

150 Years of Touching Hearts, Educating Minds & Nurturing Lives

JALAN BANDA HILIR: As Melaka's first girl's school, Infant Jesus Convent (IJC) celebrated its sesquicentennial in a grand and colourful manner, Melaka State Education, Science & Technology and Human Resource Committee Chairman Datuk Hj Yaakub Md Amin, as the guest of honour made a splendid announcement that a sum of RM1 million has been allotted by the Ministry of Education through the fine efforts of the Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin who is also the Minister of Education.

Yaakub in his address paid tribute to the Infant Jesus (IJ) Sisters who travelled all the way through stormy seas and bad weather to reach the shores of Malaya and then to Melaka setting up the first ever girls' school here. They have provided basic formal education to so many thousands of children and young women.

Through its 150 years of existence, the five IJ Convent namely IJC Secondary, Notre Dame Convent (NDC) Secondary, CLJ 1, CLJ 2, NDC Primary including Ayer Salak Convent (now closed) have consistently worked and exceeded the expectations of their students and members



Sr Rosalind Tan receiving the colours of the 5 IJ Convents

of the public. It ont only focuses on academic excellence but included character-building, moral discipline and moral values. Having multi-racial students studying, mixing, playing and mingling with each other under one roof in harmony, togetherness, goodwill and tolerance is what makes the IJ Convents special and something unique. On top of that these schools have produced top students in every examination each year.

Mother Provincial IJ Sisters of Malaysia, Sr Rosalind Tan in her address

reminded that the journey still continues after 150 years to keep on promoting values that will enable people to live together in freedom and respect, to cultivate the value of life, to care for the Earth as a common homeland and to reach out to those who are disadvantaged and pushed to the margins of the society.

Earlier the Bishop of Melaka-Johor, Rev. Fr Paul Tan Chee Ing conducted an Eucharistic celebration in the school chapel. The Chairperson 150th Anniversary Celebration Committee Sr Teresa Mowe

gave a welcoming speech and a thanksgiving prayer.

The committee paid tribute to Ursula Bauer from Europe who graciously saw to the school chapel being given a new coat of paint, a new roof and lightings. Long serving teachers and staff including Rokiah Samat, Salim Abu, Abdul Karim Abu, Goh Hwee Lin, Ee Keng Seng, Theresa D'Cruz and many more were also honoured.

The students from all the five schools gave a splendid performance with dances showcasing the ethnic groups here in Malaysia, a



Thank you, Ursula Bauer for a new faellift to the CIJ chapel

mixture of line, modern and aerobic dance, a display of the art of wushu and songs sung by an ex-student in the midst of the presentation at the primary convent quadrangle. A get together dinner for old pupils and teachers is scheduled at the Mahkota Hotel tonight and

based on the number of ex-students who turned in the morning, a full house is expected.

IJC 150 years of touching hearts, educating minds and nurturing lives, reflect an interesting and colourful story indeed. Syabas and Congratulations IJC.



Nothing to lose with an early beginning



Truly a 1Malaysia dance comprising the very young