

**CHRISTIAN FEDERATION OF MALAYSIA
PERSEKUTUAN KRISTIAN MALAYSIA**

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CFM STATEMENT ON MERDEKA DAY AND MALAYSIA DAY 2016

**COMMEMORATE THE SPIRIT OF MERDEKA AND MALAYSIA
BY CELEBRATING
UNITY THROUGH OUR DIVERSITY**

This year we are celebrating Merdeka and Malaysia Day amidst various unhealthy events and incidents in Malaysia recently, especially the violent terrorism act in Puchong, Selangor; further deterioration of racial polarization through deliberate actions of segregation, hateful speeches and intimidation calls; discriminative application of anti-sedition and anti-hate speech laws; wrongful usage of investigations where the complainants are intimidated instead, and freedom of travel is curtailed; anti-corruption laws are being selectively applied; and a new potentially repressive law has come into force.

Christians in Malaysia are seeking and praying for our nation to return to a civil, just, fair, equitable, harmonious and peaceful status for all, including the expatriates, the residents, the migrant workers and the refugees. Such will bring back trust, peace, confidence, hope, collaboration, meaningful sharing, partnership towards sustainable economic, social, cultural and political growth and development that is the anticipation of every citizen and resident.

As we remember Merdeka Day and Malaysia Day, let us as the Christian community of this country remind ourselves of our desire of sharing God's love and message to all Malaysians. Instead of losing heart and succumbing to hopelessness, let us gain courage and go out to conscientiously serve the needs of society in deeper and more meaningful ways through ministering to the needy, healing the broken-hearted, deliverance of those under bondage, restoring of rights to the marginalised and disadvantaged, set at liberty those who are bruised, hurting and traumatised, and teach about freedom. Our response is to promote what is right within our society. Let us be even more determined and intentional in sharing the love that God has for us and our community.

The spirit of Merdeka and Malaysia is one of welcome and inclusivity, not fear and xenophobia. Let us commemorate this year by celebrating our unity through our diversity.



Rev. Dr. Eu Hong Seng,
Chairman



Bishop Dato' Sebastian Francis,
Vice-chairman



Bishop Datuk Bolly Lapok,
Vice-chairman



Revd. Datuk Jerry Dusing,
Vice-chairman