

In a planet of over 6 billion people it is, indeed, sad to note that less than one billion go to school, college or university. In Malaysia education is so important that many parents spend their life's savings to make sure that their children are getting the best. The year 2010 is just three years away. It is a year when many young people who started their higher education in 2007 will graduate and transit into their new careers.

Hopefully they won't find out that the knowledge and skills they gained are not needed in the marketplace anymore because things have changed so much. It is a frightening thought but it is something to think about. The world as it stands today is not going to stay that way just for us.

THINK AGAIN

Every technological advancement is spurring further innovation. The changes are astounding, and the responses of people are shifting power centres of economic growth into new areas. The way we work and the way we live will continue to change. We, therefore, cannot plan for 2010 on assumptions based on what we know in 2007. But there is one thing we can do. We can acquire the knowledge and skills that will always be needed no matter how much the world may change.

Education, in truth, is beyond diplomas and degrees. Education has to be holistic, addressing the individual, imbuing the person with the right mindset to succeed in an ever-challenging environment. The ability to think calmly and creatively, plan intelligently, lead confidently, speak fluently and multi-task skillfully are among many more qualities that a young person, building a bright future in this 21st century, will need to develop. The past and present have always belonged to those individuals with these qualities. It will be no different in the future.

Think now. Think carefully about your future. Don't take the easy way out and follow the crowd. Think about what kind of a person you want to become. Think how different 2010 is going to be. Think how ready you need to be. What you think about today will affect your tomorrow.

From *Al Palam*
Received from Anisha on
27/6/07.

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To return to Chris
after reading. 7/8.