

Responsibility, Not Power In The Discharge Of Duties To The Prime Minister And The Constitution.

By Matthias Chang – Future Fast-Forward

PREAMBLE

I am compelled to write this PDF article, from the perspective of a former Political Secretary to the Prime Minister of Malaysia in the hope that Ministers, Deputy Ministers, Members of Parliament, Senior Members of the Civil Service and the CEOs of the Private Sector will discharge their responsibilities with integrity, loyalty, discipline, unity and not as “power centres” for selfish interests and unjust enrichment.

Back-Grounder

Not many people, even political secretaries are aware that **Article 43C** of the Federal Constitution governs the appointment of political secretaries. This provision must be made known to the country to safeguard the integrity of the appointment.

It is a **Constitutional Appointment**.

The Prime Minister **may appoint** such number of persons as he may think fit to be political secretaries. **ALL** Political Secretaries **must take an oath before** the Prime Minister even as they may serve under a specific minister.

Therefore, their duty and loyalty is **FIRST** to the **Office** of the Prime Minister in the discharge of their duties under the Constitution, to the King and to the country.

Once, this is grasped by one and all, it is no exaggeration to assert that the Political Secretaries are the **First and Last Line of Defence to ensure the integrity of the Office of the Prime Minister**.

It is **an appointment** and **an office** of utmost **TRUST** and **RESPONSIBILITY** and **NEVER** a springboard for **POWER** for **selfish interests and enrichment**.

If and when anyone aspires to make money and or to enrich themselves, PISS OFF and work in the private sector and be rich, if you can. The office of the political secretary is not the conduit for money making and corruption!

THE SCOPE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Quite a few advisers and businessmen supposedly close to Prime Ministers (past and present) boast that they were “responsible” and or “instrumental” in such appointments in the misplaced hope that such appointees, being

arseholes, would be indebted and serve the interests of these opportunists. Unfortunately, there are such arseholes and failures. They have dishonoured the Office of the Prime Minister. Sad!

Political Secretaries are bound by secrecy and confidentiality for their words and actions. So, in my explanations I am constrained, as I must uphold the principles enshrined in my appointment.

The fact that 99% of the people (the Rakyat) that I ultimately served do not recognised my face / person and there were never any controversies, scandals or allegations of corruption during my tenure, to that extent I have been blessed and protected by the grace of God.

I will **only quote two paragraphs** from my Letter of Resignation to the then YAB Prime Minister, Dato Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad (before he was conferred the title "TUN").

"It is with much regret and a heavy heart that I am submitting my letter of resignation to YAB. I seek YAB's indulgence and kind consideration in accepting my resignation as Political Secretary effective 1st November 2003."

"On 31st October 2003, YAB will be retiring. It is for this reason that I am submitting my resignation as I can serve only one Master, and I trust that in the very short period of my service to YAB, I had discharge my duty with honour, integrity and humility and in accordance with my oath of office. I had learned so much under your fatherly guidance. I therefore seek YAB's further indulgence to allow me the privilege to continue serving YAB in any capacity in YAB's Foundation."

I was responsible, with a team of volunteers, to build the Foundation (the Perdana Leadership Foundation) from ground zero, raised the necessary funds for the building costs, the endowment and its completion in the unprecedented period of only six months (in 24 hours shifts), from the time I had first proposed the idea to the Prime Minister, in strictest confidence.

Tun did not believe that I could do so, as he held the view that he would be a "has been", a former PM. The rest is history!

I was truly blessed by the selfless friendship of the late Founder of the IOI group, Tan Sri Lee Shin Cheng who donated the first RM 1 Million and instructed his architect to assist me. He strengthened my resolve to complete the project in six months. He was a self-made man (a billionaire) who sold ice-cream from his bicycle and was bullied at school but, rose to be a corporate leader who transformed the palm oil industry in Malaysia.

His humility inspired me. I am truly blessed!

I will now narrate some of my duties.

Illustrations – A Peek of My Duties (by Topics)

- **Report of Political Work (once a week)** and this is just one example – Objectives: To promote National Integration; To ensure victory in the next General Election; To Rally all communities around the Prime Minister;
- **Suggested Points of Reply** to parliamentary questions;
- **Recommendations** to Associations, NGOs for speeches to the Prime Minister for attending their events;
- **Report on Field Work (once a week)**: e.g. Preparation of the Likas (Sabah) By-Election and subsequent victory achieved;
- **Restructuring** Propaganda Machinery for BN;
- **Advice on Televised Dialogue** with PM;
- **Isolation** of Right Wing organisations;
- **Psychological Warfare**;
- **Chinese School Issues**;
- **Visits to Schools** with relevant political secretaries;
- **Reports** on Meeting with Chief Minister of Sarawak & Other States, etc.;
- **Report - Lunas By-Election** – countering disinformation etc.;
- **Commentaries** on MSM;
- **Grass Roots Meetings**;
- **Advice on the economy** – also impact of certain Western economies and the global Too Big To Fail Banks;
- **Meetings with Sarawak and Sabah** political parties;
- **Advice on Non-Performing loans**;
- **Historic & Unprecedented Rally** - for the Winter Solstice Festival;
- **Analysis of Stock Markets and Meltdowns**;
- **Analysis of Wholesale Markets**;
- **Reports on Chinese based political parties in the country**;
- **Report on the Industrial Court**;
- **Reports on State Governments**;
- **Reports on Medical Research**;
- **Report on the Airline Industry and MAS**;
- **Geopolitical Analysis** – Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, China etc.;
- **Reports** on Trilateral Commission, Council on Foreign Relations, Royal Institute of International Affairs, Bilderberger and Domestic Secret Societies;
- **Report** on the **Reforms** of the Legal Profession;
- **Report** - Chinese Religious Temples;
- **Report** – Phantom Branches of political parties;
- **Report** - before and after the Indera Kayangan By-Elections;
- **Half-Yearly Reports**;
- **Report** – the Antarctica, scientific research ;
- **Report Before & After** – the Ketari By-elections;
- **Strategies** - Remaking Malaysia Image;
- **Political Sabotage**;

- **Resolving MCA Disputes;**
- **Crisis Management;**
- **Malaysia and Singapore issues;**
- **Field Reports** to Jordan; Iraq, Palestine etc.
- **Analysis** – Criminality of Pre-emptive Military Actions;
- **Analysis & Visits** to Iraq and subsequent US war objectives;
- **Research & Report** – fostering global peace;
- **Advisory** on NAM;
- **Advisory** on Nuclear Weapons;
- **Advisory** on Oil for Food Program;
- **Advisory** on The Bush Doctrine;
- **Advisory** on Energy Crisis & Strategies;
- **Advisory** on Ministers' Conduct with Foreign Countries;
- **Advisory** on China etc.;
- **Advisory** on Smart Tunnel in Malaysia from China's experience;
- **Visits to China** to learn about construction of bridges. To implement Penang Second Bridge and Smart Tunnel;
- **Unprecedented & Detail Report (2003)** – SAR / Corona Virus (Natural or Man Made). Yes, way back in 2003;
- **Under The Radar and Unaccompanied Visits / Assignments (beyond your pay grade).** Cannot disclose!

How can any political secretary of any value and significance have the time to indulge in hanky-panky and corruption when the work-load is 24/7 and 16 hours days at the minimum and the **day starts at 6 am** and ends when it ends!

Why???

What a f#@ked-up question! You must start the day and be at the office before the PM enters his office. Common sense!

Be the first to bring good news, unburdened by unfinished tasks, to lighten the PM's load so that you are the first person he sees, without the need for an appointment, even though as political secretary, you have priority. If you are the second, the third person etc. and they have screwed up the PM's day then you are at a disadvantage and a pain in the arse. You do not have 1000% of his attention.

Tell the PM the good news, what other good news you will bring in the future and then PISS OFF and do the work! You do not wait for the PM to assign to you the work-load. You anticipate the freaking problems and challenges, solve them, and report on the successful completion of the tasks undertaken. QED

You do not need a thank you or the pat on the back! You are not and cannot be so insecure. You just move on and count the blessing that you have survived and did your part for the Office of the PM, the King and Country! The reward is the blessings that you received from HIM (God)!