

... a hundred years of achievement a magnificent gesture to the memory of those brave pioneers.

At the Town Hall, photographs on display take us back to the Kuala Lumpur of the last century. Started as a tin mining village, it is now the capital of free Malaya, a city of more than a quarter million people, a hub of commerce and centre of international gatherings. On show, too, were treasured relics of Capital Yap Ah Loy and other men such as Sir Frank Swettenham, Raja Abdullah, Loke Yew and Sultan Abdul Samad, who was reputed to have killed 99 men with his own hands. They depict the determination and struggles of earlier days. Yes, I'm a policeman, but we do have some things in common. At night the town goes gay as families and friends throng the streets to look at the gaily-lit buildings and decorated floats. For school children, too, it was a night out for them as they took part in the lantern procession. Behind the facade of triumph and jubilation and reflected in the faces of the young generation, lies a century-old pride of toil and friendship which made Kuala Lumpur a city of prosperity and peace.

In the words of the Prime Minister, Dato Abdul Razak "It is our responsibility to see that we carry on in the same spirit of hope and confidence so that those who come after us will look back with gratitude for the even finer city which all of us, not only here within this municipality but throughout the nation will have helped to build."

