

TEXT OF SPEECH BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE YANG DI-
PERTUAN NEGARA, HON'BLE YUSOF BIN ISPAK, AT THE
ANNUAL DINNER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE
SOCIETY AT THE CHINESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
BUILDING ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23, AT 8 P.M.

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My wife and I are very glad to be able to attend tonight's dinner. For me it is also a very significant occasion as this is the first time I am attending the University of Singapore Society dinner in my capacity as Chancellor.

It is indeed a privilege to be associated with the University of Singapore which has produced many scholars who are able to hold their own in their respective fields with their counterparts from universities abroad. This is a credit to so young a university. It is also a testimony to our high academic attainment.

With the continual upward trend in the growth of the student population year by year, there is room for greater diversity in the humanities and sciences both pure and applied. University expansion has to be geared to the needs of our society. In the context of an independent country, our primary consideration is survival and preservation of our democratic way of life. The University can play an integral part in enhancing our survival - opportunities.

It is essential that there should be close identification between university and public, as all universities depend on public support - both in the form of public donations and Government subsidies. Our University exemplifies the democratic doctrine of equal opportunities. I am glad to note that nowadays neither poverty nor birth bars a person from academic pursuits. In our University, awards are meted out on equal terms.

A university education makes for a more meaningful and adequate life in the context of our young and resilient nation. I have every confidence that graduates from the University of Singapore will continue to make unending contributions to the humanities, sciences and technology.

Finally, my wife and I would like to thank the President and members of the University of Singapore Society for their kind invitation this evening.

OCTOBER 23, 1965.

(Time issued: 1830 hours)
