



EMBASSY OF MALAYSIA BERLIN

e-Newsletter

Volume 7, Q4 2016

IT'S A WRAP!

We look back at some of the highlights of 2016 in our "2016 in Retrospect"

In this issue:

- Malaysia to continue to clear misconceptions surrounding the palm oil industry.
- MCB elects its new Executive Committee.
- Another Malaysian classic to try at home.
- And more.

Ambassador's Message



Dear readers,

Let me begin by wishing everyone happy New Year. I hope that all of us have had a wonderful time during the recent holiday season with family and loved ones.

Year 2016 has just drawn its curtain, and what a year it has been! In Europe we have seen new events unfold while existing challenges continue to call for our response. During times like this, it is certainly important for us to exhibit resilience while trying to find solutions together. I certainly hope that we will be able to edge closer towards finding solutions to these challenges in 2017.

For the Embassy of Malaysia, 2016 has been memorable. For the first time in more than a decade, we organized an official visit of the Prime Minister of Malaysia to Germany in September. The visit was a good opportunity to look back at Malaysia-Germany relations, which dates back all the way to when we became an independent nation in 1957. There were some decisions taken during the meeting between YAB Dato' Sri Najib and Chancellor Merkel that the Embassy will follow-up to in 2017.

In many of my engagements with Malaysian communities and other stakeholders throughout Germany, I have been stressing that the Embassy is the gateway to Malaysia in Germany, and that one should not shy away from us. Let me reiterate that we are here to help you in any way we can, and please do not hesitate to get in touch with me or my colleagues at the Embassy if we can be of assistance to you.

Lastly, I thank you for the good cooperation that you have extended to the team at the Embassy and I thus far and hope that such cooperation will continue in 2017. I also wish you happiness, health and success in your endeavor, wherever you may be.

With best wishes,

DATO' ZULKIFLI ADNAN
Ambassador

2 January 2017

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS OBSERVED BY THE EMBASSY IN 2017

Here are the dates of Malaysian and German public holidays throughout 2017 during which the Embassy will be closed. This might help you plan your appointments with the Embassy, especially for consular matters.

- Chinese New Year, 28-30 January (Saturday - Monday)
- Good Friday, 14 April (Friday)
- Easter Monday, 17 April (Monday)
- Labour Day, 1 May (Monday)
- Ascension Day, 25 May (Thursday)
- Seri Paduka Baginda Yang Di-Pertuan Agong's Birthday, 3 June (Saturday)
- Whit Monday, 5 June (Monday)
- Eidul Fitri, 25-26 June (Sunday - Monday)*
- National Day, 31 August (Thursday)
- Eidul Adha, 1 September (Friday)*
- Malaysia Day, 16 September (Saturday)
- Awwal Muharram (Muslim New Year), 21 September (Thursday)
- German Day of Unity, 3 October (Tuesday)
- Deepavali, 18 October (Wednesday)
- Reformation Day, 31 October (Tuesday)
- Maulidurrasul (Prophet Muhammad's Birthday), 1 December (Friday)
- Christmas, 25-26 December (Monday - Tuesday)

Dates marked * are subject to changes in the Islamic calendar.

Any changes will be notified closer to the date via the Embassy's official website and Facebook page.

2016 in Retrospect



1: Tossing *Yee Sang* to welcome the Lunar New Year, 13 January 2016.

2: Malaysia assumes the Chairmanship of the Berlin ASEAN Committee, 21 January 2016.

3: H.E. Ambassador speaking at the Asia Business Insights Conference, Düsseldorf, 25 January 2016.



4: Briefing by top management of ATOTECH Deutschland, 23 February 2016.

5: *Teh Tarik*, a Malaysian staple, prepared the way it should be - 'pulled' high, 27 February 2016.

6: YB Minister of Tourism and Culture, Dato' Seri Nazri Aziz, with the Governing Mayor of Berlin, Mr. Michael Müller, during the official launch of Malaysia's pavilion at *Internationale Tourismus Börse* 2016, 9 March 2016.



2016 in Retrospect



YB Minister of Tourism and Culture giving a thumbs up during the unveiling of Malaysia's tourism promotion taxi wrap, 9 March 2016.



Guests at the Embassy enjoying a session of *Joget Lambak*, 11 March 2016.



Getting ready to shoot a TV documentary, 2 April 2016.



H.E. Ambassador as a panelist at the ASEAN Investment Forum, Frankfurt, 19 April 2016.



A bit of stretching before going on a brisk walk, 22 May 2016.



School kids attempting to make *Roti Jala*, 24 May 2016 (More on *Roti Jala* in page 13).

Embassy Hosts Seminar to Educate Stakeholders on Sustainable Palm Growing Practices in Malaysia

There has been misconceptions surrounding the palm oil, particularly in the west. Much of the criticisms have been directed towards the environmental impact of palm oil planting. Widespread campaigns have been launched to demonize palm oil and despite steps that have been taken to improve production practices, prejudice towards palm oil remains. As one of the world's biggest producers of palm oil, Malaysia is feeling the heat.

Berlin, 26 October - As part of the Malaysian Government's efforts to clear misconceptions on palm oil productions in Malaysia, the Embassy, in collaboration with the Malaysian Palm Oil Board (MPOB) and Technical University of Berlin organized a seminar "Palm Oil and Its Importance: Food, Health & Sustainability" at the Embassy of Malaysia. Some 80 participants, including university students, think tanks, government representatives, business people and related interest groups. The seminar sought to provide clarification on benefits of palm oil from different perspectives such as food science, economy and security.

In his welcoming remarks, H.E. Ambassador Dato' Zulkifli Adnan stressed on the importance of palm oil industry to Malaysia's economy, with statistics to back the claim. He also high-

lighted that the practice of slash and burn is not done in Malaysia, and that palm oil production in Malaysia is always done with the environmental implications being taken into account. The visit of Prime Minister Dato' Sri Najib Razak to Berlin in September amongst others, emphasized greatly on palm oil issues. As follow-up to the discussion during the visit, the Embassy and MPOB will be arranging a visit of German Parliamentarians to Malaysia to observe palm plantation management in Malaysia.

The seminar featured 4 speakers who spoke on issues concerning the palm oil industry from different perspectives. Mr. Thomas Mielke, Managing Director of Oil World spoke on the importance of palm oil as a commodity that ensures livelihood of the people of the world; while Prof. Dr. Eckhard Flöter from the Technical University of Berlin spoke about the strengths of palm oil for food applications. The third speaker, Dr. Kalanithi Nesaretnam, Minister at the Mission of Malaysia to the EU delivered a presentation titled "Palm Oil: Food Safety, Health & Sustainability", and the last speaker Secretary General of the German Forum for Sustainable Palm Oil (FONAP) Ms. Maïke Möller spoke on procurement of sustainable palm oil.



Above: H.E. Ambassador with the 4 speakers after the lecture.

Right: Prof. Dr. Eckhard Flöter from the Technical University of Berlin delivering his lecture titled "Functionality of Palm Oil for Food Applications"



2016 in Retrospect



- 1: Participants of the attachment program for senior Malaysian civil servants with H.E. in front of the Embassy, 28 April 2016.
- 2: Elias David Moncado showcasing his talent, 4 June 2016.
- 3: Welcoming YB Minister of Human Resources and delegation to Berlin, 9 June 2016.
- 4: Signing the handover notes of the BAC Chair, 21 July 2016.
- 5: H.E. Ambassador invited as the Guest of Honour at the Diplomatique Salon organized by the Diplomatic Council, 26 July 2016

Wishing for further



6: Visit to the headquarters of TÜV Nord Group, Hannover, 28 July 2016.

7: YAB Prime Minister and delegation with participants of the dialogue with German business leaders, 27 September 2016.

8: Sharing a light moment with the Chief Secretary of the Government in front of the Malaysian Buddy Bear, 19 September 2016.

9: Welcoming the Chairman of the Land Public Transport Commission to Berlin.

10: Ambassador and wife with Celebrity Chef Dato' Ismail Ahmad (4th from right).

Kicking-Off Visit Pahang Year 2017

Pahang, located in the eastern part of the Peninsular Malaysia, is the 3rd largest state in Malaysia. With a land area of more than 36,000km² and a population of roughly 1.6 million, Pahang is one of the least densely-populated states in Malaysia. However, the relatively large land space means that the state is rich with variety of geographical features that harbours huge potential for industries such as tourism. It is houses some of the most picturesque locations in Malaysia such as the Pahang National Park, Lake Chini and Cherating Beach.

Berlin, 1 November - As part of the "Visit Pahang Year 2017" programme, the Pahang State Government organized a cross-continent expedition from Kuantan, Pahang to London, UK. Along the journey, the group made a quick stop in Berlin to freshen up before resuming their journey. The opportunity of the stopover was also used by the group to pay a visit to the Embassy and have a quick tour around Berlin. In the morning of 1 November 2016, the group was flagged off by H.E. Ambassador from their hotel in Zehlendorf. From Berlin, the group travelled another 800km before reaching its next stop in Amsterdam.

The group began their expedition in Kuantan on 24 September 2016 and reached their end destination in London on 2 November 2016, where participants took part in the World Travel Market 2016 on 7-9 November 2016. A total of 69 participants took part in the expedition, travelling in a convoy of 17 vehicles. Throughout their journey, the group drove through Thailand, Lao PDR, China, Kazakhstan, Russia, Belarus and Poland. After Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium and France before reaching UK.



From top: Home-based staff of the Embassy posing besides vehicles while they are being lined up for flag-off;

H.E. Ambassador delivering his words of encouragement to participants;

Participants and Embassy staff posing for a group photo before flag-off;

H.E. Ambassador flagging off the group.

Fostering Germany-Malaysia Ties Through Student Exchanges

Berlin, 15 November - After a successful first exchange programme with Sophie-Scholl School in 2015, students and teachers from SMK Infant Jesus Convent Johor Bahru returned to Berlin for a students exchange programme. The time around, Berlin French School was chosen as a partner. Eighteen form 3 and 4 (grade 9 and 10) students, accompanied by their school director Madam Geetha Nair and a teacher Madam Emilda Corea took part in the programme, which gave a small taste of what it is like being a school student in Germany while learning more about Germany's culture and making new friends.

The group also took the opportunity of the stint in Berlin to visit the Embassy. Together with their 29 students from the French School, the school's director Madam Ilka Steinke, French Principal Madam Corinne Gacel, Deputy Principal Mr. Eric Carlier, Programme Manager Mr. David William Jean-François Burmeister and teacher Mr. Thomas Baumann, the group came to the Embassy to learn more about the roles and functions of

embassies.

At the Embassy, The students were welcomed by H.E. Ambassador, who gave some insights on the work of the Embassy in his remarks. They also took part in parallel discussion sessions, one on Malaysia and its culture, and the other touching on Asia-Germany relations. Our Malaysian visitors also kindly presented some Malaysian cultural performances and songs to the host and their German friends. In a separate session, school directors and teachers also had a dialogue with H.E. Ambassador, during which they shared their experience in past exchange programme and discussed immediate future plans.

The students from French School are scheduled to travel to Malaysia for the second part of the exchange programme in January 2017. The Embassy wished them all the best and hope that their visit to Malaysia will bring a positive impression and unforgettable experience.



Spouse of Ambassador Takes Part in Fairytale Storytelling



MÄRCHENLAND (Fairytale Land, a German centre for fairytale culture) is an institution that aims to create awareness amongst the society of the almost lost cultural treasure of fairytale tales. Not many cities in the world can claim to match the fairytale heritage of Berlin, home to the famous Brothers Grimm. For this reason, it is only appropriate that efforts be made to turn Berlin into a fairytale centre of Germany, and maybe even the world. This year, MÄRCHENLAND organized for the 27th time, the Fairy Tale Days of Berlin with the theme "Sleeping Beauty Awakes...! Girls and women in fairy tales and stories".

Berlin, 10 November - The Embassy of Malaysia once again opens its door to MÄRCHENLAND, sharing fairytale tales from the eastern part of the globe. The spouse of the Ambassador, Datin Siti Hawa Othman, hosted 21 sixth graders from the Kant Primary School at Rumah Malaysia and shared with them the legend of *Puteri Gunung Ledang* (Princess of Mount Ledang). This was followed by a short video about the legend.

Special thanks to Pelikan AG for its support in making the activity a success.

What Happened in Q4 2016?

19 October - H.E. Ambassador travelled to Frankfurt to take part in the launching of *Bulan Bahasa Kebangsaan* (National Malay Language Month). The *Bulan Bahasa Kebangsaan* event was held in conjunction with the Frankfurt Book Fair. Chief Minister of Perak, the Honourable Dato' Seri Diraja Dr. Zambrzy Abdul Kadir, was amongst the dignitaries present at the event.



8 October - The Embassy organized an afternoon of table tennis at the Embassy. The event was held as part of the National Sports Day, first introduced in 2015. Staff of the Embassy and members of the Malaysian Club Berlin joined in hours of games and mingling.

6 December - The Embassy welcomed a group of 18 Malaysia corporate representatives, who were in town for a corporate immersion programme. Organized by the Malaysian Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC), the programme gave its participants the opportunity to gain insights on the innovation culture that is being implemented in German multinational companies and startups.



7 December - As a sign of appreciation for the close cooperation extended in making the official visit of YAB Prime Minister to Germany in September a success, an appreciation dinner for the State Chancellor of Federal State Mecklenburg-Vorpommern was hosted by H.E. Ambassador.

BAC Invites the Ambassador of Morocco to Discuss the Outcome of COP22

Berlin, 2 December - The Berlin ASEAN Committee (BAC) invited H.E. Omar Zniber, Ambassador of Morocco, to a meeting to find out more on the outcome of the then recently-concluded 22nd session of parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP22), which took place in Marrakech on 8-17 November 2017. The meeting began with a brief overview on key outcomes of the Conference by Ambassador Zniber, followed discussion. Much of the discussion centred on the future of the landmark Paris Agreement in view of possible policy shift in upcoming US administration.

The dialogue was held on the occasion of a BAC meeting held under the chairmanship of the Embassy of Myanmar. The BAC meeting discussed preparations for ASEAN's 50th anniversary celebration in 2017.



BAC Meets the Secretary of State to find out More on Germany's Role as ASEAN's Development Partner



Berlin, 9 December - A meeting with Secretary of State at the Federal Foreign Office, H.E. Dr. Markus Ederer, took place at the Embassy of Brunei Darussalam. Representing the Embassy at the meeting was Mdm. Rus Shazila Osman, Deputy Head of Mission. Focus of the meeting was exchange of views on developments that are taking place in ASEAN and Europe. Issues such as the South China Sea dispute, ASEAN-EU strategic partnership, Germany's reaction towards possible shift in US' foreign policy and Germany's future roles in NATO were some of the issues discussed.

BAC members also took the opportunity to get insights on how Germany intends to move forward its relations with ASEAN as a development partner. The ASEAN Summit in Vientiane in September 2016 agreed to confer Germany with the status of ASEAN's development partner.



MCB Elects its Executive Committee Members for the 2016/2017 Term

Berlin, 13 November - The annual general meeting (AGM) of the Malaysian Club Berlin (MCB) for 2016 took place at the Embassy of Malaysia. Some 65 members of the MCB, including new faces, attended the AGM. As per normal practice, members of the club were updated on the Club's financial status and also given presentation on the club's activities throughout the 2015/2016 period.

Following the conclusion of the AGM, an election for the 2016/2017 Executive Committee was held. The election saw incumbent President, Mrs. Ita Hellmuth, re-elected as President for the 2nd term, as well as the election of some new faces. The full result is as follows:

President:	Mrs. Ita Hellmuth
Vice President:	Mr. Kumaravel Jayaraman
Secretary:	Dr. Sabrina Lee Lin Lin
Treasurer:	Mrs. Silvamary Evers Chalia
Committee Members:	Ms. Janice Lee
	Ms. Matilda Moffat
	Ms. Silver Arcamedy Hennig
	Mr. Toy Jian Ying
Auditors:	Mr. Chua Cheng Hooi
	Mr. Azman Roslee Anuar

Malaysians in Berlin are welcome to join MCB. For more information on MCB, visit the Club's Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/Malaysia-Club-of-Berlin-1044789475545101/?fref=pb&hc_location=profile_browser



Above: Presentation of MCB's annual report by the President.

Top left: Executive Committee of MCB for 2016/2017 posing for a photo with H.E. Ambassador, Patron of the Club.



Bottom left: MCB members casting their votes.

MAKE A MALAYSIAN DISH AT HOME

Let's Make Roti Jala!

Roti Jala (literally translates to “Net Bread”) is another morning / afternoon tea/coffee staple in Malaysia. The lacy and net like pancake/crepe is also very popular during the Muslim fasting month of Ramadhan, during which it can easily be found in Ramadhan bazaars. Based on our experience, we found that Roti Jala is a guaranteed sellout whenever it is served at events hosted by the Embassy. It is easy to make, does not require too many ingredients, and cooking it can be a fun experience in its own. Some time back, a group of fifth graders visited the Embassy and we offered them a go on making Roti Jala as part of the activity. The kids love it!

Roti Jala is usually accompanied by chicken curry dip, but durian dip can be found occasionally, for those with sweet tooth. For this recipe, we will focus on making chicken curry dip, which is more common of the two.

Prep & cooking time: ~40 minutes

Ingredients (Roti Jala)

- 1 3/4 cup wheat flour
- 1 1/2 milk
- 1/2 cup water
- 3/4 tsp. turmeric powder
- 1 egg
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- A little oil

Steps

- Mix all ingredients (including a few drops of oil) and set aside.
- Heat a greased flat pan at medium heat. Pour batter on the hot pan using Roti Jala mold (or make your own mold by poking small holes at the base of a cup). As the batter flows through the holes onto the pan, move the mold in circular motion to create a ruffled “net” pattern.
- When the batter is fully cooked, fold/roll and take it off the pan

Ingredients (Curry)

- ~ 200g Chicken meat (diced)
- 1 large potato (diced)
- 1 onion (diced)
- 3 cloves of garlic (minced)
- 1 cm ginger (sliced)
- 3 tbsp. curry powder
- 3/4 cup water
- 1/4 cup coconut milk
- sugar
- Salt
- oil

Steps

- Heat pot and add oil.
- Sauté onion, garlic and ginger until browned and aromatic. Add curry powder and stir further.
- Add chicken and potato. Add water and let it simmer.
- Add coconut milk and let it simmer once again.
- Add sugar and salt to taste.



1



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1: Classic Roti Jala with curry.

2: Roti Jala mold.

3: Pouring the batter in circular motion to create the “net” effect.

4: An alternative way to serve Roti Jala - with sweet and creamy durian dip.



Have ideas on how we can improve future s-Newsletter publications,
or maybe contents/ articles that you would like to share?

Write to us at info@malemb.de

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