

IN THE HIGH COURT OF MALAYA AT KUALA LUMPUR
REFERENCE PROCEEDINGS IN MEMORY OF
6 DEPARTED MEMBERS OF THE MALAYSIAN BAR
WHO PRACTISED IN THE FEDERAL TERRITORY OF KUALA LUMPUR

1 MARCH 2013

TRIBUTE

YA DATO' MARY LIM THIAM SUAN HIGH COURT OF MALAYA, KUALA LUMPUR ON 1.3.2013

Miss Narkunavathy Sundaresan, Senior Federal Counsel from the Attorney General's Chambers

Puan Hendon Haji Mohamed, Senior Member of the Bar, representing the Bar Council and Bar Malaysia

Mr. HR Dipendra, Chairman of the Kuala Lumpur Bar Committee

Senior Members of the Bar

Family and friends of Ng Fook Loy, Henry Lee Yee Lian, Mohd Alakhir bin Brahim, Mohd Zahid Bin Abd Hamid, Lim Choon Wee, and Augustine Christopher Nathan

Ladies and gentlemen

It bears mention that the Court, where an advocate and solicitor begins her or his right to appear before the Court is the same venue to which that advocate and solicitor returns to close their chapter. Sadly, that closure is not in relation to a chapter in life; but the chapter of life on earth.

But, it is indeed fit and appropriate that the Court is given this opportunity to acknowledge those appearances of the advocates and solicitors in question, namely Ng Fook Loy, Henry Lee Yee Lian, Mohd Alakhir bin Brahim, Mohd Zahid Bin Abd Hamid, Lim Choon Wee, and Augustine Christopher Nathan.

I make these opening remarks because some months back, I had the occasion to admit a fair number of young advocates and solicitors to practise at the High Court of Malaya. I had observed then the significance and value of the holding out by senior members of the Bar as to the good character and fitness of the applicant to practise. Today, after their appearances and journeys are done, I see present many who stand in Court this morning, to proudly speak and laud of the quality and impact of the work done and, more poignantly, the essence of these advocates and solicitors as individuals in their lives. How, Fook Loy, Henry or Yee Lian, Mohd Alakhir, Mohd Zahir, Choon Wee and Augustine have left indelible imprints in their lives in so many ways apart from contributing to the legal fraternity, society, music, and for some living life almost like that of Pi. Each of them has enriched your lives and that is more precious than gold.

I recall a recent story of a young man who had lost his mother expressed his fear to a friend. That fear was not of being alone but that he was going to forget his mother. Already he was having difficulties recalling her face. To which the friend replied that there was no fear or shame in that; because that is how life heals. While a face may be forgotten, the essence of that person never leaves you. You will recall a smell or a moment that associates with that loved one. And, that recall frequently warms and comforts us. It provides solace. Those memories are treasures that can never be stolen. What we can best do with those memories is to cherish and, share them; as we have just done this morning.

While I cannot remember having met Fook Loy, Henry or Yee Lian, Mohd Alakhir, Mohd Zahir, Choon Wee or Augustine, I suspect our paths may have crossed when we either got into the same lifts at Wisma Denmark; or stood patiently waiting in some corridor of some court somewhere in the country. So, I am appreciative of the opportunity to join in the tributes paid to the lives of Fook Loy, Henry or Yee Lian, Mohd Alakhir, Mohd Zahir, Choon Wee and Augustine. Having heard the tributes paid to these individuals, the common vein running through all their appearances speak of hallmarks of loyalty, discipline, determination, humility, warmth, wisdom, generosity, honesty, integrity, right temperament, and adoration from their loved ones and friends. Undeniably, the aspirations and dreams of these six individuals became realities in their live times, just not of ours.

On behalf of my fellow Judges, may I extend our heartfelt and most condolences to the families and friends of Fook Loy, Henry or Yee Lian, Mohd Alakhir, Mohd Zahir, Choon Wee and Augustine. Takkziah, Al-Fathiyah and our prayers to them; that the Almighty rest their souls at the best seats in the House.

The recommendations of the Kuala Lumpur Bar Committee, Bar Council and the Attorney General's Chambers are accepted. I hereby direct that a record of today's proceedings be preserved in the Court archives and that a CD copy of the same be sent to the respective families.