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KLCC-Park

A PARK FOR THE PEOPLE OFFICIALLY OPENS TOMORROW

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 28 (Bernama) -- Known as the Kuala Lumpur City Centre (KLCC) Park, it is a haven of lush greenery in the heart of the city but few know that its design comes from the greatest artist in the evolution of the 20th century art.

KLCC Park, a park for the people, was specially designed by the late Roberto Burle Marx of Brazil, a renowned international landscape artist. It is scheduled to be officially opened by the Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad tomorrow.

The 20-hectare park has been a growing attraction for city dwellers as well as foreigners after its completion on May 8, this year.

The Park reflects the designer's love and passion towards nature with a mixture of the arts and tropical botanical sciences. It should thus be regarded as a unique contribution to Malaysians.

While Burle Marx's work swirls with a deep sense of his Brazilian roots, the KLCC project team contributed the local elements which blend to give the Park its distinct Malaysian character.

As a functional showpiece, it serves to integrate and harmonise with the office buildings, retail centre, hotel and residential buildings.

Highlights of the park include a playground, wading pool, shelters and benches, patterned foot-paths, sculptures and murals as well as the soothing Lake Symphony which comprises two water fountains.

The two-acre (0.8 hectares) children's playground features a wide variety of child-safe playing equipment.

Forty-three of the more than 1,900 trees and palms that have been planted in the park are mature trees, painstakingly relocated from the former Selangor Turf Club grounds.

In all, more than 74 species of indigenous trees have been planted to encourage bio-diversity within the park area.

Part of the park is also designed as a haven for birds, where various researches went into the selection of the indigenous tree species whose fruits attract local and migratory birds.

KLCC Park provides a calm and tranquil retreat in the midst of Kuala Lumpur's business district, and it is indeed a right choice for relaxation and recreation.

Burle Marx once quoted that his greatest desire would be to simply "leave the world a little more sensitive and a little more educated to the importance of nature".

Surely, KLCC Park with its flora and fauna will continue to grow under the "watchful eyes" of its designer, all year round.

-- BERNAMA

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