

Warta Lima

JANUARY - JUNE 2016 HIGHLIGHTS

EMBASSY OF MALAYSIA, LIMA

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My Many Firsts in Peru...

By Liyana Puasa

When I first set foot at tarmac of Jorge Chavez International Airport in Lima on 12 June 2016 to assume my tour of duty at the Embassy of Malaysia in Peru, I knew it will be the beginning of a new experience of my career.

This is my first posting as a diplomat and also my first time in South America, my first time to see the Pacific Ocean from this region, breathe the cold salty breeze blowing from the vast Pacific towards the iconic cliffs of Lima City. The lingua fracas here, Spanish, is also unfamiliar to me as I am more accustomed to English and Asiatic languages. My first task here is to quickly pick up to learn Spanish. I am still learning them.

I look around me in this beautiful Lima city and come to realize that it will be 'my home away from home' for the next few years. At that point of time, there was really nothing much that could take my mind off my beloved motherland, Malaysia. The Malaysia that I really missed so much. The food, the people, the noise, the culture and the scorching hot sun to name a few. I could go on. The bottom line is that it was my first nostalgic feeling of homesick!!

Yet, I am optimistic that although this country, Peru, is almost 20,000 kilometres away from Malaysia, I am sure I will find the familiar similarities and exciting differences. Thus begin my first adventure in Peru to discover the city of Lima, the people, cuisines, music, culture and even landscape.

Peru, like all countries, has its high points and not so high ones. For one, the locals of Lima, has the resemblance physical looks and heights of Malays in Malaysia, while its cuisine and culture is relatively different from Malaysia. I missed the aromatic, spicy and acidic tingling in my taste buds as I could hardly find tomyam restaurant in Lima. Even the local Chinese food is infused with its unique Peruvian flavours.

I miss the food culture of Malaysia where we can have late snack or supper at the 24 hours mamak chain. In this South American region, food stores are much more regulated. On the positive side, I am thankful that the restaurants and shops in Lima closes later than most of the countries in the region. One highlight worth mentioning is that its seafood shops only open for lunch until early evening in order to retain its freshness to the customers.

My first horrific experience in Lima was the notorious and perpetual traffic jams. The traffic congestion reminded me of when I was travelling to Jakarta, Indonesia. The culture of driving in Lima involves a lot of honking, turning without proper signals and dashing in and out throughout the roads, mainly by the buses and taxis. One should expect a lot of lane intercepting, cars vertically crossing double lanes, and stopping along at junctions invites more honking. I am certain that one with a faint heart cannot maneuver the roads in Lima. If I ever wish to own my personal transport here, I first have to consider myself a road warrior. Cannot beat them join them!!!

The climate of Lima is usually described as mild and warm throughout the year without heavy rain, making Lima one of the driest city in the world. Given its location lying directly at the Pacific Ocean with Andes Mountain on the east, the geographical setup prevents Lima from having tropical climate including storms and rain from the Amazon reaching the coast. The rain in Lima is tiny droplets of drizzles that envelope the air for a long duration. This the first time I experienced such wet climate as I am used to the torrential rain in Malaysia which pour like cats and dogs. Average temperature in Lima would fall between 12 to 18 degrees, during winter and 24 to 28 degrees, during summer. All in all, the weather in Lima is very pleasant for one to enjoy.

Coming to Peru in the month of Ramadan, I was able to have my first Eid Mubarak celebration in Lima. I celebrated it humbly and modestly because my container is still at high seas. Lima has a small community of Muslims. The Eid Mubarak has indeed drawn us much closer together. I immediately appreciated the lontongs, lodeh, rendang, sambal kacang even more especially on the few open houses that were thrown by the small Malaysian families here in Lima. This was also the first time I had to prepare large quantity of food for big crowd. I am sure in time to come I will improve more...may be can become a Michelin-star-class chef.

I look forward to my many more firsts of experience in the duration of my tour of duty in Peru to serve the King and the Country. Hola Lima and Hasta Pronto Malaysia!



Daily happenings at the roads in Lima—Day and Night



Don't leave Lima without savouring Ceviche—National Dish in Peru

OUR ACTIVITIES

MATRADE'S First Trade And Investment Mission To Peru

The Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE) organized Seminar on Business Opportunities with Malaysia in Lima, Peru on 16 May 2016. It received overwhelming response from Peruvian business community. The first-ever Seminar was held as part of the trade and investment mission to Peru and also to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of bilateral relations between



YB Minister of the International Trade and Industry

Malaysia and Peru. Minister of International Trade and Industries, Y.B. Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed led the one-day trade program in Lima before embarking to participate in the APEC Minister of Trade Related Meetings in Arequipa, Peru. The Seminar was held with the aim to increasing Malaysia's export to Peru and expand the trade relations between the countries through joint ventures and partnerships.

MTCP Alumni Board Members in Lima is Established

Board Members of the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP) Alumni was elected on 15 June 2016 in Lima, Peru. The office bearers were as follows:

President

Dr Eduardo Sanchez Vergaday, a doctor at the Hospital Nacional Hipólito Unanue

Vice President

Mr Carlos Adolfo Colina Gil, works at Central Bank in the Human Resource Management Division

Secretary

Madam Paula Irene Figueroa Mori, a homemaker

Treasurer



Peruvian Students Keen to Learn Malaysia Strategies on TPPA



The students were enthusiastic to learn more about the strategies that were adopted

ESAN University in Lima invited Ambassador Chuah Teong Ban to deliver a lecture on the strategies adopted by Malaysia in the pursuit of the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) Agreement to the business administration students on 16 June 2016. In his lecture, Ambassador of Malaysia briefly introduced about Malaysia and the comparative similarity and difference between Malaysia and Peru as an introduction. He also outlined the various domestic institutional consultations among all stakeholders in Malaysia that were undertaken. In the process, views, inputs, impacts and concerns on the various provisions on trade and related matters under negotiation were gleaned. He also shared with the students on the cost analysis and the benefits to Malaysia in joining the TPP.

MALAY-LANGUAGE FEATURED ARTICLES

Lawatan Bakti ke Pusat Perlindungan Kanak-kanak



Duta Besar Malaysia bersama kanak-kanak Pusat Perlindungan Puericultorio Perez

Pusat Perlindungan Kanak-Kanak, Puericultorio Perez Aranibar telah ditubuhkan pada 19 Mac 1930 sempena nama pengasasnya. Ia didirikan diatas hartanah utama berkeluasan 14 hektar di zon Magdalena dan merupakan pusat perlindungan terbesar di rantau Amerika Latin. Sehingga kini, pusat tersebut telah dihuni oleh seramai 300 orang anak-anak dari peringkat bayi hingga remaja yang telah dibuang, diabaikan serta ditinggalkan oleh keluarga mereka yang tidak berkemampuan.

Sambutan ulangtahun ke-86 penubuhan pusat tersebut telah dilangsungkan di Auditorium Tomas Valle di pusat tersebut pada 3 Jun 2016. Duta Besar Chuah Teong Ban dan kakitangannya turut menghadiri dan meraikan sambutan tersebut bersama-sama mereka. Majlis turut dihiburkan dengan persembahan tarian dan nyanyian oleh kanak-kanak pusat tersebut serta persembahan badut. Persembahan badut yang ditaja oleh Kedutaan Besar Malaysia telah mendapat sambutan baik, jelas dari riak wajah dan senyuman kegembiraan mereka.

Duta Besar juga mengiringi kanak-kanak pusat perlindungan tersebut dalam lawatan berkelah di bandar Huaral, 100km di utara bandaraya Lima pada hari keesokannya, 4 Jun 2016.

Penyertaan Malaysia di Global Village Bazaar

Pada 12 Mac 2016, Kedutaan Besar Malaysia di Lima, Peru telah menyertai Global Village Bazaar anjuran Aiesec Peru di Explanada Estadio Manuel Bonillo, Sebanyak 11 Kedutaan Asing turut menyertai Bazar ini seperti Thailand, India, Rusia, Peru, Colombia, Jepun, China, Korea Selatan, Mexico, Colombia dan Malaysia.

Semasa acara tersebut, Malaysia telah menyediakan beberapa juadah tradisi sebagai pengenalan kepada masakan dan kebudayaan Malaysia. Persembahan Teh Tarik turut diadakan dan sambutan ke gerai Malaysia amat menggalakkan. Ramai juga turut mencuba permainan congkakBazar ini merupakan platform bagi orang ramai mempelajari budaya Malaysia melalui risalah pelancongan, hidangan dan permainan tradisi Malaysia. .



NEW MALAYSIAN REPRESENTATIVE IN TOWN

Ambassador Chuah Teong Ban presented letter of Credence to The President of Republic of Peru



H.E Chuah Teong Ban with the President of Peru Presenting His Credentials

H.E. Chuah Teong Ban, Ambassador of Malaysia to Peru has presented his Letters of Credence to H.E. Ollanta Humala Tasso, President of the Republic of Peru on 28 March 2016 at the Government Palace in a simple tradition ceremony. The Minister of External Relations of Peru, H.E. Ana Maria Schez were also present at the ceremony and during the audience.

After the presentation of Letters of Credence, Ambassador Chuah had an audience with President Ollanta Humala. They discussed on strengthening bilateral relations between Malaysia and Peru, particularly

Call on Foreign Minister of Peru

Shortly after arrival in Peru, Ambassador-Designate of Malaysia to Peru, H.E. Chuah Teong Ban was granted the opportunity to meet the Foreign Minister of Peru, H.E. Ambassador Ana Maria Liliana on 9 February 2016. During the Meeting, Ambassador Chuah extended a copy of the Letters of Credence to the Foreign Minister.

Ambassador Chuah and the Foreign Minister exchanged views on ways to strengthen bilateral relations and cooperation between Malaysia and Peru as well as closer cooperation at the international arena. The Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPPA) signed by both Malaysia and Peru would provide an ideal platform to further enhance cooperation particularly in the trade and investment sector.



MESSAGE FROM THE AMBASSADOR OF MALAYSIA

After months of planning and discussions with the editorial group at the Embassy of Malaysia in Lima, I am happy to finally see this e-newsletter materialized. This journal serves as our primary linkage with the public to connect and to showcase our various activities and initiatives taken by the Embassy. The maiden issue carries a modest profile given the small size of the workforce at the Embassy. However, I am confident that in the coming issues more exciting news and events would be highlighted.

FUTURE HAPPENINGS

July: Eid Festival Celebration by Malaysians and Peruvians

The joyous celebration of Eid Festival to be shared together with Peruvians and Malaysians in Peru.

July: Durian Filled Chocolates to make its maiden appearance in Peru

Malaysia to participate at the 7th International Chocolate and Cocoa Exhibition in Peru to showcase the exotic flavours of chocolates that Malaysia has to offer including Durian, Mango, Tongkat Ali, Chilly, Ginger and many more.

August: Malaysia to Celebrate National Day on the Radio Philharmonia of Peru

Mr Julio Heredia from the Philharmonia Radio, Peru will once again highlight Malaysia in upcoming slots including National Day of Malaysia, 31 August 2016 and in conjunction with Malaysia Day on 20 September

October: Sports Day hosted by the Embassy of Malaysia

Sports Day in October to create awareness of health in the warmer days of Lima.

November: Malaysia's Participation in APEC 2016

Peru will once again become the capable host of APEC 2016 on 17-20 November 2016 in Lima.
The last time Peru hosted APEC was in 2008.

CONSULAR INFORMATION: CONTACTS & REGISTRATION

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Email : mwlima@kln.gov.my

Hours: Mon-Fri, 9 am to 5 pm



Registration

Malaysian living abroad are obligated to register themselves at the nearest Malaysian Mission.

This is a requirement and is clearly stated in the Malaysian International Passport.

Malaysians who fail to register would face the risk of having their nationality revoked under Article 25(2) of the Federal Constitution.

Registering yourself would enable the Embassy to get in touch with you during emergencies or to inform on activities abroad.

Registration can be done by contacting the Embassy via telephone, letter or email using contact information above.

The information required are as follows:

- I. Name
- II. Passport Number
- III. Current address in the country
- IV. Date of arrival
- V. Expected date of departure

Alternatively, you can post the duly filled form to the Malaysian Mission Office.

Registration Form

Under Article 25(2) of the Federal Constitution, the holder of Malaysian International passport residing abroad must register with the respective Malaysian Mission Office

Name

Passport No

Current address in the country

Phone

Email Address

Date of arrival

Expected date of departure