

Speech by Inche Buang bin Omar Junid,
Parliamentary Secretary to Ministry of
Social Affairs at the Receiving of a
cheque from the People's Association
to the General Relief Fund on Monday
30th March, 1970 at 11.00 a.m. at the
Ministry of Social Affairs Conference
Room.

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This morning, I am indeed happy to receive on behalf of the Ministry of Social Affairs, a cheque for \$2,258.77 from the People's Association to be donated towards the General Relief Fund.

2. The sum is the proceeds of a Concert organised by the People's Association, the expenses of which were partly met by the German Embassy in Singapore in the form of a grant of \$1,500. The Government is pleased to note the German Embassy's interest in the cultural activities and community projects of the people of Singapore. It is my hope that the other foreign missions in Singapore will join in with us in the common pursuit of goodwill among men through such means as inter-cultural exchange programmes, joint community-oriented projects, and so on.

3. The Concert, organised to raise the funds, has been able to reach out towards a vital goal espoused by the Singapore Government, namely the cultural and social theme - "In diversity there shall be unity". Through the display of the old and new cultural values of the various ethnic groups, the Concert has brought the people of Singapore closer together. The people retain and value their own cultural traditions, but they are at the same time aware that to pursue the goal of the common good of man, co-operation and teamwork is essential. To this end, they have pooled together their cultural and social traditions in a combined effort to raise funds for charity.

4. This cheque goes into the General Relief Fund made up entirely of private donations and set up recently by the Government to provide assistance in cash and kind for victims of natural disasters such as floods and fires. The money will be put to good use.

5. It only remains for me to thank Mr. Sim Boon Peng, who will be presenting the cheque on behalf of the People's Association, and the German Embassy in Singapore for this fine gesture and generous donation.

Thank you.