

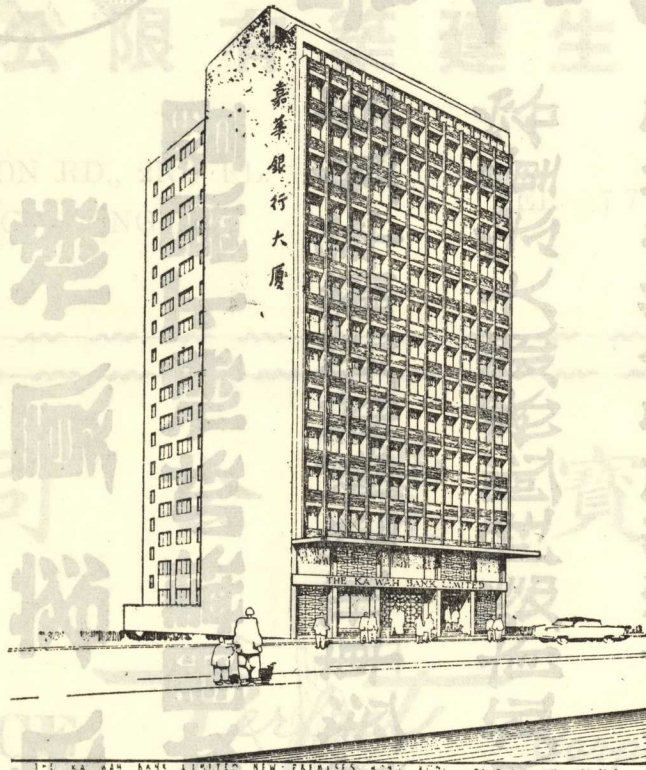
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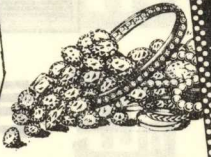
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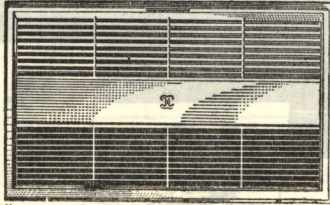
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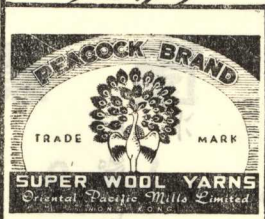
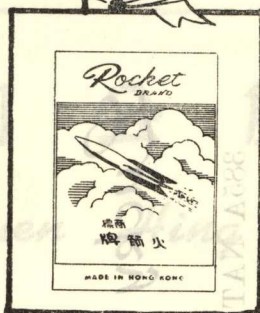
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## **Congratulations To Pooi To Middl School On The Occasion of Her Seventy-Fifth Anniversary**

As we take a quick flash-back at the years from 1888 to 1963, we are deeply grateful for the blessings of bounty, growth, joy and friendships, and for the work these years have given us to do, and the interesting events that have touched our lives.

On this seventy-fifth birthday of our beloved school, we pause to offer thanks to God, the Giver of all good things. It is truly His wonderful works that have made Pooi To expand from the small building at Ng Sinn Moon (the Gate - of - the - Five - Genii) in Canton with its little group of twenty students into the present spacious campus in Hong Kong with its enrollment of over two thousand students.

I had the privilege of teaching in this institution for sixteen and a half years, and watching it grow. I can truthfully say that these were very happy years of my life.

I have left Pooi To for one semester, but I often think of our dear old school and my many good friends within its walls. My heart beats fast every time a familiar face comes up to me and says, "Miss Louie, do you remember me? When did you come to the United States? Are you going back to Pooi To?" Then we would shake hands vigorously and start talking about "good old times", and it is at such times when I become very "homesick" for dear Pooi To.

I surely wish I could be with you on this our Diamond Anniversary, but since that cannot be arranged, I extend to you one and all my heartiest congratulations. May God bless you and the school as we look hopefully into the future.

— *Mae Sau-Hing Louie* —

(*Lillian Yuen*)

64 Vermont Street Huntington Station, L. I. New York, U. S. A.

### **GREETINGS**

As a graduate and a former teacher of Pooi To, I would like to take the liberty to convey my most sincere congratulations and greetings to my beloved Alma-Mater on her 75th Anniversary celebration. It is my hope and prayer that all those who have come to be educated in this Christian institute may sooner or later also come to know the Lord as their personal Savior and those who are laboring for our Lord's sake may be richly blessed by Him.

*Lily (Sui-Yi Lee) Fok*

New York City

**SMALL BEGINNINGS TO 75 GLORIOUS GROWING YEARS  
CONGRATULATIONS TELEGRAM FROM MARGARET HUTCHINSON**

At the close of World War II, I heard speak a scientist from Oak Ridge where much of the work in the development of nuclear power had been done. His audience was still aghast at the explosive power of the atomic bomb and were so fearful that they cringed from thinking of the future. I recall only one sentence spoken by that great scientist that night. He said, "The atomic bomb is not to be feared, only what is in men's heart."

The truth of that statement has given Pooi To the courage and perseverance to carry on. Through the seventy-five years, many of which have been difficult, her teachers preached Christ through word and example that his love might be in the hearts of all students. The motto in 1888, when the school was founded with twenty students and two teachers, was "Seek Yee first the Kingdom of God. "We thank God that the purpose has remained unchanged.

In this seventy-fifth anniversary year we ask not for the school an increase in enrollment, in prestige, or in wealth, but we ask only one thing. May Christ dwell in the hearts of all those enrolled and associated with Pooi To. Likewise we ask that we in Virginia may give first place in our own hearts to Christ and his love.

"Blessed are they—that seek him with the whole heart." Psalm 119:2.

*Carrie S. Vaughan, Executive Secretary  
WMU of Virginia*

## COLABORERS WITH GOD

From the time when Pooi To was started in 1888, the Lord has used many to serve in carrying out the purpose of the school, "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God, and all of these things shall be added unto you" (Matthew 6:33). Only when we come to the end of time will it be revealed that Pooi To has helped students come to know Jesus Christ, who is "the Way, the Truth, and the Life" (John 14:6).

My heart goes up to God in praise as I think of my contacts with Pooi To through the years. Before leaving America, my good friends Emily Good, Mrs. Eugene Hill, and Inez Chow Lung had told me much about this wonderful Baptist school for girls in Canton. Even then I hoped that I might one day teach in the school, but I only knew that God was calling me to serve in China. When the Foreign Mission Board extended Pooi To's invitation to become a teacher in this school, my heart sang with joy.

While waiting for the ship to sail in San Francisco in the fall of 1946, I had the joy of meeting many "old students" who were living there. I realized then more of the outreach of this school. Crossing the ocean with Miss Leung Fung Ping who was returning to become principal of the school in Canton gave me a better understanding of the school.

I cannot explain all of my feelings in those early years in Canton. How I did enjoy Teachers' Prayer meeting during my language study days and following. I came to realize that prayer is of the spirit, rather than mere words, as I listened to Miss Helen Huen and others lead in prayer.

So often during those years I thought of what the Master told His disciples, "Others have labored and you have entered into their labors" (John 4:38). Truly the Lord has set us in a place where we are to carry on His work. As Paul said that he had planted, Apollos had watered but it was God who had given the increase (I Corinthians 3:6). How we thank the Lord that He has called us into His service.

There is so much of a personal nature which I should like to say. From the time that I arrived in South China in December of 1946, you friends in Pooi To have made me feel a part of the wonderful family. To see the way you let Christ grow in your hearts and how you have shared Him with others has been my greatest joy. As we come to this 75th Anniversary of this school which we love so much, may we sing with the angels, "Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty . . . for all nations shall come and worship before thee" (Revelation 15:3b, 4b). May we continue to claim God's promise and put the doing of His will and the extension of His Kingdom as the primary purpose in our lives that He may continue to witness to many through our school.

*Jaxie Short*

## GREETINGS TO POOI TO

On behalf of the missionaries of Hongkong--Macau Baptist Mission and in the name of our Saviour, I send you greetings on the occasion of your Seventy-fifth Anniversary.

As we see the marvellous growth physically of Pooi To we can only thank God for what He has wrought. We are grateful that Baptists in America have had a small part in the establishment of a fine physical plant in which the youth of Hongkong may be equipped for service to God and community. As we view the contributions of Pooi To graduates to the spiritual life of Baptist churches and realize that their service now spans seventy-five fruitful year, we can only look with pride as you do at the accomplishment and offer praise to our Lord who has provided strength. We join you in grateful thanksgiving for the army of faithful Christians who have shared in such glorious history from the very first day until now and know that had it not been for sacrificial giving, living, and serving today's accomplishment could not be seen.

As we have prayed for you in the past, and as others before us have joined in earnest concern for the affairs and development of the school, so do we now pledge anew our petitions and support of influence and time in a mutual striving to insure the next seventy-five years shall surpass in spiritual achievement, community contribution, and dedicated progress all that we have seen and all that we dare to hope, dream, or imagine. May God be pleased to be so honored as through faith in Him every effort is directed towards the up-building of His Kingdom, the training of an intelligent Christian citizenship, and the production of a vibrant center of dynamic Christ-centered witness! May God grant courage and determination to achieve your most daring visions in the years that lie ahead of a past so filled with vital contributions.

Sincerely Yours,

**George Wilson, Jr. Chairman**

Hong Kong-Macau Baptist Mission

To

### **POOI TO MIDDLE SCHOOL ON THE 75th Anniversary**

I hold in my hand the seventieth anniversary issue of the publication of Pooi To Middle School! That was the year in which I had my brief but cherished visit to the school. How difficult it is to comprehend that five years have past!

I do not know when I first learned about this school. As a girl I am sure the missionaries I met first introduced me. Today many bonds continue to draw other Virginia Baptist women as well as me ever closer to Pooi To.

One instrument through which God has been Baptist women keenly aware of their sisters of other lands and of the Christian witness being given, is the continental unions of the Women's Department of the Baptist World Alliance. With the speed of travel today the leaders of the various countries visit with groups of Baptist women around the globe. As I review the record since 1958, I note the picture of my friends and co-workers here in the United States, Mrs. R. L. Mathis and Miss Alma Hunt, breaking ground for the seventieth Anniversary building of Pooi To. I recall again the joy of Virginia women when Miss Helen Huen and Mrs. David Weng spent many days in our midst, following the congress of the Baptist World Alliance in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Even stronger than such personal contacts are the bonds of prayer. The Baptist Women's Day of Prayer alone has drawn us closer to the women and girls of Hong Kong.

A number of years ago from China a little girl came to Virginia, where she grew to womanhood. During those years she enthroned Christ in her heart and trained her mind and body for his service. She heard his call to go back and teach the girls of Canton. When the doors there closed, she made her way to Hong Kong where today she continues to serve on the faculty of Pooi To. Virginia women feel that in Margaret Jung we have given one of our very own to Pooi To.

In founding the school and guiding it through the first crucial months, Miss Young accomplished a monumental task as she laid a foundation so strong it has supported the superstructure that has far exceeded her fondest dreams.

On Miss Young's resignation, Mrs. Grave became principal in which position she served for 35 years. During her administration Pooi To developed from a small ungraded school, training the pupils in religion and in the Chinese classics, into a twelve year elementary and middle school with an enrolment limited only by its limited facilities. Her middle school graduates entered accredited colleges in China and in America receiving degrees in four years.

From 1888 to the present day, succeeding generations of Christian leaders have proven the value of training in Pooi To that has reached its highest peak in today's Pooi-To-in-Hong-Kong.

On this, our diamond anniversary,

I SALUTE the teachers and students who laid foundations during the difficult years at The Gate of the Five Genii in Canton; those who served through the middle years of expansion, of transition, and of wanderings during the war years; and those who have the rare privilege of serving Pooi To Middle School in Hong Kong today.

Of each period it could often be said that nothing seemed to happen according to rule; that no day was like yesterday or tomorrow; and that no year resembled the last or the next; but that opportunities were always limitless.

I SALUTE the descendadts of the first Chinese teacher in Pooi To, Miss Hsiu-ling Senn (Mrs. T. L. Lee), who assisted Miss Young in founding the school in 1888. Years later two of her daughters taught in Pooi To, one serving as dean.

I SALUTE little Marcus John Woo whose parents, grandparents, and great-grandmother are prominent Bapist leaders in Hong Kong today. Mark can trace his ancestry through six generations to a very able Pooi To pupil in 1888.

I SALUTE the thousands of teachers and students of Canton years. many of whom are dear personal friends. Many are in Hong Kong; many are in America, or in the islands of the sea; and, also, many are behind the bamboo curtain. Each one has my true love.

I SALUTE the trustees; the principal, Miss Helen Huen, members of whose family have served the school almost from its beinning; the faculty; staff; students; and all who have helped in the development of Pooi To Middle School in Hong Kong. You have the high privilege of serving during the greatest period of the world's history, but with the challenge and opportunity will come temptation, difficulty, and danger. "Be strong andof a good courage." Joshua 1:6

Today as we rejoice in the present and try to envision the future, it seems that the months in our modern world are as vast years of pld, making events of a decade past appear as ancient history and placing near future in the distance.

May they seventy-five years of God's loving care give strength to the Pooi To of today as you continue into the nextcentury asking wishom from Above and seeking God's guidance in leading you to

"PRESS TOWARD THE MARK FOR THE PRIZE OF THE HIGH CALLING  
OF GOD IN CHRIST JESUS."

Philippians 3:14

*Mary Raleigh Anderson*

## REMEMBRANCE OF POOI TO

"I thank my God upon every remembrance of you . . . . because I have you in my heart." (Philippians 1:3,7)

After writing the preceding passage from the Scriptures, I being asking myself if I can truthfully say that I am thankful for "every remembrance of you", because there are sad and unpleasant memories as well as happy and delightful ones that come drifting back over the years as I write this article. We may, however, answer in the affirmative if we admit that unpleasant experiences can become blessings if those experiences draw us closer to God; and without a doubt, we encountered such experiences while connected with the work in Pooi To.

I thank God for the memory of my first day in Pooi To thirty-five years ago when about 250 teachers and student sang songs of welcome to Miss Mary Alexander and me as we entered the gate of the school in Tungshan, Canton, China. It was only a few months later that we celebrated the fortieth anniversary of the school in March 1928.

I thank God for the memory of His watchful care in Hong Kong in December of 1941 when Japanese bombed and occupied the Colony and as we struggled to survive during that horrible devastating war.

I thank God for the memory of our return to Canton after the surrender of the enemy, - for the sheer joy of being together again on our old campus which we had left about nine years before.

I thank God for making it possible for us to carry on the work in Hong Kong after the Communists had taken Canton and had forbidden the teaching of God's Word and the conducting of any other kind of Christian work in the school.

How thankful all of us are to our Lord to-day for the way He has kept our beloved school! Certainly the earnest prayer of our hearts on her seventy-fifth birthday is that Pooi To Middle School will continue to witness for her Lord and Saviour to the end that His Name may be truly glorified!

*Inez Lung Lee*

### MAY SHE LIVE TEN THOUSAND YEARS!

May the Lord bless thee and keep thee;

May the Lord make his face to shine upon thee And be gracious unto thee

May the Lord lift up his countenance upon thee And give thee peace

Numbers 6:24-26

As the year 1963 adds its link to the chain that binds together Pooi To's varied and illustrious history, we thank God and take courage. This year indeed is an important landmark in the annals of the school as it marks:

1. the seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding of the school by Miss Emma Young who returned to America the next year to become the bride of a Baptist minister, Reverend W. S. Ayers.
2. the seventy-fifth anniversary of the arrival in China of Mrs. Janie Lowrey Sanford (later Mrs. R. H. Craves) who had spent seven years as a missionary in San Francisco teaching Chinese children and taking the Gospel into the homes of shut-in Chinese women.
3. the seventy-fifth birthday of two gifted teachers, Emma May Hine and Flora E. Dodson, who made valuable contributions to the administration, curriculum development, teaching, spiritual life, and activities of Pooi To in the middle years of her history.

in 1941, the school was again compelled to close. In February, 1942, it moved to Macau. At the close of the war, the school returned to Hong Kong in August, 1945 and opened a branch school with Jessie Lee as teh headmistress and Dr. Lam, Chi Fung as the supervisor.

#### Pooi To Middle School in Hong Kong

After the surrender of the Japanese in 1945, plans were made to move the main school back to Canton, and to open a branch school in Hong Kong. Consequently, the Hong Kong branch opened on October 15th, 1945, with 194 students in nine classes from Kindergarten through Junior I. The following semseter the enrolment reached over 200 and two classes were added, Junior II and Junior III. In July, 1946, the school had its first commencement exercises with students graduating from Junior III, Primary 6 and the Kindergerten section. On December 2nd, 1945, Dr. Lam Chi-Fung was invited to be supervisor of the school and he took the responsibility of registering the school with the Education Department in Hong Kong.

In April, 1949, the Chinese Nationalist Government at Nanking ordered that the Hong Kong branch cease being a branch of the school in Canton and elect a separate principal, because the latter was not permitted to have a branch school. Therefore, the school adopted the name of Pooi To Girls' Middle School of Hong Kong, with Miss Jessie Lee as its first principal. In the following year, the building at 37 Grampian Road was rented to accommodate the growing number of students which had now reached over 500 in 15 classes from Kindergarten through the Junior III.

In February, 1949, Miss Jessie Lee left Pooi To to go to a retreat in Toishan, and Miss Hattie Young substituted for half a year.

#### Striving Ahead

In April, 1952, through the kindness of the Hong Kong Government, a tract of land covering 75,130 square feet on Inverness Road was obtained free for the purpose of putting up a new school building. After two years of preparation, this building was completed and on June 12, 1954 was officially opened by Lady Grantham. Since the completion of the building, all classes of the Junior and Senior High sections have been held there.

Then the year of our 70th Anniversary celebration took place in March, 1958. One of the high lights of this occasion was to erect a memorial building which was to be used for the Upper Primary classes. The faculty members started to raise fund for it by giving a play. Other contributions from different sources made the 70th Anniverary Building a reality in 1960. This five story building covering 20,000 square feet is dedicated to those who have served faithfully in the field of Christian education. We rejoiced and thanked God for this accomplishment.

#### Present Condition

Today we have 31 classes of Kindergarten and Primary and 27 classes of Junior and Senior High. The total enrolmet is 2,570 students with a staff of 102. By the first part of next year, we are required to surrender the rented buildings on Grampian Road and Stirling Road. The Grampian Road buildings will be eventually demolished by its owner. The Stirling Road building will be used for other purpose because Stirling Baptist Church will move to its new church building as soon as it is completed. Consequently, we need to find space for the Lower Primary classes. We need your prayers.

Each year the students of our graduating class participate in Hong Kong Government Examination. Our record shows that they have done well and more than 90 per cent of the graduate students pursue higher education in universities and colleges to prepare themselves for teaching or service in the community. Many of them have gone abroad to study.

We thank God for His guidance and protection through the past years and grateful to every one who has helped and sympathized with the school in its diffielties and trials. It is our prayer and hope that in the future Pooi To will continue to strive for higher academic standards and at the same time to uphold the program in evangelism.

**Helen Huen**

Present Principal

# AN HISTORICAL SKETCH OF POOI TO MIDDLE SCHOOL 1888-1963

Prior to the revolution during the Ching Dynasty, middle school education was regarded as unimportant, especially for girls. Fortunately, however, Pooi To Girls' Middle School had already been founded, and up to the present, as we celebrate our seventy-fifth anniversary, I wish to take this opportunity of presenting to our readers this book with a brief historical outline of the school and a few words of encouragement for the future.

## The Early Stages of Our School

After the Boxer Rebellion, China became an open port for Western civilization. Many schools were established. The American Baptist Mission started churches and schools. The Southern Baptist Mission of America realized that the Chinese women had so few chances of getting an education that they sent Miss Emma Young of the Women's Missionary Union to China; and she founded Pooi To School in the area known as Ng Simm Moon in Canton on the 3rd of March, 1888. The school was opened for women and girls with the aim of giving them an opportunity to receive an education and at the same time to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

In the following year, Miss Young went on furlough; and Mrs. Janic Lowrey Graves succeeded her and became the Principal of the school. Mrs. Graves served Pooi To for 35 years devoting the best years of her life in guiding the school from infancy to maturity. Later in 1907 as the enrolment increased, a piece of land covering more than 146,000 square feet in Tungshan, the eastern suburbs of the city, was purchased to erect two new school buildings. In 1921, a part of the old classrooms was demolished and two more new building were put up. These were used for the Primary section. In 1918, the school accepted the four-year system, and concentrated its attention to the education of girls only. In 1921 Pooi To graduated its first class of students. Besides developing the academic side, students took part in outside activities, such as the Athletic Meetings of Canton. At the Eighth Track Meet, Pooi To won the Volley Ball Championship.

## Change in Constituting

When the school was first established, it was under the management of the Southern Baptist Mission of America and the Board of Trustees consisted of Americans; but later a change took place and in 1922, Mr. Tong Bing-Wing was chosen as the first Chinese Principal, Miss Mary Alexander as supervisor, and the Board of Trustees consisted of 3 Chinese and 3 Americans. In 1924, the Middle School accepted the new 6-year system, 3 years of Junior Middle and 3 years of Senior Middle. In the same year, I returned from Singapore and joined the Pooi To staff at Canton. In August, 1949, I came to Hong Kong and have served in school for more than 30 years. At that time, the Christian School were criticized for giving too much emphasis to religion and not enough attention to Chinese literature. After the capital of China was moved to Nanking, the government took over the control of all the private schools. The Leung Kwong Baptist Churches Association considered this matter seriously and finally organized a Chinese Board of Trustees to control the school themselves. In 1928, the school celebrated its 40th Anniversary and the school authorities and the students launched a campaign to raise funds to build a 40th Anniversary Hall. I was chosen chairman of the building committee. The contributions received were not enough to complete the building. Consequently, Mrs. Lo Lin was sent to America to solicit subscriptions for the cause. In 1932 the Hall was completed. On March 15th of the same year, the school became a registered school and became independent and self-supporting.

## Evacuation During the war

Owing to Japanese War in 1937, the school moved to Shiu Hing for half a year. Then in 1938, it moved to Hong Kong and rented buildings on Kwong Wah Street in Kowloon to carry on its work. As the enrolment increased, it was found necessary to move the Primary section to the education building of the Stirling Road Baptist Church in Kowloon City. When Hong Kong fell into the hands of the Japanese

# FOREWORD

Looking at the history of education in China, we can say that Christianity was one of the prime movers in bringing together the cultures of the East and West. Pooi To Middle School takes pride in being a small part of this marvelous achievement, made possible by dedicated men and women labouring under the grace of God. From her very inception, Pooi To was founded on a firm and lasting foundation, the Lordship of Jesus Christ, which was to see her through many decades of earth-shaking changes.

Today we are commemorating the seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding of this middle school for girls. In the life of a person, or an institution, seventy five years may seem like a long time. But from an historical perspective, or in the sight of God, seventy five years are but as yesterday. During this period of her life, however, Pooi To has seen and lived through great and tumultuous changes. She shared in the disasters and sufferings brought on by wars, the rise and fall of political regimes in China, and the mass movement of people amidst these changes. But thanks be to God, one thing remained unchanged throughout the turbulent life that surrounded Pooi To during those difficult days - the firm foundation upon which the school was first founded, Jesus Christ who is the same yesterday, today and forever.

Seventy five years have passed. And if mankind does not destroy itself, there will be many more seventy five years to come. In view of the rapid changes that society finds herself today, brought about by industrialization and the progress of science and technology, we may ask how shall Pooi To discharge her responsibilities in the days to come? What, or rather who, should be our guide? Amidst all the changes that beset us, we are certain that He who has guided Pooi To thus far will continue to guide us in the years ahead. He who is the author and finisher of our faith will indeed lead us from strength to strength.

Pooi To is a middle school for girls, and education in a girls' school has its own peculiarities and uniqueness. As a Christian school, however, Pooi To's influences have been made in the lives of her graduates who now could be found in nearly all parts of the world. We take pride in the fact that many of them have found positions of leadership in the communities and countries in which they live. Many have sought to serve God and their fellow man in the place where they are. Some have taken up vocations in the Church, and many are in the teaching and other noble professions. More fundamental, and for which we are indeed proud, is the fact that Pooi To has continued all these years to contribute her part in helping generations of students to grow from young girls to mature womanhood at a very strategic time in their lives. Many of her daughters are today the homemakers who shape the most primary social unit of society, the family. We thank God for the long line of dedicated teachers and alumni of Pooi To Middle School.

First established in Canton, Pooi To has moved from place to place in her seventy five years: Tung Shan, Shiu Hing, Hong Kong, Kweilin, Macao, and now in her present locality in Kowloon with her modern buildings and up-to-date facilities. Through endless trials and tribulation, Pooi To after seventy five years emerged a stronger and better institution of learning. We thank God for His unbroken guidance and care, and on this day which we commemorate her seventy-fifth birthday we recall the events of the past with a profound sense of gratitude. May God grant that Pooi To will move forward in the years to come, looking always unto Jesus who is her strength and stay.

*David Y. K. Wong, Chairman*  
*Board of Trustees*



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## School Motto

*Love*  
*Truthfulness*  
*Purity*  
*Perseverance*

1888



1963

POOL TO MIDDLE SCHOOL

75TH ANNIVERSARY