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MALAYSIA

— FOCUS —



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MALAYSIA FOCUS

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From The Editor

31 August has been commemorated over the years as the most historic day for all Malaysians to celebrate Independence Day. However, all the slogans, the enthusiastic shouts of 'Merdeka' and the public holidays will not be meaningful if Malaysians fail to embrace the virtues of independent in its true sense and to be grateful for the blessings granted upon us.

The independent we inherited today is not solely an act of fate but it is earned through the hard work and efforts of our former warriors and leaders. As responsible Malaysians, let us together protect and preserve the nation's dignity and sovereignty. Let us preserve the love for our country and constantly uphold Malaysia's good name no matter where we are. Malaysia....Di Sini Lahirnya Sebuah Cinta.

Let us fly the Jalur Gemilang! Merdeka! Merdeka!
Merdeka!

**Happy Merdeka Day and
Happy Malaysia Day!**



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RUKUN NEGARA

Preserving Peace and Harmony

Rukun Negara is a successful tool in preserving peace and harmony in Malaysia that has a multi-ethnic and multi-cultural society. Rukun Negara embodies the principles of life in a society, citizenship values and social norms were established in 1970 with the aim to form a united Malaysian.

THE OBJECTIVES OF RUKUN NEGARA

Rukun Negara was formulated with the inspirations or objectives to build a progressive, democratic and united Malaysia through the orientation of science and technology in all aspect of life.

- **Achieving a greater unity**

All Malaysian citizens are dedicated to create a united nation in which every one of them to regard himself or herself as Malaysian citizen, regardless of his or her ethnic origin or religious affiliation.

- **Maintaining a democratic way of life**

Federal Constitution has guaranteed people's fundamental rights and freedom to carry out political activities as long as it is consistent with the laws of the country. However, this right should not be abused in the name of democracy and national interest has to be regarded as top priority.

- **Creating a just society**

Every Malaysian has an equal opportunity enjoy the wealth of the country. A just society would be existed when there is a fair and equitable distribution of the nation's wealth.

By doing so, it is fair when the disadvantaged be assisted to enable them to compete on equal terms with those who are fortunate.

- **Ensuring the growth of a liberal society**

Members of the society are free to practice and profess their own religions, customs and culture, consistent with the aims of national unity. This diversity would be an asset and a source of strength for the nation.



- **Building a progressive society**

Progressive society moves in par with the advancement in the fields of science and technology in the effort to turn Malaysia into a developed nation in line with the Wawasan 2020.

THE PRINCIPLES

The aspirations or objectives of Rukun Negara would be achieved through the practice of its five principles.

- **Belief in God**

Belief in God signifies that all religions should co-exist peacefully and teach the people to respect each other and live in peace with one another.

- **Loyalty to King and Country**

As a country that is ruled as a Constitutional Monarchy with His Majesty Yang di-Pertuan Agong, it is a must for every citizen to be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty and to the country.

- **Supremacy of the Constitution**

It is the duty of every citizen to respect the Federal Constitution regarding the sovereignty of the Yang di-Pertuan Agong and the Malay Rulers, the position of Islam as the official religion, Bahasa Melayu as the official language, the special status of Malays and other indigenous people, the legitimate interests of other communities and the citizenship rights of the non-Malays. This social contract explained the right of every person and become a guide for our country's administration.

Rukun Negara embodies the principles of life in a society, citizenship values and social norms were established in 1970 with the aim to form a united Malaysian.



- **The rule of law**

Every citizen is equal before the law. Every country needs laws and legal system to safeguard and create a peaceful, stable and prosperous community. Every person must obey laws as it is the highest rules in this country.

- **Good behavior and morality**

Individuals with good morality, strong sense of responsibility and places emphasis on good values will create a harmonious society. Good behavior includes a high standard of morality both in personal and social life.

MALAYSIA...
Di Sini Lahirnya Sebuah Cinta



MERDEKA 57: THEME RATIONAL AND LOGO

THEME

"Malaysia... Di Sini Lahirnya Sebuah Cinta" was chosen as the theme of the 57th Independence Day 2014. The theme which was picked from the lyrics of the song "Warisan" (Inheritance) popularized by the late Sudirman Haji Arshad will leave a deep impact and fill the hearts of all Malaysians with love for the country.

"MALAYSIA...
DI SINI
LAHIRNYA
SEBUAH
CINTA"

LOGO

The magnificent fluttering of "Jalur Gemilang" becomes the inspiration of the. It symbolizes Malaysia as an independent and sovereign nation. The numeral 57 indicates the 57th anniversary of Malaysia's independence. Thus, it becomes a symbol of national maturity under a strong, innovative and visionary leadership that is manifested through the continuous achievements in the development, excellence and prosperity.



- The retro touch of figure 57, reflects the sacred date of independence in 1957, depicts the dreams, hopes and the patriotism towards the country by the people then, with the hope it would be an inspiration and aspiration for the young generations.
- The fluttering of Jalur Gemilang blanketing the figure 57 also reflects the prosperity and peace which have existed since independence in 1957 and its continuity to the present day shows the strong unwavering support by the people of different ethnics and beliefs that combine to form a unique Malaysian society and tolerance.
- The crescent moon and 14-point star symbolizes the sovereignty of the country, the responsibility of all leaders and people to preserve and maintain it. The theme "Malaysia... Di Sini Lahirnya Sebuah Cinta" is placed strategically in a position accordance with the logo design to support its strength in terms of balance, purpose and aesthetics value.
- The **COLOUR RED** - Symbol of courage and loyalty to our beloved country.
- The **COLOUR BLUE** - Symbol of integration and racial harmony.
- The **COLOUR YELLOW** - Symbol of sovereignty under the patronage of a Constitutional Monarch and headed by a leadership that cares for the nation's achievement as well as the people's needs.
- The **COLOUR WHITE** - Symbol of honesty, integrity and commitment and close cooperation between the leaders and the people.





Malaysia

Under Six National Leaderships

THE ERA OF TUNKU ABDUL RAHMAN PUTRA AL-HAJ

(31 AUGUST 1957 – 21 SEPTEMBER 1970)

As a pioneer of the era of independence, Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Al-Haj played a major role in efforts to secure the nation's independence from the yoke of colonialism without spilling blood in 1957 and the formation of Malaysia in 1963.

Tunku's huge contribution in achieving independence and uniting the various races in peninsular, Sabah, Sarawak and Singapore who practice different religions, cultures and languages under the banner of Malaysian Federation, has earned Tunku the title of "Father of Independence".

Throughout his administration, Tunku brought a multitude of changes to Malaysia by implementing the five-year development strategy beginning with the First Malaya Plan for the 1956 - 1960 and the Second Malaya Plan for the 1961 - 1965. Through these five-year plans, various economic rehabilitation and generation programmes were implemented such as the Malaysian Industrial Development Authority (MIDA), the People's Trust Council (MARA), Bank Bumiputera and the National Corporation Berhad (PERNAS).

Apart from that, various policies which serve as administrative guidelines were also introduced. They include the National Education Policy (1956), Culture Policy and the National Language Act (1963/67). Tunku Abdul Rahman also propelled Malaysia into the international arena by forming the Association of Southeast Asia (ASA) in 1961. ASA has developed into ASEAN, which now comprises ten Southeast Asian nation.

Tunku also created history by uniting UMNO, MCA and MIC under the Alliance banner. The coalition later became known as Barisan Nasional (BN) and has ruled Malaysia to the present time.

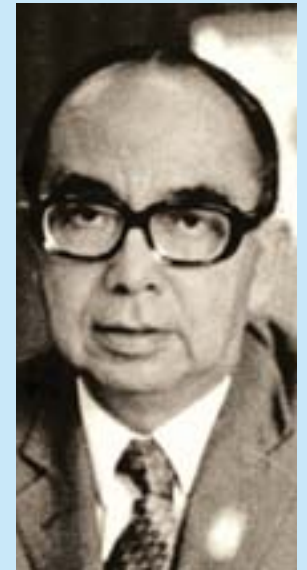


THE ERA OF TUN ABDUL RAZAK HUSSEIN

(22 SEPTEMBER 1970 – 14 JANUARY 1976)

In his administration, Tun Razak focused on four areas-reducing the poverty rate, developing the nation and people and ensuring social justice among the people. Tun Razak spurred Malaysia's development through the Rural Development Plan (Buku Merah) and implemented economic development through the New Economic Policy (NEP). The success of his national development programme earned Tun Razak the title "Father of Malaysian Development".

Tun Razak also succeeded in strengthening Malaysia's relations with other countries. His diplomatic practices successfully ended the Malaysian-Indonesian Confrontation and cemented close tie with China. These strategies enhanced Malaysia's status as a sovereign nation in the eye of the world.



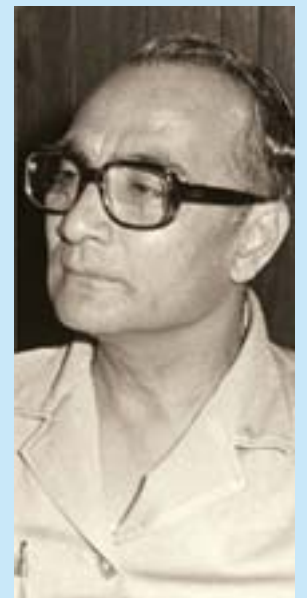
Tun Razak spurred Malaysia's development through the Rural Development Plan (Buku Merah) and implemented economic development through the New Economic Policy (NEP). The success of his national development programme earned Tun Razak the title "Father of Malaysian Development".

THE ERA OF TUN HUSSEIN DATUK ONN

(15 JANUARY 1976 – 16 JULY 1981)

National unity figured prominently in every policy development plans formulated during the era of Tun Hussein Onn. For that, he was bestowed the title of "Father of Unity". Racial issues which had been threatening previously were successfully eliminated and racial unity among the people was achieved.

Tun Hussein also worked to sustain the economic development momentum by breathing new life into the NEP, especially by introducing the Amanah Saham Nasional specifically to enhance the living standards of the Bumiputeras, which was quite low at that time.



THE ERA OF TUN DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD

(16 JULY 1981 – 31 OCTOBER 2003)

In line with the title of “Father of Modernization”, Tun Dr. Mahathir successfully turned Malaysia into a modern and competitive nation with a multitude of high-profile policies and projects which have become famous throughout the world.

Early in his administration, Tun introduced the “Look East Policy” and followed it with the “Clean, Efficient and Trustworthy” campaign. The Proton Saga project to produce the nation's first car in 1985 propelled Malaysia from an agriculture-based one.

The introduction of “Vision 2020” in 1990 charted Malaysia's path to gaining developed-nation status by outlining nine challenges to the aim and direction of the government and the people. Tun's success in overcoming the economic crisis which hit in 1990 also further elevated Malaysia's standing in the eyes of the world.

The initiative to drive Malaysia to achieve developed status was continued with the launching of the Multimedia Super Corridor (MSC) in 1996, which placed Malaysia on the path toward a knowledge-based economy through projects such as electronic government, tele-medicine and others.

Tun Dr. Mahathir also implemented various mega projects, which also elevated Malaysia's reputation as a globally-recognized sovereign nation. They include the Penang Bridge, Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA), Petronas Twin Towers, Kuala Lumpur Tower and the Putrajaya Administration Center. Although these projects were initially met with numerous criticisms, they later proved to be major stimulants to national economic development and a source of envy at the global level.



THE ERA OF TUN ABDULLAH HAJI AHMAD BADAWI

(31 OCTOBER 2003 – 2 APRIL 2009)

During his administration, Tun Abdullah bin Haji Ahmad Badawi continued with efforts to turn Malaysia into a developed nation in line with Vision 2020, and based on Islam Hadhari principles.

Tun Abdullah also gave special attention to graft prevention efforts with the setting up of the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Academy (MACA) and enhanced the functions of the Anti-Corruption Agency by turning it into the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC).

Tun Abdullah also pushed Malaysia to explore new areas by formulating various policies such as the National Bio-technology Policy, National Automotive Policy and the National Biofuel Policy. The successful construction of Malaysia's second micro-satellite, RazakSAT and its rocket launcher Falcon 1 by local companies and worker proved Malaysia's abilities in aerospace technology. The Malaysian Space Center was also set up to manage RazakSAT's activities as well as to forge global cooperation in the aerospace field.

Through the Ninth Malaysia Plan, Tun Abdullah formulated the National Mission, focusing on adding value to the national economy by creating activities based on knowledge and employment opportunities in ICT, biotechnology, nanotechnology and aerospace service. Tun Abdullah also revolutionized national human capital development by introducing the National Human Capital Policy.



THE ERA OF DATO' SRI MOHD NAJIB TUN ABDUL RAZAK

(3 APRIL 2009 – PRESENT)

Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Tun Abdul Razak's leadership is prominently highlighted through the various transformation programs implemented since he ascended the government top seat.

Realizing that the country economy is on the crossroad, actions plans which involve all aspects of the economy were swing into action with the objective to uplift the economy from a middle-income to a high-income earners of a developed nation in line with the 2020 vision.

The slogan ‘People First, Performance Now’, envisaged by Najib became the core principle of the 1Malaysia transformation programs that is currently being implemented.

The programs covers a wide scope from the socio-political sector, economic, education and socio-cultural which also include the upgrading of laws and regulations.





ROYAL MALAYSIAN CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT INVITATION FOR REGISTRATION

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX (GST) is a consumption tax levied on goods and services at all levels of the business. GST will replace Sales Tax and Service Tax. It aims to make the nation's tax system more effective, efficient, transparent and business-friendly.

GST WILL BE IMPLEMENTED ON 1 April 2015.

Thus, you are invited to register as a GST Registered Person to enable you to ensure readiness including system and operational transition.

1. WHO ARE REQUIRED TO BE REGISTERED AS A GST REGISTERED PERSON?

Those who are carrying on a business in Malaysia and make taxable supplies with annual taxable turnover **EXCEEDED RM500,000** are required to register.

OR

If your taxable turnover below the threshold of **RM 500,000** you can register **VOLUNTARILY**;

2. TYPE OF REGISTRATION: -

- Standard registration
- Group Registration
- Registration of Branch or Division
- Registration of Joint Venture

3. BENEFITS OF REGISTRING EARLY

- You have the opportunity to participate in a Hand-holding program where you will be given detailed explanation on GST matters, including:
 - GST specific treatment for your business sector;
 - Your cash flow implications;
 - Impact on your pricing policies;
 - Implication to your accounting system, workflows and processes; and
 - The documentation requirements particularly your tax invoice and GST reporting.

- Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) may apply for e-voucher under subsidy programme to purchase GST compliance accounting software from suppliers that have been certified by the Royal Malaysian Customs department;
- You may apply for group registration and registration of branches / divisions;
- You may apply for GST Schemes;

Note: Those who register before 30th September will be given priority for Hand-Holding Programme

4. HOW TO REGISTER?

By way of online through Taxpayer Access Point (TAP) in gst.customs.gov.my OR manually by downloading the Registration Form GST-01 through the website and posting it to the following address:

**Royal Malaysian Customs Department,
GST Data Processing Center,
Level 1, Block A, Customs WPKL,
Jalan SS 6/3, Kelana Jaya,
47300 Petaling Jaya,
Selangor.**

You may also visit our Kiosks at any local custom offices for GST Registration.

**Any enquiries please contact:
Monday - Friday (8am - 5 pm) except Public Holidays:**

- 1-300-888-500 (general enquiries)
- 03-88822111 (general & registration enquiries)
- 03-88822608 (registration enquiries)
- 03-88822830 (registration enquiries)
- 03-88822765 (registration enquiries)
- 03-78840856 (registration enquiries)

or State Customs offices



**GST WILL BE
IMPLEMENTED ON
1 APRIL 2015**

EL-NINO PHENOMENON

Q1. What is El-Nino?

- El-Nino is a natural phenomenon when there is an uncertain change happens to the sea surface temperature. This has caused an extremely hot temperature in the middle of the Pacific Ocean that will eventually lead to higher evaporation. Therefore, there will be two different gust of wind which one will be brought a lot of water and the other will bring less. This phenomenon affects the east coast of the Republic of Indonesia and Australia. Wind in these areas is dry since it does not contain too much water. Malaysia, due to its position that is close to Indonesia, then we are more likely to face the runoff of El Nino. This will cause Malaysia to have a low average of rainfall and a high average of temperature.

Q2. Have Malaysia experienced El-Nino before?

- Yes. In 1998, Malaysia has been facing a very serious El Nino. A critical water supply problems have occurred at that time, resulting in water rationing had to be done almost throughout the country. The hot weather has also resulted in a desert land, and the destruction of paddy and other commodities. The highest temperature recorded by the Meteorological Station Chuping, Perlis was 40.1 degrees Celsius on 9 April 1998.

Q3. Besides Malaysia, which country will be experiencing this phenomenon?

- Countries in Southeast Asia will be experiencing this El-Nino phenomenon such as Indonesia.

Q4. When and how long this phenomenon is expected to hit Malaysia?

- El Nino usually begins to form in the middle of the year which is around June until September and will reach its peak at the end of the year which is around November to December or early January until March next year and the then it will weaken slowly. Thus, it is possible for Malaysia to experience this phenomenon for more than 10 months.

However, Malaysia is expected to experience this phenomenon in June or July, when the winds of the southwest monsoon happens. This El Nino may persist for six to 18 months.

Based on the explanation by Malaysian Meteorological Department, all indicators show that the weak or moderate levels of El-Nino are formed between June and August 2014 in the equatorial Pacific Ocean and may last until mid 2015.

Q5. Which states that this phenomenon will be concentrated?

- States in the West coast will be highly affected by El-Nino compared to other states. It is based on the previous record of El Nino that occurred in Malaysia in 1998, which showed that Selangor particularly the Klang Valley are the most severe. It is worrying that Selangor will experience water crisis again.

Q6. Who is responsible to monitor this issue and what steps have been taken to solve this issue?

- The responsible party to monitor this issue is Malaysian Meteorological Department. So far, it has monitored the developments and disseminates information regarding this issue to the public. Seeding clouds have been done since March this year when the country was hit by the drought that is quite serious at the time where the weather was really hot and dry above the norm. So far they have done 49 times of flying for cloud seeding process.

According to the Director of Malaysian Meteorological Department, Datuk Che Ismail Gayah, he explained that based on the reports received on April 15; there was a situation where the warming of sea surface temperatures happened in the Pacific Ocean from January to April 2014.

Q7. What are the signs to indicate that El-Nino will happen?

- Disorders and unpredictable climate change have been happening lately. During the drought that is happening right now, we have seen four major wildfires that occurred in Pahang which involved the area in Permanent Forest Ramin (Pekan). This is due to the extremely hot temperature and dry weather.

Q8. What are the main effects of this phenomenon?

- a) The temperature will be increased and we will face a hotter weather than the normal weather.
- b) The increase in temperature will cause the water level in the dam to be reduced dramatically.
- c) Then, it will lead to a bad water crisis.
- d) This ultimately would push the government to implement water rationing.
- e) The temperature of the hot and dry weather can cause large fires occur periodically.

- f) The large fires that happen will not only pollute the atmosphere but will also create haze.
- g) Finally, public health will be affected because of the haze and the hot weather.
- h) El Nino will decrease the crop productivity since hot weather together with low rainfall will affect the plant growth. The soil will be parched because of this prolonged drought.

Q9. What are the initial steps that have been taken by the government in dealing with this phenomenon?

- a) The establishment of the National Committee, which is chaired by Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin and managed by the Ministry of Energy, Green Technology and Water (KETTHA). Its role would mitigate the impact of El-Nino on water supply, health, agriculture and other sectors related to the whole country.

- b) The roles of Malaysian Meteorological Department have been enhanced to strengthen the effectiveness of cloud seeding operations and at the same time a study has been started to examine and to ensure that we can optimize the seeding operations.

- c) Government preparations to ensure the country's food supply involve the crops, livestock and fisheries are enough. Efforts involving efficient irrigation management, improving the efficiency of farm management, developing drought-resistant crops and, develop models of local crops, diversify the incomes of farmers, implement awareness campaigns and develop a simulation model forecasting El Nino.

- d) Imported food will be increased in the event of a serious decline in production. If the decrease in production is still lacking, the peasants, farmers and entrepreneurs will be given assistance through the Agrofood Disaster Aid Fund to restore their agricultural projects to ensure an adequate food supply.

- e) Creating a Task Force under the National Security Council, that has been joined by various government agencies such as the Ministry of Health Malaysia, Malaysian Meteorological Department and Civil Defence Department. They will monitor and take actions to prevent open fires and peat soil fires, cloud seeding operations to increase the raw water level in rivers and dams and also to reduce the thickness of the haze.

- f) The Federal Government through the Department of Irrigation and Drainage and National Water Services Commission will cooperate with state governments to monitor the water level of rivers and dams which supply raw water source to water treatment plants.

- g) Water supply contingency plan will be activated if the condition of the river and dam levels dropped to a critical level. The contingency plan includes, among

other actions, redistribute water from water supply systems in areas not affected to the affected area, and provide logistical requirements such as tankers and static tanks to provide assistance in the areas that are facing water problems.

h) National Committee also decided that the current information related to the El-Nino phenomenon is regularly updated and made public so that all parties understand and are prepared to face its consequences.

Q10. Does El-Nino occur every year?

- El-Nino phenomenon is not a seasonal phenomenon, but the long-term weather global scale occur on average between three to seven years from the warming of the sea surface in the central and eastern tropical Pacific Ocean.

Q11. What steps can be taken by states or agencies or people to reduce the bad effects of El-Nino?

- 1. Ensure that the country has sufficient water storage or provide additional reservoir for use in their respective states.
- 2. Using water wisely to face the possibility that the country might have lack of clean water to be channeled.
- 3. Use the water, electricity and food supplies wisely.
- 4. Always reduce activities that can cause forest fires.
- 5. Plan thoroughly the outdoor activities and indoor activities to be done, especially the schools and youth.
- 6. Prepare a mask and an open burning is prohibited because it will add haze.
- 7. Always take care of the health, especially when in the presence of thick haze and hot weather.
- 8. Always abide by the instructions issued by the Government regarding the effects of El-Nino.

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- BERNAMA

Malaysia... Di Sini Bermulanya Sebuah Cinta

Preamble

The Sultan of Perak, Raja Dr. Nazrin Shah, while addressing the Congress of Professor II 2013 reminded us that, "... the establishment of the Federation of Malaya, the predecessor to the successful formation of Malaysia was founded upon a successful recipe – integration; the recipe was conceived in the spirit of unity within diversity. An understanding was forged – cooperation created, piercing not only the boundary of multi-racial and various faiths but incorporates the various components, the four Federated States, five Unfederated States, two Straits Settlement; the Rulers and the people were united, one voice – one motive – one objective, to build a nationality of an independence nation. 31 August 1957 saw the birth of a nation amidst the hysterical echoes of "MERDEKA!"

In reality, the cries of 'MERDEKA' led to the birth of a nation where love grows as the theme of the 57th national day for the year 2014 picked from the song 'Warisan' by the late Sudirman Haji Arshad. The numeral 57 is synonymous with the independence year 1957, which has its own historical significance in Malaysian history. After 32 years (1982) the song 'Warisan' (Heritage) recorded by Sudirman in the album 'Abadi' (Eternal) a collection of patriotic songs distributed by EMI records and produced by S. Atan, has been chosen as the National Day theme.

Colorful Malaysia

Malaysia is a unique country; a country with a colorful lineage, beliefs, practices, faiths and diverse lifestyle. The people are bind with a sense of belonging as citizens of Malaysia or simply Malaysian in a geographical boundary that reflects a colorful demographic nature. Malaysia, transcend the Peninsula, Sabah and Sarawak; populated not only by the ethnic group of Malays, Chinese and Indians but also by others such as the Ibans, Bidayuh, Kadazan, Murut, Bajau and more. The Orang Asli (aborigines) are no exception, the Semai, Jakun and Bateq and countless others.

The composite nature and diversity of her people is the special features of Malaysia. It has often been a point of reference and a common knowledge that, to preserve tranquility is never an easy task while countries with a homogenous population are often face with various issues. What then, is the successful formula that binds the population? Where are the ingredients, that is considered the key to Malaysia success today and could it withstand the test of time?

It all started before 1957 where there was an attempt for self-government outside the British colonial rule because the process of independence at that time is a universal process. The British wanted to ensure that Malaysia remains peaceful because of the new composite nature of her ethnic groups that evolved through the Industrial Revolution process introduced by them. The presence of the Chinese and Indian community at that time creates a new challenge to the composition of Malaya population's. Accordingly, the process of attaining independent, upon British requests, was extended to include various parties to ensure that

peace is maintained with the eventual withdrawal of the British administration.

The community was undergoing a fusion process between various ethnic groups and with this sense of responsibility, the major component parties made a compromise with the objective of winning the Federal Legislative Election and eventually the General Election, the Alliance Party (Parti Perikatan) now known as Barisan Nasional, received the mandate to represent the Malaysian government headed by Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Al-Haj. The independent process includes the palace whereby the continuity of tradition involving the Malay Rulers is guaranteed its place and the government headed by the Prime Minister.

Although independent was attained without bloodshed, the process was far from simple. It was filled with demographic complexity that involved ethnic, racial and religious issues. Perhaps, the leaderships of the past understood the independent aspiration; the values of leadership centered on compromise and sacrifice without forcing who was to be compromise and sacrifice but rather they understood that all discussion must be anchored around the very fabric that constitutes the independent of the this country.

Thus, 31 August 1957 was proclaimed as Independence Day of Malaya and 16 September 1963 as Malaysia Day that comprises of Peninsula Malaysia, Sabah, Sarawak and Singapore as a nation before the eventual withdrawal of Singapore in 1965. During this period there were a few nations that gained independence, however Malaysia is perceived as one of the nation that is dynamic in her progress base upon a solid foundation.

This is a nation that we share the burden and rejoice together. This is the nation that gives us the will to live, albeit with the challenges and shortcomings that is experience by other nations. In short, this is the country that builds our self-esteem as citizens and that we are proud to be called Malaysians no matter what prevails. It is true love in every sense of the word but sadly is worthless to the countless soul that is struggling to appreciate the value of their citizenship.

Constitution Protects Malaysia's Sovereignty

The Constitution is a document of love towards the nation, not a scripture that we reflect upon during old age; Constitution builds the Malaysian state. The constitution defined the meaning of citizenship because its supremacy protects the sovereignty and administration of the nation. The past and current leaders ensures that the constitution remains the main thrust in solidifying the Bangsa Malaysia so as to realize the definition as prescribe by the former Prime Minister, Tun Dr. Mahathir Mohamad during the launch of Vision 2020. He said, 'Bangsa Malaysia is a race that is proud to be Malaysian; one who uphold the supremacy of the Constitution and fluent in Bahasa Malaysia'. So if you are looking for love, peace and harmony as a bangsa Malaysia heritage, than the three values stated above is significant in developing the Malaysian identity who loves the nation; who will rise to defend the sovereignty of our nation and more than this, will never compromise his dignity and self-esteem nor to sell his dignity or to sacrifice his citizenship for another. This is where the love as a Malaysian realize that the value of his dignity is priceless; it could not be ridiculed because his soul believes he holds a responsibility towards the nation.

This can only be achieved through the spirit of compromise and sacrifice. We can clearly see this in the initial contract during the proceeding of independence. Issues related to religion, language, special privilege and institution of the Malay Sultanate were derived in the spirit of togetherness. Islam is the official religion of Malaysia but other religions can be practiced; Bahasa Malaysia is the official language but other languages can be used; the Malay rights is guaranteed and so are the right of other races and the sovereignty of the institution of the Malay Sultanate as a source of justice and an instrument of unity in various issues.

The declaration above is the fruits of mutual agreement by all parties during the independent era. There are those who live in a later era who question these values because they could not comprehend the wisdom on how and why the agreement was conceived. Today, regrettably there exists contradicting interpretations to the extend they insults and denigrate each other but in a macro perspective a lot of work need to be done to address the issues. These small wayward group need to be educated to prevent it from growing so that it does not eclipse the true aspiration behind the agreement that involve sensitive issues in the community.

Raised in an individualistic and materialistic world, some of us has never felt the cool clear water of a river while fishing in village waterways or playing 'konda-kondi' with the village friends or even play 'congkak'; to them life is fun and cozy because they believe it is the responsibility of the government and the parents to provide. Let us ponder, how did we achieved today's progress if it is not due to the hard work of our past heritage and sadly some of us forgot our own past; drifted by the wave of change to the extend we lost sight of where love grows?

Fulfilling the Independence Aspirations

We are, where we are today by fulfilling the independence aspirations. Harmonious integration, sense of self-belonging, peace and tranquility are the essence for this year's 57th independence celebration. We are not exempted from challenges and uncertainty caused by internal or external factors, especially the events of MH370 and MH17 but our competent leadership have address the situation rationally leaving a positive impact to the country.

In order to be able to fulfill, one needs to have a great Malaysian spirit in order to comprehend the true meaning of independent and in turn transcend that to today's modernization and development process. Respect, tolerance and understanding are virtues needed to be nurtured and practice for one to inherit a love for the country, proud to be a citizen and adhere to the Rukunegara because it represent the nation's ideology, giving shape towards the country Constitutions. Believe, loyalty, supremacy, sovereignty and morality are the keywords for us to evaluate our love for the country that is enshrined in the Rukunegara.

Today, there are countries that are still struggling with their statehood. These are lesson to be learnt, even though some deem Malaysia as not ideal to their expectations and expressed their dissatisfaction whereas the remaining majority should be the source of strength to defend the country. Despite the abusive words, behavior and actions voiced by ordinary adults and the educated fraternity, our country, in reality is still rapidly developing and we must bind together to defend against those who wish to destroy what have

been built over the years. Do not get carried away by them, 'marahkan nyamuk, kelambu terbakar' (angry at a mosquito, the entire net get burnt). In order to comprehend the love for the country, we must bear the responsibility together to face the challenges that crossed our path and we must regard these events as assets and not as liabilities. Patriotism and nationalism cannot be forced upon; it must be inborn sincerely from within for one to become a true citizen.

The only way to love your country is to be sincere, understanding and to value the importance of nationhood without having to lay an ambush upon your own country when events occurs outside your comfort zone. Some of us are elective in our perceptions to understand or the desire to understand. To take action according to one's aspiration and disregarding the consensus of the majority is disruptive and a threat to our colorful country.

The challenges we face today is growing in stature especially in a world without boundaries and the cyber world which possessed a manipulative nature and our refusal to use the social media responsibly especially on subjects of nationhood and community. Our privacy has been violated and there is no place you can hide. There is a medium that is easily accessible to generate hatred, suspicions, ethnocentric that is unsuitable to our country. In moving forward, we must not forget our past. Our nation was built upon the spirit of unity and though the new world of technology accelerates the wind of change, we must not step over the boundary so as to destroy the very essence of our Malaysian's spirit - unity. We must heed the lessons from countries that are burden with conflicts between ethnics, intra-ethnics, poverty, peace, unemployment, standard of living and others.

Conclusion

Be grateful with what we have, deficiency can be addressed with resoluteness and the desire to innovate; 'jika adapun cahaya menyinari, jangan sampai pelita di rumah dibuang kerana hukum alam akan ada hari tanpa fajar menyinsing' (Even if there is a light, do not throw the lamp out from the house because the law of nature states that there be a day when there is no dawn). Even if we achieved success, do not sacrifice the dignity of the nation because this is where our blood flows, this is a nation that stand together in face of accusations because nothing could take away the love for the country, if we are proud to be a citizen.

The word of wisdom from the 'Father of Independence', Tunku Abdul Rahman on 10 July 1957, while tabling the motion of the Constitution at the Federal Legislative Council, '...for the future well-being of our country, we expect and demand the undivided loyalty of all who wish to call themselves Malaysians;...let us make it work and build for ourselves and our descendants a shangrilla whereby we can all live in peace, happiness and prosperity'.

Malaysia... Di Sini Bermulanya Sebuah Cinta.

Happy 57th National Day celebration.

Professor Madya Dr. Sivamurugan Pandian

School of Social Sciences
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Patriotism Becomes the Torch and the Impetus For Homeland Defense

by Mohd Ayop Abd Razid

“The development and progress achieved by the country over the years (since independence) built on the spirit of patriotism of the people”

Knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the history of the struggle for independence are fundamental because it has become an imperative platform for teachings thus foster the spirit of love for the nation. Surprisingly enough, people who struggled to free our homeland from colonial grip were forced to sacrifice their entire energy in order to obtain the independence for this nation. During the struggle to fight against the occupiers, some of our fighters were abused, tortured, persecuted, imprisoned, exiled and some were killed by the cruel colonialists.

Malaysia had been through a colonial history for quite a long time starting with the Portuguese

conquest of Malacca in 1511, followed by Dutch, British, Japan and subsequently the British again. During the Japanese invasion, their colonial power was so atrocious and malice towards our fighters who wants our land free from colonial domination and bondage.

Those suspected people were treated like animals. They were arrested and beaten as they pleased. Some were tortured by forcing them to drink soapy water then stepped on their stomach. In fact, some were truncated their head and some were boiled alive in a large cauldron.

All the sufferings and hardships that were borne by our ancestors are simply because they are fighting to free this very homeland from colonial power. Colonialists not only suppress them but they also rip the traditional values and culture of the community, marginalize community and harvest our priceless natural resources to bring to their country of origin.

After the end of World War II, British came back and resume its conquest. At that time,

the spirits of patriotism of the people have begun to escalate. They were united by heart to fight for the independence of the country. The introduction of the Malayan Union in 1946 became the main catalyst fueling the spirit of nationalism among Malays under Dato ' Onn Jaafar.

Finally, with the great coalition of the Malays, Chinese and Indians, our country obtain its independence. On 20th February 1956 the tagline “Merdeka” resonate in Padang Pahlawan Banda Hilir in Malacca when Tuanku Abdul Rahman announced the country's independence, on his return from London. On August 31, 1957 Malaysia (Malaya) officially receive its independence. In 1963, Singapore, Sabah and Sarawak join the country through the establishment of Malaysia proposed by Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra al-Haj. However Singapore separated from Malaysia in 1965.

After the independence, Malaysia is still faced with challenges from inside and outside. From within our country, we have faced with a Communist threat and confrontation between Indonesia and Philippines who are in disagreement against the idea of the formation of Malaysia. However, as a result of a huge spirit, patriotism and strong unity of the leaders, security personnel (military and police) as well as Malaysians, the independence and sovereignty of the country is maintained. All the challenges can be addressed successfully. The fact is, the invasion suffered by the country for so long compared to the new age of independence reaches 57 years. However, since the beginning of independence, more leaders and patriotic citizens managed to develop and advance the country to the level of sterling. The country is admired and respected on the global stage because of the ability to achieve commendable progress within a short period of time as compared to a long period of colonization.

Thus, the spirit of patriotism of the people of this country must continue to be fuelled and strengthened to meet new challenges that threaten the independence and sovereignty of the country. The spirit of patriotism is not only important to defend sovereignty and independence but also as a torch and impetus for people to continue to strive to build and develop the country, especially in ensuring the success of the agenda of the national

transformation brought by our various country's leaders.

In conclusion, the history of the struggle for the country's independence must always be remembered and appreciated, especially during the moments we celebrated the country's independence (independence month August – 16 September). Hence, the theme for 57 Independence Day, which is “Malaysia... Di Sini Lahirnya Sebuah Cinta” is intended to strengthen the spirit of patriotism of the people. The focal point is to foster an understanding and appreciation of the history of the homeland. Former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad once said, “If we forget our history, it will be repeated again. Those who forget their history will be punished by doing the same mistakes repeatedly.” What our former Prime Minister mentioned is not impossible if we are inattentive in safeguarding the independence and national sovereignty.

**Author is a Media Analyst at the National Policy Publications Division, The Department of Information, Ministry of Communications and Multimedia.





Culture As a Set of Bonding and Social Integration

by Mohd Ayop Abd Razid

“Values held by members of the community have their own source. The main and most important source comes from the family, the parents and the elders who provide wisdom to the family. And through them, their children receive normative instructions”

Prime Minister Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Tun Razak has reminded the people that the future of the country depends on the system, values, culture and attitudes of the society. According to him, the success of a country is not only subject solely to the skyscrapers, high technology and in the increasing per capita but it also depends

on the culture that we have. Basic philosophy and cultural values of a society are able to develop a vision, thinking, behavior and actions as well as to adapt to environmental awareness and change.

According to Talcott Parsons and Alfred Kroeber (1958), the culture of a society refers to the content of the values, ideas and symbolic in that community. It is a matter of community members who are sharing the meaning, understanding and judgement. This means that culture will create an identity, meaning, purpose and well-being.

The essence of culture

The basic thing that must be understood is that 'value' is an important element of culture. Cultural values formed is related to the "ought," "should" and "must". This means that the essence of the culture of what should be supported and maintained by members of the public and what should be avoided.

The integrated system provides awareness to the community to act within the framework of a sense of belonging and togetherness. In this context, culture is a social sensitivity that can bind individual relationships with others so that the community can live, interact and work in peace and harmony.

Collectivism requires the community members to make sacrifices in their personal interests (individualism) in order to achieve common interests (collective) where any member of the public considers each member to be in a union and solid as well as sturdy solidarity. It shows that culture can act as a set of social integration that can unite the community.

Family is the main source

Values held by members of the community have its own sources and the most basic and essential sources are family, parents and the elders who are the roots for family wisdom. Through them, their children receive normative instruction.

Moreover, another important source for value is the influence from formal education including school environment. In this context, teachers and learning systems (including curriculum) will strengthen the understanding of the values and practices of community members.

The next source to strengthen our value is higher education institution, participation in group or social activities and one's career. Work field and the involvement in social groups form the secondary values which later will integrate with the core values.

Values should not be static

The values should not be static and it should be assimilated with the new values coming from the various forces and external influences. Modernization and globalization may force us to accept a new set of values. However, the new values should not be blindly accepted so that we will not wipe out our own traditional roots and finally lose our identity.

As for example, the acceptance of the unlimited freedom will destroy our society since freedom can nourish the individualistic attitude and non-compliance with regulations and laws. Thus, in our eagerness to accept new values, we must first preserve and strengthen the roots of the valuable for maintaining our identity.

Development should not be achieved by ignoring the honour of our culture. Former Prime Minister, Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad once said that in order to achieve development, people, especially the youth, must control their desires and adopt the culture because sometimes freedom will lead to a weak nation and disgraced. According to Tun, politeness, customs, disciplines and perseverance must be maintained. According to him, the institution of marriage and family are responsible in providing education manners, values and respectful morals.

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DENGUE PREVENTION SHOULD BE SHOULDERED TOGETHER



According to the statistics issued by the Ministry of Health Malaysia, the number of dengue cases nationwide in January to 15th March 2014 is 21967 people involving 53 deaths. Selangor recorded the highest cases with 21 deaths 12073.

This scenario illustrates that society are still not emphasize cleanliness around the house. Various campaigns implemented by Health Ministry whether through printed media or electronic has gone awry and in fact unable to change the lifestyle of society.

Fatality cases reported do not seem gruesome enough and frighten the society. Malaysia Health Ministry from time to time always proclaim on the dangers of dengue fever. Although various programmes and campaign were implemented but the awareness level among the society on how harmful this dengue fever is still low.

Efforts to prevent dengue fever are not merely responsibility that should be handled by the Ministry of health or the Local Authorities but the task that should be borne with by all communities.

Hence we are all playing a vital role and bear a huge responsibility in preventing this dengue fever from spreading which can result in loss of life. All parties whether individual, community, NGO should participate in conjunction with the Department of Health and Local Authorities to carry out cleansing program around the neighborhood from Aedes mosquito breeding ground.

As a person who has been imbued with the practice of cleanliness, proper citizens of the city should consist of a society that is disciplined and responsible. Education has been shaping and producing us as community with a minded that can identify which is good and which is bad.

In fact, religion too has bred and inculcates us with nature that emphasizes cleanliness. Regardless of where we are, we are well off if we emphasize the nature of cleanliness and it will be seen even though we are in a foreign country.

For the local community, do not overly place responsibility of clearing the area around the house over the Local Authorities alone. JKKK or Rukun Tetangga should also participate to actively plan and implement cleanliness programmes.

From time to time, keep in touch with the Department of Health and Local Authorities to get assistance and help to ensure the success of the gotong royong to clean the neighborhood.

Weekly assignment schedule provision that involving all member of the community must be taken into consideration in meetings so that the members will know their respective roles and are ready at all times.



Therefore, in order to prevent us or our communities from being affected by dengue fever, we must unite and take responsibility to cleanse the places from Aedes mosquitoes breeding. Make sure the surrounding of our homes are free from containers that may be retaining rain water or excess water like empty cans, old tires, plastic containers, flower vase and so on.

If the material cannot be destroyed or burned, it is best buried. Close tight all water containers such as bucket, barrels or include larval killer medicine into water containers. Change the water in flower vase every week to avoid it contaminated by larva.

Remove the water in flower vase every week. Check rainwater (roof channels) per week and discard leaves wood or rubbish which block the water flow. The use of pesticides in the home can kill adult Aedes mosquitoes.

NO 
AEDES
NO 
DENGUE



COMMONWEALTH GAMES GLASGOW 2014



Commonwealth Games is the second largest sport after the Olympics and the participants are only open for the countries that once colonized by British. This time, Glasgow, Scotland was the host for 2014 Commonwealth Games and has been held from 23 July 2014 until 3 August 2014. During 11 days of Commonwealth Games, England became the overall winner collecting 58 gold, 59 silver and 57 bronze medals, while the hosts, Scotland managed fourth place, the best position since the organization of the Games with 19 gold, 15 silver and 19 bronze medals.

As Glasgow 2014 came to a close last night, Singapore was ranked 11th in the medal standings with a haul of eight gold, five silver and four bronze while Malaysia came in at 12th place with six gold, seven silver and six bronze medals. Malaysia failed to achieve the target medals at the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, but more unfortunate; Malaysia returned home position behind Singapore, the first time in the history of this prestigious sports.

Here is the list of our athletes who have contributed medals to our contingent for this Commonwealth Games.

GOLD MEDALISTS

- 1 **Mohd Hafifi Mansor** - weightlifting 69kg
- 2 **Datuk Nicol Ann David** - women's singles squash
- 3 **Badminton squad** for mixed team event
- 4 **Ooi Tze Liang** - 3m springboard (men)
- 5 **Woon Khe Wei** and **Vivian Hoo** - badminton doubles (female)
- 6 **Tan Wee Kiong** and **Goh V Shem** - badminton doubles (men)



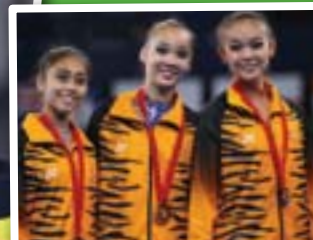
SILVER MEDALISTS

- 1 **Mohd Zulhelmi Pisol** - weightlifting 56kg
- 2 **Wong Poh San** - rhythmic gymnastics individual (ribbon)
- 3 **Ying Ho, Lee Wei BB, Sock Khim Ng** - table tennis women team
- 4 **Azlina Arshad, Nor Hashimah Ismail, Nur Fidrah Noh, Emma Firyana Saroji** - lawnball women's four
- 5 **Muhammad Hizlee Abdul Rais, Fairul Izwan Abdul Muin** - lawnball doubles (men)
- 6 **Pandalela Rinong** - 10m platform (women)
- 7 **Ooi Tze Liang** - 10m Platform (men)



BRONZE MEDALISTS

- 1 **Mohd Azizul Awang** - cycling (keirin)
- 2 **Amy Dict Weng Kwan, Wong Poh San, Fatin Zakirah Zain Jalany** - rhythmic gymnastics (group)
- 3 **Wong Poh San** - rhythmic gymnastics individual (loop)
- 4 **Nur Suriyani** - shooting 10m air rifle (women)
- 5 **Pandelela Rinong and Nur Dhabitah** - 10m platform (synchronized)
- 6 **Jong Yee Khie** - paralympic powerlifting men (72.1kg)



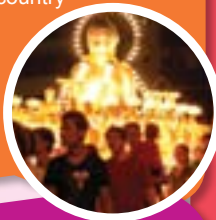
Calendar OF EVENTS

May

WESAK DAY • 13 May 2014

Wesak Day marks the birth, enlightenment and passing of Gautama Buddha. Buddhists all over the country celebrate this day with religious offerings and rituals which are usually held at Buddhist temples.

Venue • Nationwide



RED BULL AIR RACE

17 May 2014 - 18 May 2014

The third race on the 2014 World Championship calendar will see the pilots descend on Putrajaya.

Venue • Putrajaya, Malaysia



1MALAYSIA INTERNATIONAL TOURISM NIGHT FLORAL PARADE - 'MAGIC OF THE NIGHT'

14 June 2014 - 22 June 2014

Enjoy a dazzling evening with the glittering lights of decorated floats brought in from every state in Malaysia. This event features Malaysia as one of the world's top tourist destinations. Enjoy a grand showcase of the country's flora and fauna as well as the attractions found in the different states in Malaysia.

Venue • Putrajaya Lake, Presint 2, Putrajaya, Kuala Lumpur



1MALAYSIA MEGA SALE CARNIVAL

28 June 2014 - 1 September 2014

Shopaholic alert! One of the three major shopping seasons in the country is back with mega shopping excitement, dining options, endless entertainment and fun-filled activities!

Shop, eat and celebrate!

Venue • Throughout Malaysia

PESTA WAU ANTARABANGSA KELANTAN

28 May 2014 - 31 May 2014

The sky's the limit at the annual 5-day Kelantan International Wau Festival. Colourful 'Wau' (giant kites) of various shapes and sizes will paint the sky. There will be an assortment of crafts for souvenir hunters. Visitors can also enjoy cultural shows and 'dikir barat' competitions that spice up the festival.

Venue • Geting Beach, Tumpat, Kelantan



TADAU KAAMATAN

30 May 2014 - 31 May 2014

This month-long Harvest Festival celebrates the cultural lifestyle of the Kadazandusun community of Sabah. It is held to welcome the new Harvest Season and to offer gratitude for the good harvest. The grand finale will be held in Hongkod Koisaan, the KDCA Hall in Penampang, with the final round of Unduk Ngadau (Harvest Beauty Pageant).

Venue • Throughout Sabah and Labuan

TRAIL: MELAKA WORLD HERITAGE CITY CELEBRATION BY UNESCO

7 July 2014

Melaka was declared as a UNESCO World Heritage City in July 2008. The anniversary of this historic occasion is celebrated with a host of cultural activities and an array of delectable traditional cuisine that is unique to the state. As the celebration takes place, the well-preserved heritage buildings, cultural enclaves and local attraction spots will be swarming with tourists for all over the world.

Venue • Melaka

July



August

June

FESTIVAL RAMADAN

1 June 2014 - 30 June 2014

Celebrated in honor of the Muslim fasting month, this festival features a variety of religious programs such as Terawih Perdana at Dataran Merdeka; festive shopping, Tilawah & Khatam Al-Quran (Quran Recital) in Kelantan; Islamic tourism (ITC), bazaar Ramadan, Forum Perdana Ramadan, Performance by Embassies, International Imams and many more.

Venue • Merdeka Square, Kuala Lumpur



GAWAI DAYAK FESTIVAL

1 June 2014 - 2 June 2014

Gawai Dayak is a harvest festival celebrated by the state's indigenous people, particularly the Ibans and Bidayus, in their traditional costumes. Ceremonial offerings of various local traditional delicacies and 'tuak' (home-made rice wine) are made to the gods of rice and prosperity.

Venue • Throughout Sarawak

SABAH DRAGON BOAT RACE

7 June 2014 - 8 June 2014

Organised in conjunction with the Duan Wu festival. This exciting race has attracted many local and international teams as far as Hong Kong, China and Japan. Also, look out for the most popular Dragon Boat delicacy - rice dumplings filled with water chestnuts and minced meat!

Venue • Likas Bay, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah



PORT DICKSON INTERNATIONAL TRIATHLON

9 August 2014 - 10 August 2014

Catch the live action as athletes compete in a test of endurance and stamina. Challenges include swimming, cycling and running. Don't miss this chance to be at Port Dickson.

Venue • Port Dickson, Negeri Sembilan



INDEPENDENCE DAY (HARI MERDEKA)

31 August 2014

Hari Merdeka (Independence Day) commemorates the independence of the Federation of Malaya from British colonial rule in 1957. It is celebrated on 31 August each year.

Venue • Nationwide



HARI RAYA AIDILFITRI

28 July 2014 - 29 July 2014

After fasting from dawn to dusk for a month, Hari Raya Aidilfitri is a day that signifies victory for Muslims everywhere. On this special day, Muslims attend special morning prayers in mosques and visit the cemeteries of their loved ones. Decked in their traditional finery, friends and family from near and far come together to celebrate this joyous occasion. There will be lots of tasty delicacies to make the celebration memorable!

Venue • Nationwide



VISIT SARAWAK THE LAND OF THE HORN BILLS



When it comes to history in Sarawak, you won't be disappointed as it has quite a number of fascinating places to capture your imagination. Its various historical sites range from century old sites to modern times historical places. Walk into timeless historical pieces and understand the foundation that was set in place to make Sarawak what it is today.



BARIO

Location: Miri

Lying at an altitude of about 3,500 feet above sea level in the north-eastern corner of Sarawak is the famous Bario Highland, a Kelabit territory, one of the minority Orang Ulu tribes of Sarawak. Bario means 'Wind' in Kelabit language. (The correct pronunciation is 'Bariew').

It is affectionately known as the 'land of a hundred handshakes' as this is how friendly locals will greet you as you wander around the community.

Bario proper is the gateway to the Kelabit highlands, thanks to its airport and a small network of roads leading to some of the nearby villages. About thirteen villages are located in and around Bario area and Kampung Bario Asal is the first. This is a must-visit longhouse where one can see the ancient timbers of the unique kitchen darkened by the constant smoke of generations of cooking fires.

Most of the area's accommodation is found in and around Bario, and it is the main starting point for treks throughout the area. One can go kayaking or immerse in the historical tales of the monoliths that dot the area. The place has incredible organic food such as the famous Bario rice and pineapple. One of their annual events is the internationally known Bario Food Festival also known as 'Pesta Nukenen', held in July each year.



BAKELALAN

Location: Limbang

Bakelalan (formerly Ba'Kelalan) is the most important of the Lun Bawang settlements in the northern highlands. The village is famous for its apples and organic vegetables, and for the local musicians and their 'bamboo bands'. The village is connected to Lawas and Miri by air, and it is also possible to travel to Lawas via an old logging road.

While in Bakelalan, you can:

- ▶ Experience the life style of the Lun Bawang community with Homestay program.
- ▶ Take a 45 minutes jungle trekking to Long Kumap Salt Spring, and experience the cold and clean water in the stream along the way.
- ▶ Explore Bakelalan surroundings by visiting the rice fields, apple farms & the organic research farm.

Source: <http://www.sarawaktourism.com/>

AGRO PRODUCT: PINEAPPLE



Malaysia is famous for its agriculture, and especially agro products. One of the main products is pineapple and Malaysia even has Malaysian Pineapple Industry Board to indicate how important pineapple in this field. Pineapple has a lot of types such as Sarawak Pineapple, Maspine Pineapple, Yankee Pineapple and N36 Pineapple. Malaysia sells and exports pineapple in two types, which are, canned and fresh pineapples.

Origin of Pineapple

Pineapple (*ananas cosmosus*) a type of tropical plant believed to originate from East Area of South America. It has been introduced in Malaya in the 16th century by the Portuguese. With rubber crop development, in year 1921 pineapple began to be planted in Singapore, Johor and Selangor as cash crop. Pineapple plantation continued to expand in peat soil area especially in Johor.



Nutrition of Pineapple

Pineapple has high content of Vitamin C which is needed for health due to healing wound or injury by absorption of iron minerals into blood vessel. Vitamin B's content in pineapple fruit especially B1 (thiamin) functions to help digestion process and smoothen digestion process in intestines, while Vitamin B3 (niacin) with carbohydrate content can control digestive system to make the consumer healthy. Potassium content with sodium in pineapple fruit can control deep water balance in human body. Pineapple also contains useful enzyme in medical sector namely Bromelin enzyme where it is used widely during surgery to control swollen, infection and prevent blood clot.

Marketing

- ▶ Malaysia is famous in generating quality canned pineapple with golden yellow colour.
- ▶ Malaysia's pineapples have different characteristics from other competitors and have potential to improve the quality.
- ▶ Currently 95% of canned pineapple productions are for export market and 5% is for domestic market while fresh pineapple contributes 3% to export market and 70% to domestic market.
- ▶ Singapore is the tradition export market of fresh pineapples and followed by West Asia. Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Brunei and Hong Kong.



MERDEKA

THEMES AND LOGOS OVER THE YEARS

1970: Muhibah dan Perpaduan	1981: Berdisiplin Berharmoni	1988: Bersatu	1995: Jatidiri Penggerak Wawasan	2008: Perpaduan Teras Kejayaan
1971: Masyarakat Progresif				
1972: Masyarakat Adil		1989: Bersatu	1996: Budaya Penentu Kecapaian	2009: 1Malaysia: Rakyat Didahulukan Pencapaian Diutamakan
1973: Masyarakat Berkebudayaan Malaysia				
1974: Sains dan Teknologi Alat Perpaduan		1990: Berjaya	1997: Akhlak Mulia Masyarakat Jaya	2010: 1Malaysia: Menjana Transformasi
1975: Masyarakat Berdikari				
1976: Ketahanan Rakyat	1983: Bersama ke Arah Kemajuan		1998: Negara Kita Tanggungjawab Kita	2011: 1Malaysia: Transformasi Berjaya Rakyat Sejahtera
1977: Bersatu Maju				
1978: Kebudayaan Sendi Perpaduan	1984: Amanah Asas Kejayaan		1999: Bersatu Ke Alaf Baru	2012: 55 Tahun Merdeka Janji Ditepati
1979: Bersatu Berdisiplin	1985: Nasionalisme Teras Perpaduan	1993: Bersatu Menuju Wawasan	2000-2006: Keranamu Malaysia	2013: Malaysiaku Berdaulat: Tanah Tumpahnya Darahku
1980: Berdisiplin Berbakti	1986: Bangsa Tegas Negara Teguh	1994: Nilai Murni Jayakan Wawasan	2007: Malaysiaku Gemilang	2014: Malaysia... Di Sini Lahirnya Sebuah Cinta

PEARLS OF WISDOM



"... independence was not a thing achieved easily but something that must be truly desired and achieved through true sacrifice..."

-Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Al-Haj



"... Merdeka Day is our national day. Let us make our nation proud by constantly being alert to not be influenced by narrow views of nationalism. If these narrow views of nationalism are allowed to fester without control, then reason and our friendly ties with other free countries will be frustrated. Then, world peace and harmony will be destroyed ..."

-Tun Abdul Razak Hussein



"In times of instant courses and modern mass communication, most people, especially the young, do not know how to entertain themselves by reading books. These days, people are constantly looking for easy ways to become smart. Actully, human civilization over several eras and on several continents have shown that we can only achieve knowledge by constantly reading and thinking over long periods of time. It is not through instant courses that people would be rational and smart quickly..."

-Tun Hussein Onn



"... we can have different opinions in national politics but when we are faced with possibility of outsiders trying to conquer us, we must close rank, that is the meaning of patriotism..."

-Tun Dr. Mahathir Mohamad



"... all success that have been achieved were enabled by the efforts and sacrifices of the early freedom fighters. Tunku Abdul Rahman fought for independence, Tun Abdul Razak worked hard for development, Tun Hussein Onn strived for national unity and Tun Dr. Mahathir went against the tide to breathe modernization. There, together with the people, had taken Malaysia to where it is today..."

-Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi



"Jalur Gemilang represents our values and dignity. It is our pride, honor and a symbol of victory seeing it continuously flown..."

-Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Tun Abdul Razak

MERDEKA

31 Ogos

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MALAYSIA...

Di Sini Lahirnya Sebuah Cinta

