

**TEKS UCAPAN ALLAHYARHAM
AMINUDDIN BAKI BERJUDUL**

"ONE UNION FOR TEACHERS"

**PADA
24 OGOS 1962**

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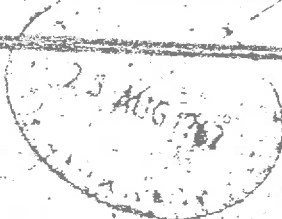
**PUSAT SUMBER
INSTITUT AMINUDDIN BAKI**



SIARAN AKHBAR

DITERBITKAN OLEH JABATAN PENERANGAN,
PERSERIKUTAN TANAH MELAYU

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PN 8/62/257 (EDUC)

O.E.A. ADDRESSES "ONE UNION FOR TEACHERS" MEETING

Text of speech by Enche Aminuddin bin Baki, Chief Education Adviser, at the "One Union for Teachers" meeting in Kuala Lumpur, this morning (August 24):-

It is my pleasant duty this morning to be able to attend this "One Union for Teachers" meeting. Like many others who are directly concerned with the administration and development of education in our Perserikutan Tanah Melayu, I have always expressed my concern over the tendency for teachers to split into more and varied groups on the grounds that only when teachers of the same qualifications and training and no less sex are united could they protect their own interests, have, wherever, I can, tried to check this unhealthy growth and have whenever there was the opportunity to do so requested teachers Union leaders to seriously consider bringing the teachers at present organised and united under many separate Unions under one roof and banner in order that through such unity a sense of common purpose to improve our national education could be forged. I deem it a great privilege therefore to associate myself with the launching of this laudable venture and pray that your meeting this morning will meet with success.

Going back into the history of education in this country, there was a time not so long ago when we had a system of education which kept teachers apart and ensured disunity among teachers. It was the mode and the policy of the time to do so and in fact it was politically desirable that it be so. It was a time when teachers were divided, according to the media of instruction used, when teachers had distinctively different salary scales based on vernacular and English qualifications and on different forms of training; a time when contents of teaching in schools altogether differed and orientated to meet different objectives, allegiance and loyalties.

Since then the policy has changed. Our Perserikutan Tanah Melayu as a sovereign and independent State had formulated a national system of education which provides for a unified salary scale for all teachers irrespective of the media of instruction they use, which provides for a common content Malayan orientated syllabus for all schools - in short a system which aims at making the school the seed-bed of Malayan unity and citizenship. The role of teachers in this education for unity and citizenship is too obvious to enumerate here. Suffice for me to say that in carrying out this role and responsibility in nation building it is of the utmost importance that the teachers themselves should first of all learn to sink their own differences and be united in carrying out their common task as nation builders and be first themselves before they can honestly claim to be qualified as tutors or mentors of the rising generations in possessing the right attitude and in depicting both in words and deeds their attitudes of tolerance, understanding,

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Adviser, at the "One Union for Teachers" meeting in Kuala Lumpur this morning (August 24):-

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co-operation - those attitudes which are conducive towards bringing about peace and harmony in a plural society such as ours here in the Federation.

Mr. Ram indicated a wish that the Government should set an example in eliminating division in the teaching profession. This, I can assure you, is an objective towards which the Government has been and is working for. An undeniable evidence of this continuous effort is the implementation of the Unified Salary Scale. Of course, I agree that the Unified Salary Scale in its details as at present does not fully meet the hope of all members of the teaching profession. But no one can deny the fact that in principle there is at present one single salary scale to which all teachers belong irrespective of the media of instruction they use in teaching - salary providing equal opportunities for all to rise to the top-most level. In this details there need to be modification but in principle the existence of a unified salary scale common to all teachers is undeniable.

I myself personally feel that much of the headaches and problems that we now experience in the Ministry of Education would not have existed if the U.S.S. in its detailed scheme is not as complicated as it is at present and if the drafters of the scheme were to recommend a scheme much more simple to operate. However, the affairs of the U.S.S. is not as yet fully settled; there is room for modification when the National Joint Council for Teachers becomes a negotiating body, and when we are more clear with the problems.

As regards the establishment of a Government Education Service parallel to the Unified Teaching Service, I need only explain that the Government considered the establishment of such a service a necessity in order to ensure efficiency in the implementation of its educational policies and to have disciplinary control over those officials who are entrusted to execute these policies.

For the last few years, as indicated by Mr. Ram just now, there has been to an extent unity among teachers belonging to different unions through such organisations as the Malayan Teachers National Congress and the National Joint Council for Teachers. But unity through these organisations, if I may say, can at the most be regarded as unity between neighbours - a loose form of unity, ad hoc in character or for a certain definite purpose. What is envisaged and desired by many is a unity among members of a family, that is a union or at least a unity among families which are related by blood, that is a Federation or at the least a Confederation. To decide the desirability of forming a united body and the form of such a body is, I am told, the purpose of your meeting.

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Knowing the background of some of your Unions, the split that has occurred amongst a number, the rivalries and the clash of personalities, and observing the fact that there are national Unions with considerable following unable to associate themselves with this meeting today, I can well appreciate the problems faced by you. Probably the time is not yet fully ripe for such a venture as this one Union for teachers. Your meeting after studying the situation should be able to determine this. However, whatever you decide to do it should be made, I hope, after very careful study and, if I may suggest, under no circumstances should establishment of such a united body be forced through, and whatever you do it should be made after studying the realities of any one situation and not merely as a result of zealotness and eagerness to implement an ideal or an aspiration on the part of any one particular group. I say this because once a united body is established it cannot afford to meet with failures because once it fails distrust and suspicion might probably arise in its place and with it a greater disunity and loss irreparable.

I do not wish, Madame Chairman, to say more than what I have already said except that whatever the outcome of this meeting, congratulation must go to the Women's Teachers Union for its commendable effort in convening this exploratory meeting. The efforts and action of this Union seems to me symbolic of what we all know of the warmth of a mother's love and the boundless understanding of Mummy. When sons and daughters quarrel, from mother they would seek pity, love and justice; when husbands are troubled in mind over their work and business to "Mummy" do they seek solace. Let us hope that this meeting so sponsored by the Women's Teachers Union augurs well for the future of teachers and education in the country. Let us pray that may this meeting be crowned with success and that in the immediate or not long distant future a united body for teachers be established in the spirit of service for the progress and development of our national system of education. I have now great pleasure in declaring open this meeting of One Union for all teachers.

KUALA LUMPUR

24hb. Ogos, 1962.

(di-keluarkan pada pukul 6.30 petang)

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