



Embassy of Malaysia Khartoum Newsletter

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NEWSLETTER ISSUE II

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1. cultural events



IFTAR GATHERING AT MALAYSIAN STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION RESIDENCE

1 July 2016

The Malaysian Students Association Sudan had conducted an Iftar session. The Iftar was hosted at the student's association residence in Ma'muroh. Ambassador Mustafa Haji Mansor attended the Iftar and was accompanied by Embassy's officials. Aside from the Embassy officials, a number of Petronas officials also attended the Iftar session.

The Malaysian students who had organized the event expressed their gratitude for the attendance of His Excellency the Ambassador, Embassy officials and Petronas officials. The event brought together fellow Malaysians who are working and studying in Sudan during the holy month of Ramadhan.



VISIT TO AN ORPHANAGE

3 July 2016

His Excellency Mustafa Hj Mansor, Ambassador of Malaysia to the Republic of Sudan accompanied by the Home Based Staff (HBS) had visited Darul Mastaqbal an orphanage which houses children between the ages ranging from 5 to 18 years old. The orphanage is separated for males and females. The purpose of the visit was to share the joy of Eidulfitri with the children at the orphanage. His Excellency had presented a tray of cookies to a number of children at both hostels, respectively.

Both the principals of the orphanage had expressed their thankfulness and were delighted that such an act of sharing the joy of Eidulfitri was carried out by the Embassy. The children at the orphanage were also pleased in receiving such a gift to celebrate the coming of Eidulfitri which was round the corner.



EIDULFITRI CELEBRATION

6 July 2016.

The Embassy and Petronas Sudan Office (PSO) had jointly conducted the Eidulfitri celebration this year. The Eidulfitri prayers and reception was held at PSO premise. The Ambassador of Malaysia and family, Embassy officials, Malaysian students studying in Sudan as well as a number of PSO officials and other fellow Malaysians attended the event.

The day began with the performing of the Takbir which was then followed by Eidulfitri prayers and subsequently with a reception. A number of Malaysian dishes such as rendang, nasi impit, ais kacang and other delicacies were prepared for the day. Though far from home for Eidulfitri, the event was celebrated in a joyous mood among fellow Malaysians.



THE EDUCATION MALAYSIA EXHIBITION

5 - 6 August 2016.

The Education Malaysia Exhibition is an annual event conducted in Sudan. The exhibition is participated by a number of public and private institute of higher learning (IHLs). For 2016, the event was held from 5-6 August 2016 at Gran Holiday Villa and received a high turnout. Malaysia has been a choice for many Sudanese to further their studies, either at undergraduate or postgraduate level.

His Excellency, Mustafa Mansor, Ambassador of Malaysia was present at the event and this further raised the profile of the programme and gave a chance for the potential students to engage with the His Excellency as well as the representatives of the IHLs concerning their field of study and interest.



MERDEKA DAY CELEBRATION

31 August 2016.

The Merdeka Day reception was hosted by H.E. Mustafa Hj Mansor, Ambassador of Malaysia to the Republic of the Sudan. The event was attended by Malaysians who are working and studying in Sudan. The event was held from 1800 hours to 2000 hours.

The event begun with the flag hoisting accompanied by the national anthem. In addition to that, a choir comprising of Malaysian children had performed two patriotic songs followed by a doa recitation and a speech by His Excellency.

Given that 31 August is a historical day for Malaysia, many Malaysian who took time from their busy schedules to attend the Merdeka Day. The gathering of Malaysian also provided an opportunity for members of the Malaysian community to mingle and discuss issues in an informal and relaxed atmosphere. Aside from that the organising of such an event is an opportune time to instil the spirit of patriotism.



ORIENTATION PROGRAMME FOR THE NEW MALAYSIAN STUDENTS IN SUDAN

05 September 2016

The Malaysia-Sudan Student Association had conducted an orientation programme for the freshmen that will enroll with the various universities in Sudan. One of the component of the orientation programme was engaging the Embassy of Malaysia. The purpose for such an engagement is to introduce the freshmen to Embassy officials, role and function as well a briefing on security and consular matters. Currently, there are 66 Malaysian students studying in Sudan at various universities. Many of the students major in the areas of Islamic studies such as Syariah, Jurispudence, Fiqh, Arabic and Quranic study.



EIDUL ADHA

12 September 2016

The coming of Eidul Adha begin with the recitation of the takbeer on the eve of Eidul Adha at Petronas prayer hall on 11 September 2016. Eidul Adha prayers and sermon was conducted on the following day. According to the history of Islam and in particular the Quran, Prophet Ibrahim was about to sacrifice his son when a voice from heaven stopped him and in exchange a ram was sacrificed instead. The act of sacrificing re-enacts Prophet Ibrahim's obedience by sacrificing a cow or ram or any other appropriate four legged animals permissible. Hence, during Eidul Adha, the act of sacrificing a cow or ram is undertaken by many Muslims.

The entire, event was organised by the Malaysians, from falling of the sacrifice, skinning, cleaning and preparation of the various dishes. The day ended with a sumptuous meal prepared for those who were in attendance.



MALAYSIA DAY

16 September 2016

Among the historical dates aside from 31 August, is 16 September. The date is synonymous to the day that the Federation of Malaysia was formally formed. An informal gathering was organised at Petronas Sudan Office and attended by fellow Malaysians based in Khartoum, Sudan. The gathering kickstarted with a historical documentary on the formation of Malaysia and followed by speeches from the representative of the Embassy and Petronas. A spread of various local delicacies prepared by the Malaysian community added the day's ambiance.

Though the event was conducted informally, the main purpose of the event was met i.e. to expose the current and younger generation to the historical events that led to the formation of Malaysia. Both 31 August and 16 September are significant historical dates for Malaysia.



HIS EXCELLENCY MUSTAFA MANSOR TALK ON THE SECRET BEHIND MALAYSIA'S DEVELOPMENT

12 October 2016

The programme was organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Sudan and International University of Africa. His Excellency was invited to speak on the Secrets Behind Malaysia's Development. His Excellency in his talk had explained the need for good leaders, governance and also planning to ensure continuation of policies. He further explained that Malaysia developed from an agriculture base economy to an industrialised nation. He also underlined the development programmes meted out throughout the years, the importance of institutions, rule of law as well as human capital.



THE NATIONAL SPORTS DAY

1 -3 December 2016

In conjunction with the National Sports Day which is celebrated on 8 October every year, MW Khartoum had undertaken the necessary preparations for the event. A futsal tournament among the Malaysians working and studying in Khartoum was organised. Eight teams with eight players comprising a mixture of embassy officials, Petronas staff, Malaysians working in Sudan and students was drawn out i.e. Akasia, Orkid, Anggerik, Cempaka, Mawar, Kenanga, Matahari, and Seroja. Two categories Cup and Plate was designed to cater to all the teams involved.

The event commenced at 0745 am with singing of the National anthem, a warm up session (aerobics) and subsequently followed by a welcoming speech by H.E. Mustafa Mansor. The tournament then began among the eight teams commenced and witnessed good sportsmanship among teams.

The winner of the Cup final was Cempaka while for the Plate final was Matahari. All other teams involved were awarded a token of appreciation as a sign of for participating in the event.

At the margins, the price awarding for those who took part in the We Malaysia Campaign (in conjunction with the National Day and Malaysian Day) was also conducted. A lucky draw to add flavour to the event.



3RD KCA BADMINTON TOURNAMENT

1 -3 December 2016

The 3rd KCA Badminton Open was organized from 1-3 December 2016. The event was officiated by H.E. Ambassador Mustafa Mansor, Ambassador of Malaysia to Sudan and H.E. Amrit Lugun, Ambassador of the Republic of India to Sudan. The tournament witnessed 68 registered teams compete. Malaysia also participated in the event. Representatives from the Embassy (Mr Istaq Nadzril Abd Kader, Mr Shukri Ahmad and Mr Ardi Erwan Shah), Petronas and Malaysian students in Sudan took part.

Pairing was undertaken in order to balance the strength of the teams and two groups were formed.

Each team were required to play four games at the preliminary level. The teams that fulfilled the necessary wins proceeded to the quarter finals, semifinal and finals.

The tournament witnessed good sportsmanship among the teams. The final was between the representative from the Embassy Mr Shukri Ahmad and teammate (from Sudan National team), who defeated the Sudan National badminton team.



3rd ASIAN CULTURAL FESTIVAL (ACF)



12 December 2016.

The 3rd Asian Cultural Festival is an annual event which started in 2014. Eight Asian embassies in Khartoum i.e. China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan and Russia participate in the event. The event consists of two components, first the food and cultural stall and secondly cultural show from respective embassies.

The event was officiated by H.E. Mohamed Zayed Awad, Minister of Petroleum Sudan. Malaysia had performed the Sumazau dance and a song entitled Nirmala. The performance troupe consists of the children from the Embassy and Petronas Sudan Country Office.

The Malaysian food stall was able to put on sale an assortment of traditional food such as curry puff, doughnuts, roti jalan, chicken rice, etc. The spread was well received by the crowd



HIS MAJESTY THE YANG DI-PERTUAB AGONG XV SULTAN MUHAMMAD V

13 December 2016.

Malaysia installed its 15th king, Sultan Muhammad V, a relatively youthful monarch known for his fondness for four-wheel driving and other extreme sports.

In a ceremony steeped in pomp and centuries of tradition, the 47-year-old Sultan, dressed in gold-coloured traditional Malay formal wear, took the oath of office in the national palace in Kuala Lumpur.

The ceremony, marked by honour guards and Islamic prayers, was televised nationally and attended by Prime Minister Najib Razak and hundreds of guests decked out in Islamic finery.

Sultan Muhammad V, currently the ceremonial ruler of the conservative Islamic northern state of Kelantan, takes the national throne under the rotating monarchy in place since independence from Britain in 1957. In a unique arrangement, the throne of the Muslim-majority country changes hands every five years between the rulers of the nine Malaysian states still headed by Islamic royalty.

Sultan Muhammad V studied at St Cross College at Oxford and the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies, according to official media. He is known for a relaxed public persona, taking part in walkathons to promote health, and has been photographed wearing a baseball cap backwards. The Sultan "fills his free time by reading and has an interest in extreme sports such as four-wheel drive expeditions and endurance challenges and shooting," Bernama news agency said.

Despite the merely ceremonial role, Malaysia's Islamic royalty command great respect, especially from Muslim Malays, the country's majority group, and criticising them is strictly forbidden. Portraits of the king and queen adorn government buildings throughout the country. The king is also the symbolic head of Islam in the nation, as well as the nominal chief of the military.

Malaysia's sultans trace a lineage back to Malay sultanates of the 15th century. The king is referred to as Yang di-Pertuan Agong, or "He Who Is Made Lord". Sultan Muhammad V replaces Sultan Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah from the northern state of Kedah, now 89, who was king previously in the 1970s and became the first person to hold the position twice.



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