

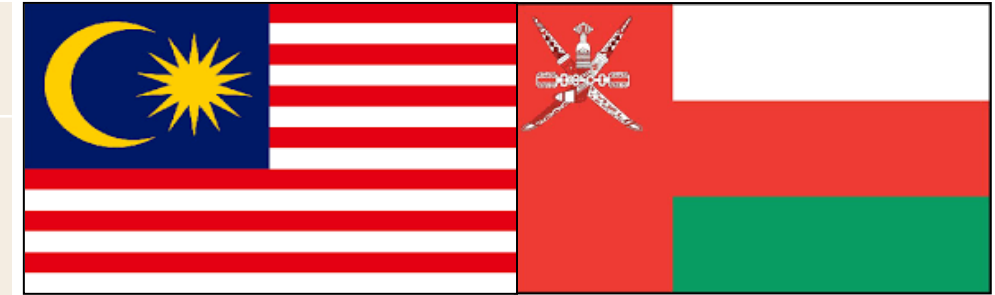


Ambassador of Malaysia to Oman

H.E. Shahril Effendi Abd. Ghany, Ambassador of Malaysia to Oman, and wife, Ms. Suriyah Abdullah, arrived at the Muscat International Airport on the morning of 8 May 2016. They were received by Mr. Fahad Mubarak Al-Balushi, Senior Protocol Officer from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in the presence of the Dean of the Diplomatic Corp, as well as colleagues from the diplomatic circle.

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Ambassador meets MFA's Chief of Protocol

H.E. Shahril Effendi Abd. Ghany, Ambassador of Malaysia to Oman, called on H.E. Nasser bin Mohammed Al Busaidi, Chief of Protocol at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sultanate of Oman, on 18 May 2016. The call was made upon H.E. Shahril's arrival in Muscat, Oman, to assume post following H.E. Dato' Umardin Hj Abdul Mutalib's end of tour of duty in February 2016.

During the call, His Excellencies exchanged pleasantries and shared their experiences in the diplomatic service. Both look forward to further strengthen the strong rapport established especially between the good office of the Protocol Department and the Embassy of Malaysia.



Malaysia's Institutions of Higher Learning in GHEDEX OMAN 2016

Dr. Syed Alwee Alsagoff, Senior Director of International Development of Education Malaysia Global Services (EMGS), led Malaysia's delegation of 10 institutions of higher learning at the Global Higher Education Exhibition – GHEDEX in Oman from 19 to 21 April 2016. Held under the patronage of the Ministry of Higher Education, GHEDEX 2016 was inaugurated by H.E. Sheikh Saad Bin Mohammed Bin Said Al-Mardhoof Al-Saadi, Minister of Sports Affairs on 19 April 2016.

The Malaysian universities that participated in the annual exhibition were made up of established public and well known private universities including Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM), Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), Universiti Tenaga Nasional (UNITEN), Binary University, Asia Pacific University of Technology and Innovation (APU), UCSI University, Infrastructure University Kuala Lumpur (IUUKL), Limkokwing University of Creative Technology, The University of Nottingham Malaysia Campus and Quest International University. A total of 23 countries, including US and UK, with over 200 top-notch universities and colleges participated in the exhibition showcasing their products in the Sultanate.

The delegation also paid a visit to the Embassy of Malaysia in Oman and had an interactive meeting with officials at the Embassy. Representatives from the respective universities shared their experiences in handling foreign students at their institutions and discussed ways to attract more Omani students to study in Malaysia. On behalf of the delegation, Dr Syed Alwee thanked the Embassy for its continuous support in promoting Malaysia as an educational hub to Omanis in the Sultanate.

Voice of MUSCAT

Malaysia Trade Fair 2017



Malaysia Trade Fair 2017 is expected to be held from 12 to 14 January 2017 at the new complex of Oman International Exhibition Centre in Muscat, Oman. The event aims to bring together some 80 Malaysian companies from various industries under one roof where a footfall of 15,000 visitors is expected to visit the 3-day exhibition.

The inaugural event will be organised by Gulf International Expo in partnership with Mindinspire Solutions LLC, a Malaysian company based in Oman. It would be an ideal platform for Malaysian companies to showcase its products and expertise to Oman and the Middle East market.

For more information go to
www.malaysiantradefair.com

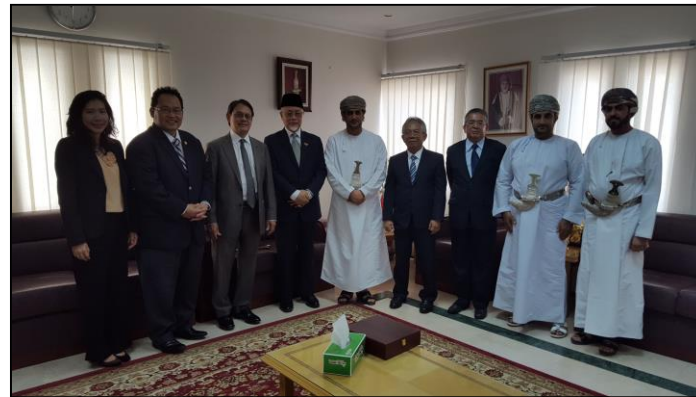
Hari Raya Aidil Fitri in Muscat



Open House at Rumah Malaysia

H.E. Shahril Effendi Abd. Ghany, Ambassador of Malaysia to Oman, hosted his inaugural *Hari Raya Aidil Fitri* open house on the first day of Syawal on 6 July 2016. The open house was attended by Malaysians in Oman especially those in the healthcare and aviation sector who were unable to return home due to work commitments

Despite being away from home and loved ones, Aidil Fitri was celebrated in a joyous mood. Almost one hundred Malaysians from all walks of life attended the open house donning their *baju* Raya and national costumes. The food served also reminded of home with the must haves such as *nasi impit*, *rendang daging*, *kuah kacang*, nasi tomato, ayam masak merah and *sambal goreng jawa* courtesy of Puan Suriyah Abdullah, wife to the Ambassador of Malaysia. Homemade Raya biscuits also add to the merriment of the occasion in the form of *Kuih Makmur*, Almond London, Cornflakes Madu and Pineapple Jam Tart.



VISIT OF ASEAN COMMITTEE IN MUSCAT (ACM) TO SOHAR 25 MAY 2016

The ASEAN Committee in Muscat (ACM) organised a working visit to Sohar on 25 May 2016. The Embassies of Brunei Darussalam, Republic of Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand and the Consulate-General of the Republic of Singapore participated in the familiarisation tour.

During the visit, the ACM paid a courtesy call on H.E. Sheikh Ali bin Ahmed al Shamsi, Governor of Sohar. This was followed by a meeting with a delegation from the Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI) Al Batinah Branch led by Eng. Hafedh Nasser al Rubaiey, Vice Chairman of OCCI.

The ACM also visited the Port of Sohar and received a briefing by Mr. Jamal T. Aziz, CEO of Sohar Freezone, who hosted a luncheon for the ACM delegation followed by tour of the Sohar Port and Freezone.

The visit had established and promoted networking between the ACM and the business entities in Sohar. The ACM was also enlightened on the workings of the Sohar Port and Freezone.



PERWAKILAN Muscat organised Malaysian Street Food Bazaar 2016

The 2nd Malaysian food bazaar was successfully organized by the ladies of PERWAKILAN Muscat, led by YBhg. Datin Faridah Shariff, former President of PERWAKILAN Muscat. The event was held at the official residence of the Ambassador of Malaysia to Muscat on 6 February 2016. It was well attended by Malaysians in Oman, the diplomatic circle, media representatives, ASEAN communities as well as Omanis.

More than 15 stalls were set up to sell more than 50 varieties of Malaysian food such as *roti canai*, *nasi lemak*, *mee goreng*, *satay*, *nasi ayam*, *laksa nasi*, *nasi tomato*, *nasi kerabu*, *ayam percik* and many more. Mouthwatering deserts such as *cendol*, *tapai*, *bubur kacang*, *pengat pisang*, *onde-onde* and *bingka ubi* were also made available to the huge crowd who came to taste Malaysian food and experience the *pasar-malam* like environment. The aroma of the chicken and beef satay being grilled, the *roti canai* being tossed and twirled with the sound of ice for *cendol* being shaved in the background made it a truly fulfilling day.

The Omanis, who had lived and studied in Malaysia voiced their happiness at being able to experience such moments again and hope that this would be made into an annual event. Ladies from the ASEAN Ladies Circle (ALC) and the diplomatic corp also came to support the event and were introduced to Malaysian crafts such as the hand painted batik, *tikar mengkuang*, kain sarong, *bunga telur* and others. The event received media coverage by the local dailies which helped to promote the uniqueness of Malaysian food and crafts to the people of Oman.

Huge Turnout at Malaysia Fruits Festival 2016



H.E. Shahril Effendi Abd. Ghany, Ambassador of Malaysia to Oman, launched the maiden Malaysia Fruits Festival 2016 on Saturday, 21 May 2016, at Carrefour, City Centre Muscat, Sultanate of Oman. The event was organized by the Malaysia Agriculture Consul Office in Dubai in collaboration with the Embassy of Malaysia in Oman and Carrefour, City Centre Muscat, Sultanate of Oman.

Present at the launch were Mr. Shahid bin Abu Bakar, Agriculture Consul at the Malaysia Agriculture Consul Office in Dubai, Mr. Elias Michel Yazbeck, Vice President of Marketing and Sourcing of Carrefour, and Mr. Abd. Aziz Sakiman, Malaysia fruit exporter from DRS Trading Sdn. Bhd. Also present were local importers, members of the diplomatic corp and the media. The one-day promotion was a huge success with a large turnout by the local public whom were treated to free sampling of almost 500kg of fruits such as mango, pineapple, jackfruit, rock melon, rose apple, papaya, watermelon and starfruit. A variety of by-products made from Malaysian fruits such as mango cheese tartlets, jackfruit jelly, mixed fruit salads, puddings and papaya pickle were sampled by the public. Mr. Ahmad Ridhaudeen Abdul Morat also demonstrated his fruit carving skills by carving the prominent Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque on a watermelon at the launch.

H.E. Ambassador of Malaysia expressed hope that this initiative would translate to an increase in the bilateral trade of the fruit products between Malaysia and Oman in the coming years. As of 2015, bilateral trade in fruit products stood at about RO167,000 worth of export.

Mr. Shahid bin Abu Bakar, Malaysia's Agriculture Consul in Dubai is also optimistic that more varieties of fruits from Malaysia will be made available in Carrefour in the coming weeks. This is made possible with ongoing efforts by the Agriculture Consul Office in Dubai to match-make local Omani importers with Malaysia's fruits exporters.