

Portrait of the Nation's forefather to be on PNG's K100 Note

The call to have the portrait of one of our nation's forefathers, 'the last man standing', who previously served as a minister of Finance in the first Government of Papua New Guinea and naming one of his sons, Toea after PNG's very own currency is not the first but will be the last as it is well-timed this time around. This matter, steeped in educational purposes, symbolizes stability and trust in the financial system and shows a patriotic symbol of our very own New Ireland Leader, the Right Honourable Sir Julius Chan. Governor, Sir Julius Chan, is known by all to be 'the last man standing' as he is one of the forefathers of this nation, the last of all that formed the very first Papua New Guinea Government in 1975. This introduction sets the stage for a deeper exploration of the reasons behind commemorating the forefather in such a prominent manner on the national currency.

Firstly, featuring the forefather's likeness on the national money serves as an educational tool, importing a sense of history and national pride to future generations. For instance, imagine a young student examining a K100 note and inquiring about the man depicted to it. This curiosity sparks a dialogue about our forefather, his contributions to the country's financial well-being, igniting a passion for economic history and instilling a sense of responsibility towards upholding his legacy. It can also remind citizens of their history, which leads to family and community discussions about who this forefather is and to be proud to carry that K100 banknote, that bears his portrait. The story of our forefathers is retold not only to friends and relatives but also to visitors from other countries, thus unfolding the historical legacy of not only Sir Julius Chan, the last man standing, but his peers, his political counterparts with late Great Grand Chief Sir Michael Somare whose portrait is on the K50 note and all other forefathers who have gone to rest in eternal peace.

Secondly, including his portrait on the currency, the K100 PNG note, symbolizes stability and trust in the financial system. Throughout his career, Sir Julius Chan has been a champion of development and stability in Papua New Guinea. His policy and his initiatives have had a lasting impact on the country's growth and governance. When he was the country's Finance Minister, PNG's Kina was valued well and compatible to others on the international market. Our currency may be devalued today, but it wasn't then. Hence, by the featuring him on the K100 note, enhances that legacy and the unwavering confidence instilled in citizens when they see his familiar face on the banknote. This visual representation of continuity reinforces the notion that our economic foundation is rooted in a legacy of sound fiscal management, inspiring trust in the currency and fostering a sense of security among the populace. As the country Papua New Guinea not only acknowledge his past contribution but also, inspire the upcoming generation to also give the respect he deserves and to value and uphold his legacy.

Lastly, the patriotic symbol. Having the image of our forefather, Sir Julius Chan, on the K100 can make evoke a sense of patriotism and pride amongst the citizens of Papua New Guinea. This individual's portrait on the currency represents the values, a principle that the country was founded upon. This symbolic gesture instils a sense of unity and reverences among the citizens, fostering a s sense of identity in their country's history and achievements. Patriotic

symbols are symbols representing the country such as the national emblem of Papua New Guinea which consists of a bird-of-paradise over a traditional spear and a kundu drum. These symbols will let anybody from any country know that this currency or banknote is from Papua New Guinea with the face of our forefather, Sir Julius Chan, on it. Emblazoned with mottos, emblems, and historical imagery, money is one of the most tangible symbols of a nation's identity.

In conclusion, featuring the portrait of our New Ireland Leader, Sir Julius Chan, on the country's money, K100 note, can have significant educational value, symbolic, patriotic and historical implications. It can help educate citizens and probably other countries about the history, symbolize stability in financial matters, and serve as a reminder of our nation, Papua New Guinea's, values, and heritage. Functionally, some of us are very good at recognizing faces, so putting a particular face on each denomination has the same sort of value as making each denomination a distinctive colour. Therefore, it is also fitting that Sir Julius Chan's image be imprinted on a PNG K100 note.

NEW IRELAND DAY GOVERNOR'S ESSAY COMPETITION

NAME: GENO KOGIA

CLASS: YEAR 10

SCHOOL: LIHIR INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL