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# Speak Kadazan at home, families told

## Chris Maskilone

PENAMPANG: Kadazandusun Cultural Association (KDCA) President Tan Sri Joseph Pairin said it can be the platform to unite and empower the Kadazandusun without bounded by differences in religion, political ideology or social status.

"Race is transcends religion and politics. Religion and political allegiance may change but not race. A race is identified by its culture. You lose *Koubasanan* then you lose Kadazandusun," he said at the KDCA 12th Triennial Delegates' Conference in Hongkod Koisaan.

Towards this end, Pairin said the uniqueness of KDCA is that its members comprised individuals from various ethnic groups, religion and political ideology can sit in one table to discuss ways to preserve culture, customs and other things for mutual benefits.

In ensuring that the Kadazandusun language would not go extinct, Pairin proposed that classes be held for the younger generation from the community who are not able to converse in their mother tongue.

"I urge that the mother tongue is used in the house apart from using Bahasa Melayu, Mandarin or English, he said.

On another note, he said KDCA, as a voluntary organisation needed a big fund for its social and cultural activities, is interested to venture into real estate development and commercial agriculture.

In this respect, he urged all KDCA members to become members of the Koperasi Serbaguna



Pairin

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Koisaan Bhd, which is a co-operative for them.

Currently involved in several businesses including palm oil plantation, he said, adding that the Koperasi Serbaguna Koisaan Bhd could be among the biggest cooperative in the country, if all KDCA members also become its members.

Pairin said an organisational and management audits would be done on KDCA to ensure it remained relevant to time and circumstances so that it can bring huge benefit to its

members. "We are in the process of transforming KDCA ... the process will review the effectiveness of the structure and delivery system as well as management of KDCA," he said.

Meanwhile, KDCA Secretary General Suman Yasambun announced that there was also no contest for the 11 central committee posts after six other nominees withdrew their candidacy.

The KDCA office bearers for 2012-2015 term are Tan Sri Joseph Pairin Kitingan (President), Datuk Dr Maximus Ongkili and Datuk Clarence Bongkos Malakun (Deputy Presidents) and Vice Presidents - Datuk John Anthony, Anchis @ Rayner Francis Udong, George Mijin, Datuk Michael Emban, James Muyau and Dr Azlina Dohimboi Ekat.

The central committee members are Datuk Louis Rampas, Patrick Guritom, John Chryso Masabal, Datuk James Ghani, Daniel Kinsik, Christina John Luan, Jeffrey Ekol, Gerard Lanjuat, Michael S Malanjun, Norhanidah @ Berneddete Annol and James Ongkor Sigoh.