



# E-NEWSLETTER

## CONSULATE OF MALAYSIA, PONTIANAK



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[At the KompasTV Studio, Pontianak: Interview on Malaysia-Indonesia border management, issues and challenges](#)

## The Consulate Intensifies Engagement With The Local Media

**Dispelling Misconceptions, Promoting Friendship and Harmony**

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For the first half of 2017, the Consulate of Malaysia in Pontianak intensified efforts to engage with the local media. Several activities were successfully organized with the media.

For the West Kalimantan Province of Indonesia, which shares borders with Malaysia particularly with the State of Sarawak, news regarding Malaysia are often reported by the local media. These include a range of topics such as economic cooperation, border issues, exchanges of visits and cultural activities. However, none are reported and sensationalized more often than issues involving transnational crime such as cross-border drug smuggling, human trafficking and illegal trade.

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Discussions on the city of Pontianak, its attraction, development and potential cooperation with Malaysia at Pontianak TV Studio

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Given the frequency of such reports, mostly affecting Malaysia's image, the Consulate took steps to explain and brief the media on Malaysia's policies, actions taken and cooperation with Indonesia in tackling these various issues of mutual concern.

Some of the activities held include a luncheon and breaking fast with representatives of the local media including TV stations such as TVRI, KompasTV

and PonTV; newspapers including Pontianak Post, Suara Pemred, Equator and Pontianak Tribune; electronic media Okezone; as well as the national news agency ANTARA.

The engagements resulted in Mr. Mohiuddin Ghazali, Consul of Malaysia being invited to partake in several talkshows. In January 2017, the Consulate took part in a live interview on "Potensi Perdagangan Malaysia-Indonesia Pasca Perasmian Entikong" on TVRI. Similarly, the Malaysian Consul was interviewed by KompasTV on "Pengawasan Perbatasan Malaysia-Indonesia" and by PonTV on "Pontianak Di Mata Negeri Jiran" both in April 2017.

It is hoped that these engagements would help to dispel misconceptions on Malaysia, particularly doubts by the local community on its commitment in combating crossborder/transnational crimes and help to promote closer friendship and harmony between the people of Malaysia and Indonesia. ■

## Luncheon With The Local Media

**On 22 February 2017, the Malaysian Consulate organized a luncheon at the Golden Tulip Hotel, Pontianak for the local media.**

16 representatives from the local media including TVRI Kalbar, KompasTV, PonTV, Pontianak Post, Suara Pemred, Equator, Pontianak Tribune, ANTARA news agency and electronic media Okezone attended the luncheon.

The luncheon provided the opportunity for both the Consulate and the local media to get to know each other at a more personal level. Views on various issues such as domestic politics and international affairs were also exchanged.

The luncheon concluded with an interview on the Malaysian Consul by members of the media on current issues involving cooperation between Malaysia and Indonesia to tighten security along the border. ■





Dr. Muallimin Sahid (second from left), Senior Lecturer USIM and Dr. H. Hamka Siregar (second from right), Rector of IAIN Pontianak shaking hands following the signing of the MoU. Mr. Mohiuddin Ghazali (left), Malaysian Consul and Dr. Zaenuddin (right), Deputy Rector witnessed the ceremony



The Malaysian Consul was interviewed by TVRI



Delegation from USIM visited the Consulate and was briefed on Malaysia-Indonesia relations

## USIM And IAIN Pontianak Signs MOU

**Faculty of Shariah and Law USIM and Faculty of Shariah and Islamic Economy IAIN Agree To Collaborate**

On 19-22 March 2017, a delegation from *Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM)* consisting of two lecturers and 21 students from the Astronomy Club, USIM visited Pontianak, West Kalimantan.

The objective of the visit was to witness the March Equinox which occurred from 21 to 23 March 2017. Pontianak, Indonesia happens to be the nearest city from Malaysia to witness the March Equinox as it is located along the Earth's equator. Besides the delegation from USIM, many astronomers, academicians and students alike descended upon Pontianak, to witness the Equinox which only occurs twice a year.

Whilst in Pontianak, USIM took the opportunity to sign an MoU on Cooperation between the Faculty of Shariah and Law of USIM and Faculty of Shariah and Islamic Economy of *Institut Agama Islam Negeri (IAIN)* Pontianak which had been negotiated for a few months prior. IAIN, is a public institution of higher learning under the Ministry of Religion of Indonesia.

The MoU signing ceremony was held together with an International Seminar entitled "*Pembangunan Falak Shar'i di Indonesia dan Malaysia*" and attended by around a hundred 100 guests including deans, lecturers, students and members of the media.

The MoU was the second signed between IAIN Pontianak and Malaysia's institute of higher learning. The other being *Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia*. Collaboration such as student exchanges, study visits, sharing of educational resources are envisioned in the future between the two institutes. The MoU signing ceremony and international seminar managed to garner the attention of the local media. ■

## Lectures and Briefings For Students Of Higher Learning

### The Malaysian Consulate A Source Of Information On Malaysia-Indonesia Relations And Bilateral Cooperation



Students of International Relations,  
*Universitas Tanjungpura*



Students of Media and Communication,  
*Universitas Tanjungpura*



Students from Astronomy Club,  
*Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia*



Students of Administrative Science and  
Policy, UiTM



Students of International Relations,  
*Universitas Tanjungpura*



Students from the Association of Cath-  
olic Students, West Kalimantan

**The Consulate received several requests from students of institutes of higher learning in West Kalimantan as well as Malaysia during the first six months of 2017.**

On 19 January 2017, the Malaysian Consul gave a lecture to International Relations students of *Universitas Tanjungpura* (UNTAN) on the Role of the Malaysian Consulate in Enhancing Malaysia-Indonesia Relations. The lecture was attended by 70 students and lecturers from the programme.

On 19 April 2017, the Consulate received 8 students from the Faculty of Media and Communication of UNTAN. They came to receive information on the Consulate's role in public diplomacy.

On 22 May 2017, two students from the Association of Catholic Students of West Kalimantan visited the

Consulate to seek information on the issues related to the plight of Indonesian workers in Malaysia.

Besides receiving requests for interviews and lectures, the Consulate also received visits from two Malaysian universities namely Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM) and Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Sarawak in March and May 2017 respectively.

Engagements and lectures with students provide the opportunity for the Consulate to promote Malaysia, its policies, history, culture and attractions to the young generation who will one day become leaders in the public and private sectors in their own right. To know Malaysia is to love Malaysia and it is in this respect, the Consulate hopes that its efforts would ensure the continuation of the close relations and friendship between the people of Malaysia and Indonesia for years to come. ■

## Iftar Hosted By The Malaysian Consulate

On 9 June 2017, the Consulate organized an Iftar for it's staff and family members, the Malaysian community in West Kalimantan as well as friends from the local media.

Around 70 guests attended the event which included the breaking of fast and a congregation of Maghrib prayer. During the event, the Consulate also handed out dates to members of the local media as a token of appreciation for their cooperation with the Consulate thus far.

Following the Iftar, the Consulate proceeded to convey donations to Pesantren El Amani, an orphanage which serves as a sanctuary to 20 children who are either orphans or from poor families. Contributors for the donations include Consulate staff and Malaysian company PT Minarmas (Sime). ■



The Consulate's staff and family members wishes all Muslims a blessed Ramadhan



Donations were handed over to the children of Pesantren El Amani, a local orphanage

Assalamualaikum wbt.

Warga Konsulat Malaysia, Pontianak ingin mengucapkan kepada seluruh umat Islam

"Selamat Hari Raya Aidilfitri  
Maaf Zahir & Batin"

Selamat  
Hari Raya  
Aidilfitri