

# MALAYSIA NEWS BULLETIN

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The Consulate General of Malaysia in Dubai, UAE



Burj Al-Arab



Burj Khalifa



Atlantis

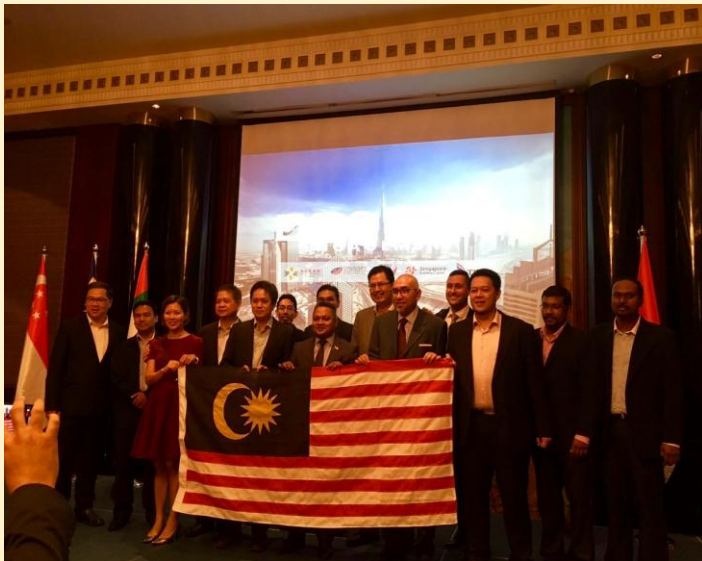
## ASEAN DAY GATHERING



In conjunction with the 49<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Day, the Consulate General officers and heads of agencies based in Dubai gather to celebrate the event at the Consulate premise.

Almost all heads of agencies attended the said gathering. The event was concluded with lunch prepared by the Consulate and Education Malaysia staffs.

## ASEAN BUSINESS COUNCIL ALLIANCE (ABCA) EXPO 2020 ENGAGEMENT



On 31 August 2016, in conjunction with the Malaysian National Day, the ASEAN Business Council Alliance organised the launch of ABCA with ASEAN Consul Generals at the Dusit Thani Hotel, Dubai.

The event was attended by more than 200 businessmen, consulate staffs and corporate leaders among the ASEAN country nationals in Dubai, UAE.

The event was the first of its kind organised and was well received by the ASEAN group.

Gulf News Sept. 1, 2016

A8 NATION

# Be Asian but do not forget your roots, Malaysians urged

SPEAKER ADDRESSES GATHERING HELD TO MARK INDEPENDENCE FROM BRITISH RULE IN 1957

DUBAI  
BY JANICE PONCE DE LEON  
Staff Reporter

**M**alaysians in Dubai have been urged to remember their country and to foster unity and solidarity despite their different backgrounds as they celebrated their Independence Day yesterday.

Some members of the Malaysian community in Dubai gathered on Tuesday night for a simple ceremony commemorating their country's independence from British colonial rule on August 31, 1957.

A bigger celebration will be held in September to mark both the Independence Day (Merdeka Day) and Malaysia Day celebrated every September 16 in commemoration of the formation of the Malaysian Federation.

The Speaker of the House of Representatives in the Malaysian Parliament Pandikar Amin Haji Mulla, who was in Dubai for a short visit after his official visit to Iran, said while he knows that Malaysians are enjoying themselves in the UAE, they should still remember their roots and continue to be "Sehati, Sejwa" (One heart, One Soul), which is this year's theme.

"We in Malaysia are multi-religious, multi-cultural. We always pride ourselves on being truly Asian, that's why we say Malaysia, truly Asia," Mulla said.

"Do not forget your country. Live by whatever culture you



Pandikar Amin Haji Mulla, Speaker of the House of Representatives in the Malaysian Parliament, with his wife and Consul-General Yubazlan Yusof (left).

**7,000**  
Malaysians in the UAE, nearly 4,000 of whom live in Dubai.

have [with respect to] other cultures. Respect the law of the host country. Among yourselves, help each other. Work together and continue to be law-abiding residents here," he added.

Consul-General Yubazlan Yusof said this year's theme is significant for its people.

"Malaysia is a little bit different in terms of composition of

**\$6.14b**  
Bilateral trade between Malaysia and the UAE in 2015.

people. We have Malays, Chinese, Indians, and indigenous people. So it's very important to be of one heart and one soul. We expect Malaysians to behave as one. Even though our backgrounds are different we should be one during good times and bad times," Yusof said.

Current political issues back home are causing divisive-

**Malaysia is a little bit different in terms of composition of people. We have Malays, Chinese, Indians, and indigenous people. So it's very important to be of one heart and one soul."**

**Yubazlan Yusof**  
Consul-General of Malaysia

ness in Malaysia, threatening the people's spirit of togetherness. But Yusof said he is confident Malaysians will ride this through.

Currently, there are around 7,000 Malaysians in the UAE, nearly 4,000 of whom are in Dubai. The number of Malaysians in Dubai, however, is declining as many of them are being recalled home by their companies due to the oil and gas situation in the region.

**'Largest trading partner'**

The UAE is Malaysia's largest trading partner, the largest export destination and the largest import source in the GCC.

In 2015, bilateral trade between Malaysia and the UAE rose to \$6.14 billion (Dh22.5 billion), up 86.07 per cent from \$3.30 billion in 2006.

## RAMADAN KAREEM



HARMONY IN DIVERSITY .. Guests from various faiths sit together and enjoy a sumptuous iftar at Malaysian Consul-General Yuzbuzan Yusof's home in Dubai. — Photos by Rahul Gajjar

# MUHIBAH WITH A MALAYSIAN FAMILY

Angel Tesoro

**R**amadan is about embracing compassion and showing mercy as well as promoting acceptance and empathy," said Malaysian consul-general Yuzbuzan Yusof. "In Malaysia, the holy month is marked by the community spirit called 'Muhabah'."

It means racial harmony, and that's what we experienced at the iftar he and his family hosted at their villa in Al Barsha on Sunday, where guests from various faiths sat together and enjoyed a sumptuous meal.

"Ramadan in Malaysia is about community," consul-general Yusof told us after we had settled down.

"Back in Malaysia, we cook more than usual and send food to our neighbours — be they Muslims or non-Muslims."

"We promote this sense of belonging because Malaysia is not just a Muslim country, we have Christians, Buddhists, Hindus and other religions. Some of them even fast during Ramadan. And we also celebrate Christmas, Chinese New Year and Diwali. We embrace each other and respect each other. Islam is the state religion but people can practice their faith without any

### Menu for Iftar

- **Bubur Lambuk** — Flavourful porridge with spices, similar to horsec, usually cooked during Ramadan and distributed at mosques
- **Nasi Kerabu** — blue-coloured rice popular in east coast of Malaysia served with sokak lada (light green chilies filled stuffed with fish and coconut, fried fish or chicken, vegetables, budu (fermented fish sauce), and kepok (crackers).
- **Mee Goreng** — fried noodle
- **Rohan Goreng** — stir-fried rice vermicelli with sweet soy sauce
- **Kari Popp** — corn puff similar to

samosa fried chicken, fish and grilled meat

### Dessert

- **Seri Muka** — literal translation pretty face, a creamy green and white two-layered glutinous rice dessert
- **Bingka Ubi** — baked baposa cake
- **Sagu Gula Melaka** — pudding with palm sugar
- **Buah Melaka** — green-coloured bite sized glutinous rice ball coated in grated coconut with palm sugar inside
- **Tropical fruits**

### How Islam came to Malaysia

Islam was brought to Malaysia by Indian Muslim traders during the 12th century. The religion was adopted peacefully — absorbing rather than conquering existing beliefs — by the coastal people of Malaysia as well as Indonesia. And by the 15th and 16th centuries, Islam became the majority faith of the Malay people.

**Malaysians in the UAE: 7,000. In Dubai: 3,000**  
Most of them are consultants, pilots, and engineers in the oil and gas industry.



Yusof's wife Tengku Sakiah Terku Zaki plays the perfect host. All the food items were prepared by the wives of the consuls.

problem, like in Dubai," explained consul-general Yusof.

One of his guests and long-time friend, KC Cheak, who is also fasting despite being a Buddhist, added: "We grew up together and we feel for each other. Sometimes, if there is an urge for us to eat or drink, we do so discreetly."

Although back in Malaysia there is no law that prohibits anyone from eating or drinking in public, we do not want to hurt or disrespect our Muslim brothers."

Consul Normal Sitanragam, a

Hindu, said that Malaysia, a nation of 31 million people with 60 per cent being Muslim, is a multi-cultural country and respect for one's religion and culture is the foundation of the country's well-being.

Keeping with the tradition is also at the heart of Malaysian culture and preparing for a feast or iftar is a shared responsibility. It was a big gathering — consul-general Yusof had invited his consuls and vice-consuls and their families. We were around 50 in all, including kids. And the food was prepared by the wives

of Ramadan in Malaysia is about community. We cook more than usual and send food to our neighbours — be they Muslims or non-Muslims."

### Yuzbuzan Yusof

of the consuls who are members of Persidangan Dubai, the Malaysian ladies association in Dubai.

Consul-general Yusof's wife,

Tengku Sakiah Terku Zaki, played the perfect host, while their four children — Nurin Badrin (13); Razin Daniah (14); Ainin Sofia (16); and Nuzul Khadija (4) — took care of the younger crowd.

Consul-general Yusof and his wife explained the menu (see box) and proudly presented the most popular dish in the eastern coast of Malaysia called nasi kerabu. Intriguing is the word, for the dish made of rice was blue in colour dyed naturally by the petals of the kerembang telang (butterfly-pea

flower) grown in their backyard. Our conversation was cut short by Azan and everyone got ready for Maghrib prayers.

We ended the fast with tamar karamel and some tropical fruits like rambutan, manggis (mangosteen) and mata kucing (lempang).

It was a very good meal, made more memorable by the lively conversation. Before we left, Consul General Yusof invited us to the Friday Ramadan Bazaar at the Malaysian Consulate in Her Dubai.

angel@khaalejtimes.com

## TUN ABDULLAH RECEIVED THE ABLF STATESMAN AWARD AT THE ABLF FORUM 2016

The 7th Grand Edition of ABLF Awards 2016 was held at the Palazzo Versace Dubai on 12 November, 2016. Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi also received the ABLM Statesman Award 2016.

The award was a recognition to Tun's contribution and endless effort in uplifting the economic status of Malaysia during his administration.



## EID FITR CELEBRATION



On 1 Syawal 2016, the Consulate General of Malaysia together with all government agencies in Dubai and Malaysian Association in the UAE (MY-UAE) co-hosted "Eid Fitr celebration with Malaysian Expatriates" at the MATRADE Hall, Dubai. The event is also one of the public diplomacy programme organised by the Consulate General of Malaysia, Dubai to establish rapport with Malaysians overseas.

The event was attended by more than 300 Malaysian expatriates together with their families from Dubai and Northern Emirates. The Eid Fitr khutbah was delivered by Ustaz Norsam Abdul Rahman, Vice Consul of the Education Malaysia office to fellow Muslims at the main hall.

## EID ADHA CELEBRATION

On 12 September 2016, the Consulate General of Malaysia, Dubai and Malaysian Association in the UAE (MY-UAE) co-hosted "Eid Adha Celebration with Malaysian Expatriats" at the MATRADE Hall, Al Safeena Building, Dubai. The event was also supported by prominent Malaysian companies in Dubai, UAE.

The event was attended by more than 500 Malaysians together with their families from Dubai. Tazkirah was delivered by Ustaz Shushilil Azam Shuib, Consul Education to fellow Muslims at the main hall.



**THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF MALAYSIA IN DUBAI, UAE IS OPEN  
FROM SUNDAY TO THURSDAY BETWEEN 0830 hrs AND 1530 hrs**

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## ACTIVITIES



Friendly Golf Tournament between Team SAS and TMF in Dubai 2016



Networking Session from NCCIM delegation 2016



Tun Abdullah received ABL Statesman Award 2016



Malaysian community attended special prayers function at MATRADE Hall on 2016



Bazaar 2016



Health Clinic by Medeor Hospital at the Consulate



DUBAI ASEAN CUP 2016



Transit YB Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs 2016



National Sports Day 2016

## ARTICLE ON MALAYSIA



**Muslim population:** Approx. 60%

One of the top-most halal friendly destinations in the world, **Halal holidays** in Malaysia are truly a unique experience for Muslim tourists visiting this South-east Asian country. Malaysia presents a great fusion of gastronomy, impeccable hospitality, and a multicultural/multi-ethnic population. The country's incomparable cultural and historic heritage, as well as its expertise in Halal hospitality, make it a traveller's delight. Besides, Malaysia's stunning island resorts and lush green tropical landscapes make it one of the most beloved **halal-friendly destinations for holidays**.

**Places to visit in Malaysia:** Malaysia boasts of a rich cultural heritage, from wonderful cuisines to a huge variety of annual festivals, to traditional architecture, rural crafts, and abundant natural beauty. Kuala Lumpur, Malaysian Borneo, Penang, Taman Negara, Cameron Highlands, Malacca, and Langkawi are some of the major attractions of Malaysia.

# TOURISM CHART



# OUTGOING HBS

1	Mr. Shushilil Azam Shuib	Consul Education
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