



PRESS RELEASE

HONOURING 75 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

Malay Girls' / Tunku Kurshiah College Celebrates Its 75th Diamond Jubilee

Putrajaya, Malaysia – The year 2022 marks a significant milestone for the Malay Girls' College / Tunku Kurshiah College (MGC / TKC) as the school celebrates 75 years of its establishment.

On the morning of 1st November 1947, Lady Gent, the wife of Sir Edward Gent, the Governor of Malayan Union, met 40 excited and eager girls, hand-picked from the various states of Malaya to be the first students of the very first fully residential Malay girls' school in the country.

The idea of establishing an English-medium boarding school for female students was first proposed in 1939 by Yang Berbahagia Dato' Sheikh Ahmad Al-Haj bin Sheikh Mustapha and sanctioned by the Sultans of the Associated states (Perak, Selangor, Negeri Sembilan and Pahang). It was to be named Maktab Perempuan Melayu. The main objective was that Malay girls will be developed holistically to unleash their potential through a comprehensive-boarding school experience.

However, World War II broke out and halted the plans. It was only until after the war ended in September 1945 that the idea was revisited and came to fruition two years later in 1947. The school name was then changed to Malay Girls' College (MGC)

The school was housed amidst the Socfin Rubber Plantation, located at 2-and-a-half miles along the Damansara Road which remains a distinctive hallmark until today.

The enrolment increased over the years and 15 years on, the students outgrew the premises. With no option to expand the school grounds, the school found not only a new home at Bukit Merbah, Seremban but was also given a new name, Tunku Kurshiah College (TKC) after the first Raja Permaisuri Agong, Tunku Ampuan Kurshiah binti Almarhum Tunku Besar Burhanuddin of Negeri Sembilan. The new campus, a 25 acre plot, had purpose-built school and dormitory blocks which could comfortably house several hundred students. The space could also accommodate sports fields, courts and other facilities which were not available at the MGC campus.

After 50 years at Bukit Merbah, during which time we also saw the address change from Jalan Cemetery to Jalan Sikamat to Jalan Kolej Tunku Kurshiah (befittingly), the student population once again outgrew the facilities. Another relocation took place in January 2013 and TKC was placed within the educational hub in Bandar Enstek, Negeri Sembilan.



MGC/TKC Old Girls' Association

Over the 75 years of its establishment, the school has provided excellent education to over 8000 girls. It is only befitting that the MGC/TKC OGA (Old Girls' Association) was established on 16th January 1962 as a hub for former students to gather, network and look after the interest of their alma mater Kolej Tunku Kurshiah. The OGA turned 60 in January 2022.

Notable MGC / TKC Alumnae

Among notable alumnae that the school has produced include the following, but not limited to:

- Yang Teramat Mulia Tengku Ampuan Bariah - Tengku Ampuan Besar of Terengganu, wife for the sixteenth Sultan of Terengganu
- Yang Teramat Mulia Tunku Puteri Intan Safinaz binti Almarhum Sultan Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah - Tunku Temenggong Kedah, Governing Board Member of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)
- Yang Amat Mulia Tunku Dara Tunku Tan Sri Naquiah bt Tuanku Ja'afar – Director, Antah Group and Negeri Sembilan royalty
- Yang Amat Arif Tun Tengku Maimun Tuan Mat – Malaysian Chief Justice of Malaysia
- Tan Sri Datuk Rafiah binti Salim - Lawyer, first female Vice-Chancellor in Malaysia, University Malaya
- Emerita Professor Tan Sri Dr. Mazlan binti Othman - Director of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs, founding Director General of the Malaysian National Space Agency
- Dato' Seri Dr. Wan Azizah binti Wan Ismail - former Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Women, Family and Community Development
- Tan Sri Shahrizat Abdul Jalil – former Minister of Women, Family and Community Development
- Professor Emeritus Dato' Nik Safiah binti Haji Abdul Karim - Educationist and champion for women development and rights
- Professor Dato' Dr. Adeeba Kamarulzaman - acclaimed infectious disease expert, esteemed member of the World Health Organisation (WHO) Science Council
- Dato' Dr. Narimah Awin - maternal, child and reproductive health expert, Technical Advisor, Sexual & Reproductive Health & Rights, UNFPA Malaysia
- Dato' Zuraidah Atan - lawyer, Chairman of Yayasan Sukarelawan Siswa (YSS) Malaysia, Honorary Adviser of the National Cancer Society Malaysia (NCSM)
- Datuk Munirah Abdul Hamid - founder of PERTIWI Soup Kitchen
- Datin Paduka Marina Mahathir – writer and social activist
- Puan Putri Saniah Megat Abd Rahman – former President of Librarians Association of Malaysia
- Datuk (Dr) Hafsah Hashim – former CEO of SME Corporation Malaysia, current MGC/TKC OGA President (2021 – present)



Malay Girls' College / Tunku Kurshiah College 75th Diamond Jubilee Events in 2022

Beginning in January 2022, MGC / TKC OGA began its year-long 75th anniversary celebrations with several events.

- 16th January 2022 – Celebration of the OGA's 60th Anniversary, Meeting of the Batch Representatives and Launch of the 75th anniversary celebrations logo and tagline, "Honouring 75 Years of Excellence.
- March 2022 – Jom 75k Steps Virtual Run Challenge
- 21st May 2022 – Bagai Sireh Pulang ke Gagang – back to school / Hari Raya event at the first Malay Girls' College location (now known as International Institute of Islamic Thought and Civilisation (ISTAC-IIUM)
- 5th November 2022 – Royal Gala Dinner, Emerald Elegance

Alongside this years' 75th anniversary celebrations events, OGA's annual commitments towards Tabung Kebajikan, HANICare (Health Awareness Network Initiative), Adik Angkat Projek Khas, OGA Inter-Alumni Bowling, collaborations with TKC and its PIBG, TKC Form 5 Leadership Camp programme and others have been carried out as usual.

Royal Gala Dinner, 5th November 2022

The 75th Anniversary Royal Gala Dinner will be held on Saturday, 5th November 2022 at the Mandarin Oriental Kuala Lumpur, and shall be graced by Yang di-Pertuan Besar of Negeri Sembilan, Tunku Mukhriz ibni Almarhum Tuanku Munawir and Tunku Ampuan Besar of Negeri Sembilan, Tuanku Aishah Rohani binti Almarhum Tengku Besar Mahmud. It will be a night of jubilant celebration by the MGC/TKC Old Girls, their sponsors and friends, themed 'Emerald Elegance' in a black tie affair.

For more information about the Malay Girls' College / Tunku Kurshiah College 75th Diamond Jubilee celebrations or this press release, please contact us.

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