

Tajuk : 'Use new management principles'

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# 'Use new management principles'

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**KUCHING:** More corporations in the state should base their operations on modern principles of management for greater success, said Chief Minister Pehin Sri Abdul Taib Mahmud.

Taib noted that quite a number of successful corporations "are family businesses" but the KTS Group of Companies had registered "a combination of many families and many shareholders" to continue thriving in greatly diversified industries.

"For KTS, it is a precursor of what I would like to see as a democratically run company that will follow modern principles of management.

"If there is anybody who can be the example to be able to manoeuvre a company of many shareholders to become as unified as a family company, look at KTS and that is the success of KTS," he said during the KTS Group's 50th anniversary gala dinner at KTS Garden on Friday.

Taib said the anniversary represented a historical milestone that any Sarawakian should take pride in for it showed how hard work could transform a small company set up in 1962 to become

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— Pehin Sri Abdul Taib Mahmud, Chief Minister

what it is today.

"This is a transformation that one can be very proud of, not only in Sarawak but anywhere in the world."

Attributing the company's success to the group's late executive chairman Dato Sri Lau Hui Kang, Taib said: "I told Unimas (Universiti Malaysia Sarawak) one time, if you want to see a model of how a man who does not even have a degree can guide a company from small to very big, you look at KTS.

"KTS is very special because I know the leadership of the late Dato Sri Lau Hui Kang, whom I knew for 30 years or more. Dato Sri Lau Hui Kang, in fact, was a very humble man in the sense that he was very simple, very soft and very caring.



**GLAD TO SEE YOU:** Taib greets Datin Sri Wong Suk Ting upon arriving at KTS Garden. — Photo by Kong Jun Liung

"And only people with that kind of background and with that kind of tenacity and skill can bring about so many shareholders into a unified force to see the aggressive expansion of this company."

Lau passed away at the age of 83 in January 2006. He was born in Fujian province, China in 1926, and went to Sibul when he was three.

Having accumulated experience in the logging and timber industries, he founded KTS & Co Ltd in 1962. His keen business

acumen and leadership capabilities earned him the position of managing director.

He retired in 1999 and the helm was officially handed over to managing director Dato Henry Lau in 2000. Taib said it was impressive to witness the success of the first generation in Malaysia continuing into the next generations.

"So Henry, you may run KTS a different way from your father, because nobody can be a carbon copy of others, but I know you will be able to succeed and

diversify into other areas that are much more important as you go along in the future," he said.

He also called on Sarawakians to remember all the successful entrepreneurs such as the late Lau as well as other pioneers in the state who had set good examples in achieving their goals.

"Good luck, KTS ... And I am very happy to see Datin Lau Hui Kang (Datin Sri Wong Suk Ting) still as strong as ever and able to enjoy this 50th anniversary," added Taib.