say that curriculum is our core business," says one headmistress.

"I've been teaching for 30 years - of which 25 were spent in mission schools."




The distinguished alumni from mission schools include several of our prime ministers (Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak is an old boy of St John's), ministers, corporate captains, sports stars and artistes.

education in Malaysia in general. As history will show, most mission schools became partially-aided schools in the 1970s, which meant that the Education Ministry supplied and paid the teaching staff plus operating



GLEANINGS FROM THE PRESS

12 **eXtra!** the Sun ON THURSDAY | OCTOBER 14, 2010

GET THE LATEST BY 

Mission schools held back



There have been many institutions that have contributed to the development of Malaysia's populace over the last 200 years. Some have been forgotten while others are still revered.

But quite likely, very few are still held with the immense esteem in which Christian mission schools are for providing free or affordable education to tens of thousands of children over the last century.

It is no exaggeration to say that without any regard to a child's race, religion or creed, the 200-odd mission schools have left an indelible collective mark on the educational upbringing of many Malaysians, including numerous individuals who are today national leaders and prominent figures.

Ironically, the general state of these mission schools is today a far cry from what they were during their glory years. Beset with decaying facilities, indiscipline, and declining education and teaching standards, most of them are a pale reflection of how they operated in years past.

Recently, a group of concerned alumni of a La Salle school in Penang rang the alarm bell on this sorry state of affairs. Led by MIC Jalan P. Ramlee branch chairman Dr B. Anthony, the group wants to initiate a campaign to promote the revival of the quality and integrity of mission schools,

which also include a string of convent schools.

Among the core concerns is that of financial support. Unlike national schools, mission schools throughout the country are today provided only partial funding by the federal government.

This is despite the fact that they have the exact same system and curricula as ordinary national schools. Furthermore, the teachers who operate there are also full civil servants appointed by the Education Ministry, as is the practice in all public schools.

This question of why mission schools are being marginalised in such a way when they are, for all intents and purposes, now operating just as normal public schools is one that is frequently raised by those concerned about the institutions.

In fact, the lack of funding is holding back mission schools from attaining facilities on par with most top public schools. This is a common affliction affecting most mission schools today.

There is however one significant aspect manifest in this shortcoming - the demonstration of devotion from the schools' alumni. It is a fact that most of those who passed through the hallowed corridors of mission schools, nurtured during their most formative years in the aura of discipline and inspiration provided by the schools, have remained loyal to their alma mater.

Some time last year, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak himself reminisced about his years at the St John's Institution in Kuala

Lumpur when he officiated the opening of the Conference of Christian Mission Schools in Malaysia.

"The ethos of mission schools," he said, "shaped the values and beliefs of students which is in line with Malaysia."

But the conditions of the schools today do not at all reflect their contributions and legacy to the history of the nation.

In 2007, a group of Christian leaders had proposed that a concerted effort be undertaken to revive the glory of mission schools. Except for the occasional rhetoric from politicians and those in power, there has not been any major progress reported since then.

Recently the Penang government gave some allocations to mission schools in the state to help ease their financial constraints.

Perhaps the major turning point for mission schools was the gradual disappearance of the reverend brothers and sisters who oversaw their education systems, particularly since independence, and more so after the 80s.

But the heart of the matter is that the schools now come under the ambit of the Education Ministry. It is up to the federal government to undertake any concrete initiative to help revive the standards and prestige of the schools, if there is any hope at all of them reclaiming their glory years.



CATCHING UP

As the nation prepared for independence in 1957, a tireless Irish nun was composing a school song and helping a premier girls' school in Petaling Jaya take shape. WILSON HENRY revisits the convent where the first plans for Assunta School were made

AS soon as she set foot in Malaya, she plunged into the setting up of Assunta School. And 52 years on, Sister Enda Philomena Ryan is working just as intensely to raise RM1 million for a project to help poor and abandoned children from squatter settlements.

"The day after I arrived in Petaling Jaya, I was teaching the little ones in primary school and setting up the Assunta Secondary School in Charngal Road," she remembers.

The years of serving the poor and educating the young are etched in every line and wrinkle on her 78-year-old face.

Today, sitting in the parlour of the St Francis Convent discussing building plans with another nun, Sister Enda is as energetic as the 26-year-old Franciscan nun she was when she arrived two years before Merdeka.

"We hope to raise the money to put up a building for the Assunta Children's Society," she says.

"At the Assunta Children's Centre, the children will receive additional attention in their school-work. We want to help their parents as well by offering adult classes and opening a crisis centre."

It is not as big as the project she was entrusted with in 1955 - get-



Sister Enda Philomena Ryan conducting classes soon after arriving in Malaya 52 years ago.



of Assunta Hospital) managed by the sisters.

"The convent's walls only went half way up," she remembers, "the top half was latticed for ventilation. When it rained, we had to use umbrellas indoors."

Every morning on rising in those days, the nuns would kiss the ground and greet the day with a biblical expression in Latin. But one day, instead of greeting the morning with *Ecce Ancilla Domini* (Behold the handmaid of the Lord) to emphasise humility, Sister Enda let out a piercing scream.

"I almost kissed a snake that was slithering on the floor," she laughs.

The Assunta School song

The national anthem wasn't the only new song that Assunta School girls learnt in 1957.

The school song, written by Sister Enda Philomena Ryan, was inspired by the events and speeches during the Merdeka celebrations.

"Tunku Abdul Rahman's speech about the new and unified Malaya must have inspired

me," says Sister Enda.

She then sings the verses she wrote 50 years ago.

"Verse two of the song celebrates the founding of the nation and urges the girls to 'take our place as loyal members of our beloved Malaysian race, to live as one large family in preparation for what our future lives must be'."



GLEANINGS FROM THE PRESS



Recent remarks from MPs about missionary schools can best be described as irresponsible and ignorant.

MY ALMA mater, the St Xavier's Institution in Penang, has a huge cross at the entrance of the school. It has a chapel, and next to the school is a church. Across the road is the Convent Light Street, which has similar features.

These are among the best missionary schools in the country and have certainly produced some of the finest students, including Finance Minister II Tan Sri Nor Mohamed Yakcop, Deputy Culture, Arts and Heritage Minister Datuk Wong Kam Hoong and Members of Parliament Tan Sri K.S. Nijhar and Karpal Singh.

Chief Justice Datuk Abdul Hamid Mohamad also studied at the SXI during his Sixth Form while his early education was at the St Mark's School in Butterworth, where he was a head prefect.

Many members of the Perlis royal family were also students of the SXI. The first Penang Chief Minister, the late Tan Sri Wong Pow Nee, and the composer of the classic *Putera Puteri*, Jimmy Boyle, studied and taught at the school, which is still being headed by a Catholic priest, a Malaysian.

During my primary and secondary school years, I met the best teachers and students from all races. Certainly, there was no attempt to convert us to Christianity.

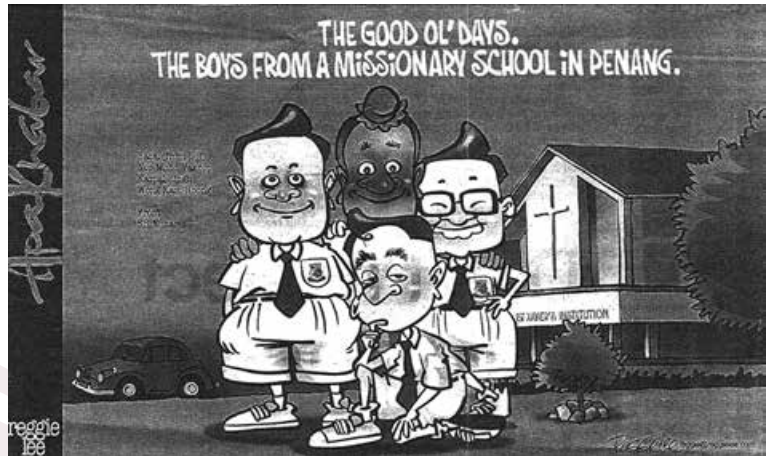
The many crosses at the school and at the classrooms, at one time, meant nothing to me. Neither were the statues along the school corridors.

When I became a Christian later, it was more than 20 years after I had graduated from university; my years in the SXI had no influence at all on my decision to do so.

Those of us who have had the privilege of attending missionary schools, including Protestant-run ones like the Methodist Boys' and Girls' Schools, would surely have the same story to tell. Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi studied at the MBS.

Women, Family And Community Development Minister Datuk Seri Shahrizat Jilil went to the St George's Girls School in Penang, which was founded by missionaries, and certainly, she would credit her command of English for the education she had there.

I am sure all of them have fond memories of their childhood days, of the friends of various races they would not have met had their parents sent them to a Malay or Chinese-medium school.



ST. XAVIER'S INST FOUND



Good to see you again: Ex-Xavierians greeting each other during their reunion at the St Xavier's Institution in Penang. Studying at missionary schools is, like anywhere else, about getting an education and forging friendships irrespective of race or faith.

NEW STRAITS TIMES TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2007

Christian images to stay

THE Education Ministry will not remove the cross and other Christian images from mission schools.

Deputy Education Minister Datuk Noh Omar said the images were part of the mission schools' tradition and there was no reason to change it.

He said this at the Dewan Rakyat yesterday when opposition Leader Lim Kit Siang brought up the issue of a backbencher who had called for the images to be removed.

The call by Syed Hood Syed Edros (BN-Parit Sulong) made during the Dewan Rakyat ses-

ion in October, had allegedly created a storm over the Internet, as someone had posted the extract from the parliament's Hansard.

Syed Hood, Johor Umno Youth deputy chief, in making the call on Oct 29, had said that the board of directors at mission schools were allegedly partially administered by churches in foreign countries.

According to the Hansard, the BN MP said: "I was made to understand that the board of directors at these schools are partially administered by churches in foreign countries.

"I was also made to understand that the application to build a surau in some of these schools had to go through the approval of these board of directors. It shames me that the school administrations are still controlled by the church."

At the parliament lobby yesterday, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Nazri Aziz said the public could lodge a police report against anyone who uttered seditious remarks.

"No one can make seditious remarks even if they have immunity as an MP."

*for the glory of God
and the service of man*

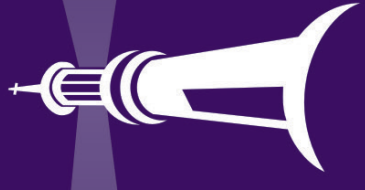


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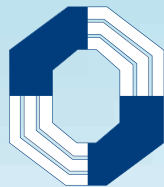


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First and foremost, we wish to express our praise and thanksgiving to God for His faithfulness in preserving and sustaining the work of MCSC through the years.

We wish to record our gratitude to all who have served faithfully in various capacities in MCSC.

The Fund Raising Project and Dinner

Our heartfelt appreciation to those who have contributed generously toward the fund raising project culminating in the 60th Anniversary Dinner on 30 October 2016.

The Publication of the 60th Anniversary Commemorative Book

Our appreciation and thanks to

- ✦ all who have contributed in one way or another especially in collecting and reviewing materials for the publication
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