



Lim (left), Chew (middle) and Ong (second from right) proposing a toast on during the KIP REIT Appreciation Night in Kuala Lumpur.



Guests enjoyed a scrumptious eight-course Chinese dinner at the event. — Photos: SHAARI CHEMAT/The Star

# Celebrating a major milestone

Guests at CNY do raise a toast for company's successful debut on Bursa Malaysia

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FOLLOWING its successful initial public offering (IPO) exercise on Monday, KIP Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT) invited business partners and various affiliates to join in its lively Chinese dinner celebration at a hotel in Kuala Lumpur.

In his opening address, KIP chief executive officer Lim Han Gie attributed KIP's success to the vision of the group's co-founders

Datuk Chew Lak Seong and Datuk Eric Ong Koong Liang.

"Today's success is evidence that the public has confidence in us and our unique portfolio, which is a hybrid of traditional dry market and conventional retail centre catering to lower-income customers," said Lim.

Chew and Ong, the managing director and executive director respectively, then took to the stage together and thanked everyone who helped to realise their dream.

"KIP Mart was created from the



Ong (left) and Chew receiving the plucked 'greens' from the lion dance troupe.

idea of a market for a community traditionally seen in growing townships, so we wanted to create a consumer market segment where better amenities are offered and in a conducive environment," said Chew.

"Tonight marks a great milestone for KIP as we celebrate a successful IPO exercise. Moving forward, I am confident that our KIP family will continue to grow and reach greater heights," Ong added.

The celebration was made all the more lively when a lion dance troupe strutted its stuff and a traditional Chinese drum group put on a spirited performance.

When the board of directors and management tossed *yee sang* and engaged in an energetic *yam seng* toast, their guests all joined in boisterously and toasted at their respective tables.

Dinner was a scrumptious eight-course meal, with singers provid-

ing live entertainment as everyone tucked in.

KIP REIT's debut on Bursa Malaysia on Monday raised RM234.2mil and was oversubscribed by more than five times.

The investment trust's portfolio is made up of the group's hybrid community-centric retail centres - five KIP Marts in Tampoi, Kota Tinggi, Masai, Senawang and Malacca, as well as one KIP Mall in Bangi.



Entertainment included a lively traditional Chinese drum performance.



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