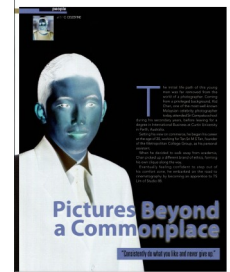


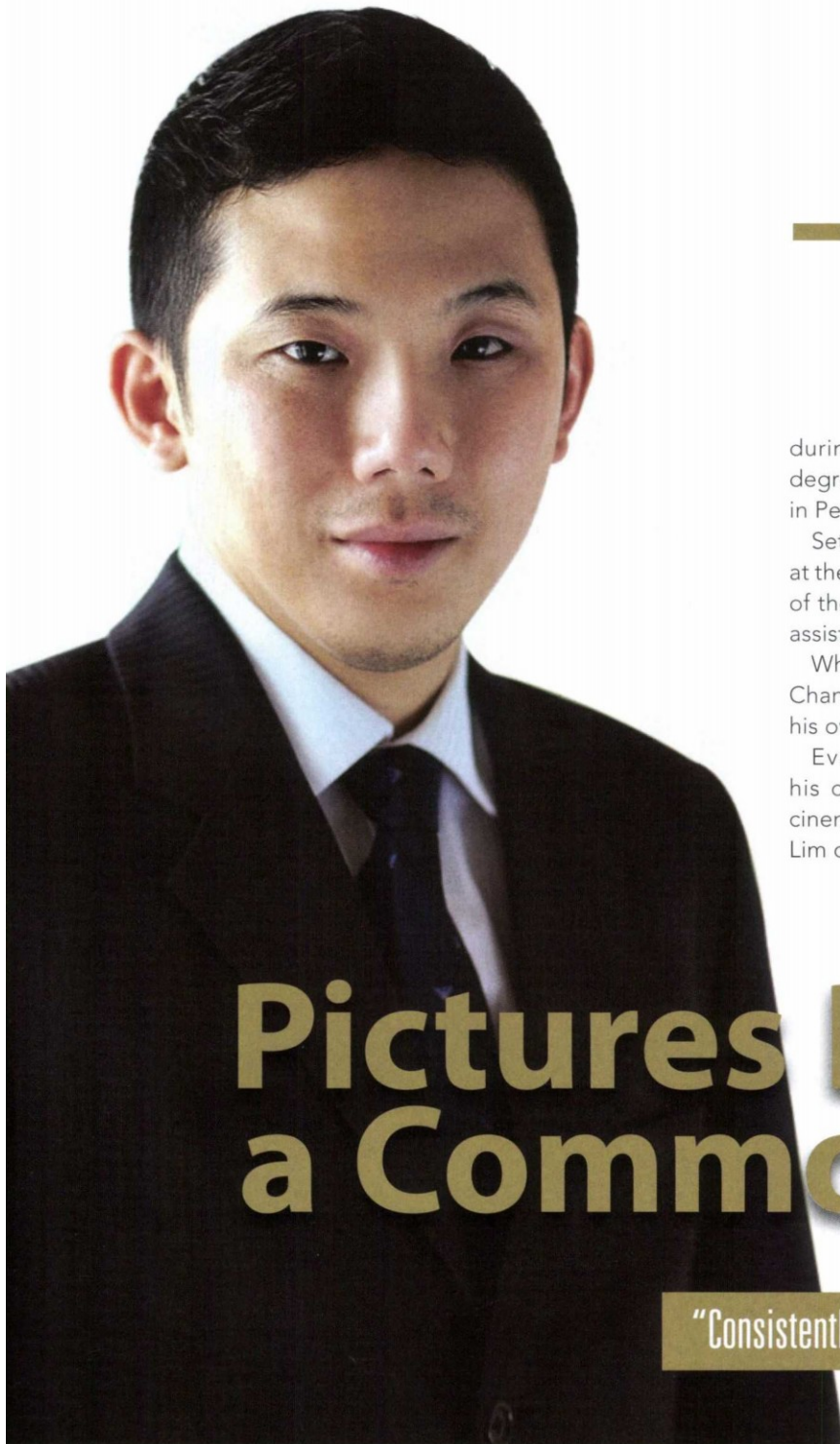
Headline	Pictures Beyond a Commonplace		
MediaTitle	Malaysian Business		
Date	16 Jun 2013	Color	Full Color
Section	Coming into orbit	Circulation	25,000
Page No	66to68	Readership	50,000
Language	English	ArticleSize	1301 cm²
Journalist	N/A	AdValue	RM 13,917
Frequency	Fortnight	PR Value	RM 41,751



## people



BY C CELESTINE



The initial life path of this young man was far removed from the world of a photographer. Coming from a privileged background, Kid Chan, one of the most well-known Malaysian celebrity photographer today, attended Sri Cempaka school during his secondary years, before leaving for a degree in International Business at Curtin University in Perth, Australia.

Setting his view on commerce, he began his career at the age of 20, working for Tan Sri M S Tan, founder of the Metropolitan College Group, as his personal assistant.

When he decided to walk away from academia, Chan picked up a different brand of ethics, forming his own clique along the way.

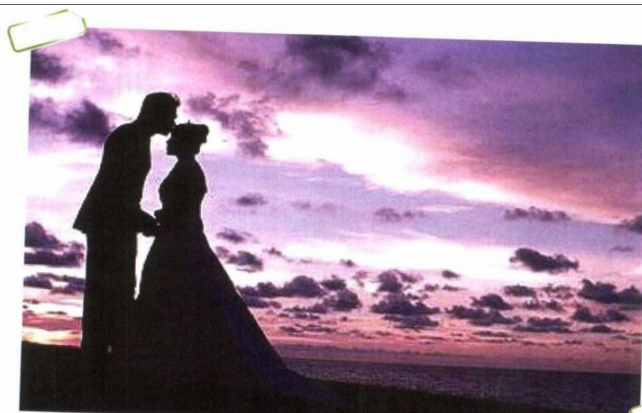
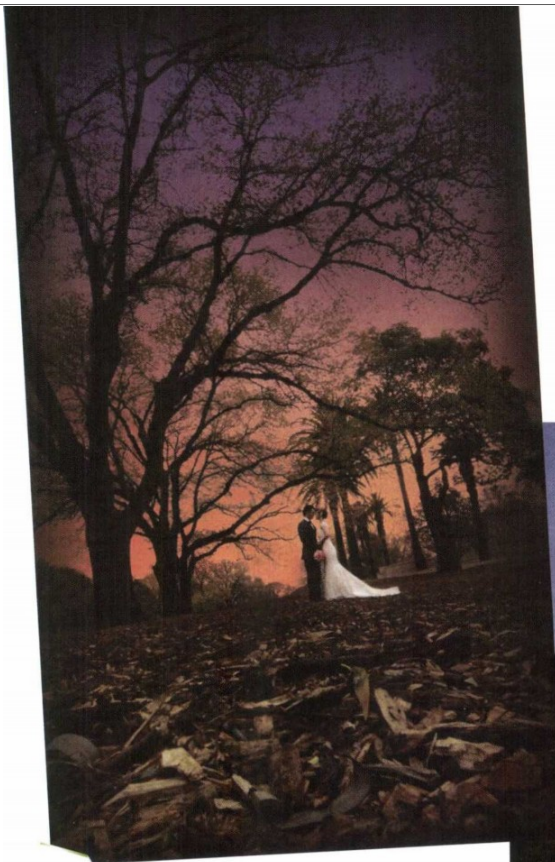
Eventually feeling confident to step out of his comfort zone, he embarked on the road to cinematography by becoming an apprentice to TS Lim of Studio 88.

# Pictures Beyond a Commonplace

"Consistently do what you like and never give up."



Headline	Pictures Beyond a Commonplace		
MediaTitle	Malaysian Business		
Date	16 Jun 2013	Color	Full Color
Section	Coming into orbit	Circulation	25,000
Page No	66to68	Readership	50,000
Language	English	ArticleSize	1301 cm²
Journalist	N/A	AdValue	RM 13,917
Frequency	Fortnight	PR Value	RM 41,751



Then taking a leap of faith, Chan took up fashion and commercial photography.

"That's where one earns real money and respect, not [through taking] wedding photos. I avoided the wedding circuit like it was untouchable," he recalls.

However, in the year 2000, he took over a company called Portrait One, which he later renamed Kid Chan Studio.

"Direction, not intention, determines destination," he philosophises, in reference to his life path; where he was and where he is now.

This was the beginning of his venture into wedding photography, a genre relatively unpopular to the artistic world at the time. As he kept going, Chan established his name amongst many corporate photographers in the industry.

Now, as business flourishes, Chan has seven support staff and five photographers.

His life, in line with demand, sees him months at a time in places such as Singapore, Bangkok, Kuching and

Sydney for wedding shoots. Even so, his day doesn't end there, as once he gets back to his studio, he has to go through the editing process, which could last up to 16 hours at a time.

### Focusing on Passion

"There are easier ways to make money but in professions like these, you have the opportunity to make friends," he conveys, moving his body ever closer as he accents each word.

If anyone would get the chance to walk through Chan's studio, they would not be spared from the elegant beauties of his portraits, adorning a variety of subject matters from individuals to families with huge smiles across their faces.

Through each of his photographs, Chan does not aim for plain, traditional perfection. Instead, he seeks to capture a subject's personality, which comes through a pure and natural setting, without any form of pretense.

Since he started, his portfolio kept

stretching to the far reaches of his mind to myriads of people and industries; all seeking his vision and touch.

From celebrities to politicians, artists to royalty and even court judges, he has served the likes of Tun Mohamed Dzaiddin Abdullah, Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamed, Datuk Michelle Yeoh, the contestants of Britain's Next Top Model, Tiffany Pisani and Jackie Chan.

He was even an exclusive photographer for the weddings of local personality, Paula Malai Ali and Tengku Kudin, as well as Malaysia's songstress, Datuk Siti Nurhaliza and Datuk Khalid Jiwa.

"Weddings can be quite stressful, especially if it's on the larger scale and you'll have relatives, all wanting to pitch in with [their own] valuable instructions," he stresses.

Even so, it still didn't stop him from receiving honorary mentions. With publications such as Harper's Bazaar awarding him the title of Celebrity



Headline	Pictures Beyond a Commonplace		
MediaTitle	Malaysian Business		
Date	16 Jun 2013	Color	Full Color
Section	Coming into orbit	Circulation	25,000
Page No	66to68	Readership	50,000
Language	English	ArticleSize	1301 cm²
Journalist	N/A	AdValue	RM 13,917
Frequency	Fortnight	PR Value	RM 41,751



Photographer and Prestige listing him among the Top 40 Achievers under the age of 40; Chan managed to snag all these while juggling his roles as both a husband and father, well before the age of 30.

But it was all not fun and laughter for this boy wonder, as he did confess of attempting suicide back when he was in secondary school. It was a time in his life, much like many modern youth experience today, where he found himself lost and confused.

His advice to the young who find themselves in a similar situation: "You cannot get counsel from those in the same season of life."

He divulged it was his faith through the religion and motivational books that inspired and guided him through that dark period of his life.

However, with all he had worked hard to achieve, he acknowledges that it was those challenges that got him to where he is today.

### Bit for Society

Publishing a book under MPH, entitled "Master Class series: Kid Chan's Guide to Photography," Chan intends to give the proceeds, even if it isn't much, to the Jeffrey Cheah Foundation and Persatuan Kebajikan Generasi Gemilang.

With this, he hopes to provide aid to children who are less fortunate, giving them access to a good education through Community Scholarships.

He hopes that people would be able to become more aware of problems that are plaguing our modern youth and the difficulties that many in our society are experiencing.

He wishes that people would be able to spare their money wisely and time generously to the ones most in need in the future.

### The Journey

As he celebrates his 35th year in life, Chan acknowledges that he went into business at the right time. Even with the same level of perseverance, if he decided

to go into it now, he doubts he would be able to achieve much.

When he first ventured into this business, before the digital age, photographers could not afford mistakes. But with what they are taught at universities now that has shortened the learning curve, it just means there are more talented photographers in the growing market.

"It's a different ball game now," he expresses before adding, "There's much knowledge your compatriots, younger or older, can [obtain] at [a] similar pace to you. So you can't just assume you are at the top of the industry. If you get too comfortable, [you will only] let yourself down by becoming commonplace."

By taking a creative approach to his business, Chan describes himself as "half an artist" and half a man doing a duty, be it either as an employer, a husband or a father. If he ever gets too carried away, he laughingly assures he will be brought down to earth by his ever trusting clients, two adorable daughters and his firm but loving wife. **mb.**

## VALUATOR

Company(Brand)	Mention	Tone	ROI
Coap Cosbeau Sdn Bhd (Pure)	1	0	RM 0
Curtin University of Technology Sarawak (Curtin University of	1	0	RM 0
Metropolitan College (Metropolitan College )	1	1	RM 195
MPH Bookstores (MPH Bookstores)	1	0	RM 0

## GIST(ENGLISH)

The initial life path of this young man was far removed from the world of a photographer. Coming from a privileged background, Kid Chan, one of the most well-known Malaysian celebrity photographer today, attended Sri Cempaka school during his secondary years, before leaving for a degree in International Business at Curtin University in Perth, Australia.