



Ramadhan Mubarak

The Embassy of Malaysia in Rabat sends our best wishes to Muslims in Morocco and around the world, Ramadhan Kareem.



The Embassy of Malaysia in Rabat, Morocco in collaboration with the Malaysian Student's Association in Morocco (PMMM) held a "Buka Puasa" Gathering on 28 May 2017 at Rumah Malaysia to celebrate the month of Ramadhan.

There were more than 100 attendees at the said gathering namely the Home-Based Staff (HBS) and their families as well as Malaysian students in Morocco.

The food preparation was led by the student's organizing committee of students and the HBS of the Embassy contributed several home-cooked Malaysian dishes and desserts.

Ambassador's Note
Remarks from
H.E. Dato Jamal
Hassan

2

Reaching Out ...
Outreach and
Promotional
Activities

7

**2050 National
Transformation**
Be part of it

11

Announcement

12



Ambassador's Note

At the outset, I wish to take this opportunity to wish everyone a beautiful Ramadhan and pray that Allah (SWT) showers His Mercy and Blessings upon all.

This is my 6th year in Morocco. During that period and in my capacity as the Ambassador of Malaysia to the Kingdom of Morocco and Dean of the Asian Diplomatic Corp, I have witnessed that despite its geographical location, relations and cooperations between Morocco and countries in the Southeast Asia especially Malaysia have been steadily growing in depth and breadth.

The accession of Morocco to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in the Southeast Asia or known as TAC in September 2016 is a notable development that signifies the desire to have a stronger presence with the region.

The TAC will serve as a formal framework for Morocco to cooperate with countries in the region on the basis to promote perpetual peace, everlasting amity and cooperation for strength, solidarity and closer relationship. It will certainly further compliment the existing bilateral frameworks and arrangements between Morocco and the Southeast Asia countries including Malaysia.

But this is just the framework, or shall I say the 'House'. And this "House" needs to be filled by us, the people. We need to undertake tangible actions to bring meaning to these official frameworks between countries so that us, the people, can truly reap the benefits of cooperation.

Towards this end, I am pleased to note that since January to June 2017, we have had a full schedule doing just that. The Embassy has been in close coordination with various ministries and agencies in Malaysia as well as the Moroccan agencies to further promote and safeguard Malaysia's interest in the context of Malaysia-Morocco bilateral relations. The Embassy had the pleasure to receive the official and working visits of dignitaries from Malaysia. Many official meetings and initiatives had been arranged during the visits to ensure that these visits would be fruitful, impactful and directly contributing towards the strengthening of relations between Malaysia and Morocco. These visits will pave the way for greater cooperation and collaboration in the years to come.

The Embassy had also organised and participated at several outreach and promotional activities namely Outreach programme 1/2017, Lecture on "Protocol and Etiquette Practices", Demonstration of Malay Traditional Dress and Culture, and the Journey of Asian Culture Exhibition 2017. These engagements are intended to reach out to Malaysians in Morocco and at the same time showcase the uniqueness of our country to a community that is located more than 12000km away from Malaysia. It is my hope that these initiatives had gone directly to the hearts and minds of our targeted audience will carve a lasting impression about Malaysia.

There is a saying that "We have to look back to look forward". It is for this reason that the Embassy is pleased to document our journey for the first half of 2017 in this newsletter and share it in the public domain. I sincerely hope that you will enjoy reading this newsletter as much as we enjoyed putting it together.

May the Spirit of Ramadan stay in our heart and illuminate our soul from within. Happy Ramadhan!

H.E. Dato' Jamal Hassan,
Ambassador of Malaysia to
the Kingdom of Morocco

All in a Day's Work

Exploring Opportunities and Potentials

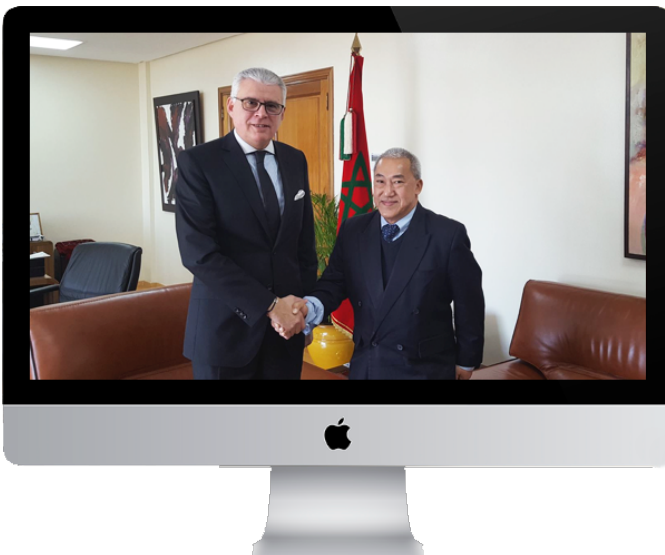


His Excellency Ambassador Dato' Jamal Hassan called on Mr. Mohamed Methqal, Director General of the Moroccan International Cooperation Agency (Agence Marocaine de Cooperation Internationale - AMCI) on 2 February 2017. The AMCI is of equivalent to the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme or MTCP.

The Ambassador and the Director General exchanged views on future possible collaboration vis-à-vis technical and capacity building programmes that could benefit the peoples from both countries.

Both sides will work towards identifying mutually beneficial areas of cooperation towards the strengthening of Malaysia-Morocco relations

Strengthening Malaysia-Morocco Relations



His Excellency Ambassador Dato' Jamal Hassan called on Mr. Mohammed Ali Lazreq, Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Morocco on 3 February 2017. The courtesy call was to discuss the way forward in further strengthening Malaysia-Morocco relations in 2017.

The Ambassador and the Secretary General both had a friendly and fruitful discussion on a wide range of issues related to bilateral cooperation namely on the education sector and capacity building programmes that are mutually beneficial for students and government officials and the cooperation of ASEAN with Morocco.

Both sides agreed to work closely to prepare for the Bilateral Consultation between Malaysia-Morocco tentatively to be hosted in Rabat in the 2017



Welcoming Fellow Malaysians!

On 14 February 2017, the Embassy held an introductory session for the latest batch of Malaysian students in Morocco. The Ambassador and the HBS of the Embassy reminded the new students to be focus on their studies and to maintain close contact with the Embassy of Malaysia in Rabat.

The 16 new students, who hailed from various states will be pursuing their first degree at the Mohamed V University in Rabat, Morocco in Islamic Studies and Arabic Language.



Nurturing the Younger Generation

The Malaysian Student's Association in Morocco in collaboration with the Embassy of Malaysia in Rabat hosted a Graduation Ceremony on 13 February 2017 to congratulate the 4 Malaysian students who have successfully completed their study in Morocco.

The simple but festive ceremony was attended by more than 60 Malaysian students and HBS of the Embassy.



Building Academic Linkages

His Excellency Ambassador Dato' Jamal Hassan accompanied Professor Datin Paduka Dr. Aini Ideris, Vice Chancellor, Universiti Putra Malaysia during her courtesy call on Professor Saa'id AMZAZI, President of Mohammed V University in Rabat on 15 February 2017.

The Meeting discussed further on the strengthening of cooperation on education between Malaysia and Morocco particularly between Universiti Putra Malaysia and Mohammed V University.



Bidding Farewell to Colleague

His Excellency Ambassador Dato' Jamal Hassan, and Datin Fauziah Mohd Nor hosted a farewell dinner in honour of His Excellency Michael Cheok and Mdm. Lucia Han at the Official Residence on 1 March 2017.

The dinner was attended by the other ASEAN Heads' of Mission in Morocco namely Brunei, Indonesia, Thailand, and Vietnam as well as Mr. Mounir Belayachi, Acting Director of Asia and Oceania Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Morocco.



Getting together with ASEAN Colleagues

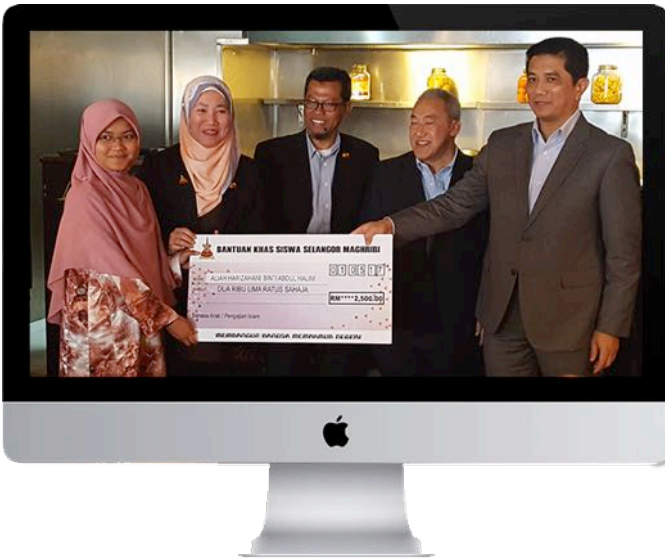
The ASEAN Committee in Rabat (ACR) hosted a reception in honour of the participants of the Training Course for ASEAN Diplomats on 6 March 2017. The reception was held at the Official Residence of the Ambassador of Thailand to Morocco who is currently the Chair of the ACR.

The inaugural course was organized by the Moroccan Academy for Diplomatic Studies (AMED) under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Morocco from 27th February – 9 March 2017. The participants had the opportunity to learn more about Morocco's foreign policy as well as to discuss opportunities and potentials in having a stronger ASEAN - Morocco relations.



Promoting Malaysia's Islamic Finance

His Excellency Ambassador Dato' Jamal Hassan made a Courtesy Call on Dr. Abdeslam Ballaji, President of Moroccan Association for Islamic Economy / Professor of Islamic Studies and Political Sciences to exchange views on the development of Islamic finance in Morocco and the opportunity for Malaysia-Morocco cooperation on 8 March 2017.



Meeting the Students

YAB Dato Seri Mohamed Azmin Ali, Chief Minister of Selangor made a Working Visit to Rabat on 1 May 2017 to meet with the Malaysian students who hailed from Selangor.

The Chief Minister held a dialogue session with the students pertaining to their welfare and wellbeing in Morocco. The students received financial assistance from the Government of Selangor to fund their studies in Morocco.



Promoting Moderation

Dato' Dr. Nasharudin Mat Isa, Chairman and CEO of the Global Movement of Moderates Foundation (GMMF) made a Working Visit to Morocco from 6-11 May 2017 to further promote moderation in Morocco.

Among the visit programmes arranged by the Embassy was a special lecture titled "The Global Movement of Moderates: Building Bridges and Banishing Barriers through Moderation" at the Mohammed V University in Rabat, Morocco.



Strengthening Malaysia-Morocco Inter-Parliamentary Relations

His Excellency Dato Sri SA Vigneswaran, the President of the Senate of Malaysia made an Official Visit to Morocco at the invitation of His Excellency Abdelhakim Benchamach, President of the House of Councillors of Morocco from 17-20 May 2017.

A series of official meetings was arranged by the Embassy of Malaysia in Rabat, Morocco in coordination with the House of Councillors of Morocco including the Meeting with H.E. Saad Eddine El Othmani, Head of Government of the Kingdom of Morocco and H.E. Nasser Bourita, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. The meetings arranged had provided the opportunity for both sides to exchange views on the latest development in Malaysia and in Morocco as well as on global political and security related issues among others on terrorism and the threat of radicalisation.

Reaching Out...

Outreach Programme 1/2017

The Embassy of Malaysia in Rabat, Morocco held its first Outreach Programme for 2017 on 19 March 2017 in collaboration with the Malaysian Student's Association in Morocco (Persatuan Mahasiswa Malaysia di Maghribi - PMMM). The programme was held at the lecture hall of the Faculty of Literature and Human Science of Muhammad V University in Rabat and was attended by more than 50 Malaysian students.



In his remarks, His Excellency Dato' Jamal Hassan, Ambassador of Malaysia to Morocco who is also the Patron for the PMMM, expressed the hope for the students to make full use of this outreach programme to learn and understand more about Malaysia's foreign policy as well as to know more about the significance of the establishment of ASEAN Community in 2015. He also reminded the students to keep abreast with the recent developments in Malaysia despite being far away from the country as well as to be aware of the developments in Morocco. The students were also encouraged to maintain close contact and to be registered with the Embassy.



The Outreach Programme, or referred to by PMMM as "Wacana Ilmiah", was divided into 2 sessions namely "The Introduction of Malaysia's Foreign Policy" and "The Establishment of ASEAN Community and Its Significance to Malaysia". The briefing for the two topics was done by Mr. Shahril Nizam Abdul Malek, Counsellor of the Embassy of Malaysia. It was followed by a casual and free flow discussion on Malaysia's Foreign Policy as well as on recent developments in Malaysia and ASEAN vis-à-vis foreign affairs.

This programme was organised as part of the "Program Mendampingi Rakyat Malaysia", an initiative by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Malaysia, to engage Malaysians abroad.

Reaching Out...

The Global Movement of Moderates Meets Malaysian Students in Morocco



Dato' Dr. Nasharudin Mat Isa, Chairman and CEO of the Global Movement of Moderates Foundation (GMMF) held a dialogue session with the Malaysian students in Morocco on 7 May 2017 to discuss and promote the concept of moderation.

Also present at the session was His Excellency Ambassador Dato Jamal Hassan and Counsellor Shahril Nizam Abdul Malek who played the role as moderator. The event was well attended by almost 120 Malaysian students who are currently pursuing their studies in various cities in Morocco.

Such an engagement had provided the opportunity for the students to learn more about the concept of moderation and the role of GMMF in promoting it. The discussion had generated much interests among the students who were keen to know more about moderation and be part of the Global Movement of Moderates.

The Embassy takes this opportunity to share some of the take-away points at the session as summed up by the Moderator:

1. The fight against terrorism is our responsibility. It is not just on Government. It is on us. It is upon us. For this reason, the Global Movement of Moderates Foundation is a platform established for us to stand and voice out our opinion against terrorism and extremism. So we have to work together side by side and not just be a spectator.

2. As much as we want to destroy the terrorists, we must not forget that they could also be the victim. As such, our approach must not only be punitive but must also be educative.

3. So we must recalibrate our hard and soft approaches. We must try to win the hearts and minds of the people. We must be coordinated and we must be systematic. We have to speak the language of the day. Saidina 'Ali R.A. once said, "truth unplanned shall be defeated by organized falsehood".



4. To do so, our approaches must be with knowledge. Must be with 'Hikmah'. Education is key towards awareness and language is a tool. As Malala Yousafzai said "With guns you can kill terrorists, with education you can kill terrorism"

The Embassy hopes that this would be a prelude to bigger collaboration between the GMMF and the Embassy of Malaysia in Rabat

Reaching Out...

Journey to the Asian Culture Exhibition



From 26 to 29 April 2017, the Embassy of Malaysia in Rabat, Morocco had participated at the 2nd Edition of the Journey to the Asian Culture Exhibition to promote the cultural diversity and the uniqueness of Malaysia.



This was done through various activities namely demonstration of calligraphy writing, cultural performance, exhibitions as well as food bazaar. The event was also participated by the Embassy of Indonesia and



Thailand in Morocco.



The 4-day event was well attended by mostly Moroccan students as well as the public at large who were keen to know more about the cultural diversity of the Southeast Asia region. The highlight of the event was the cultural performance by the participating countries.

The Embassy wishes to express our deep appreciation to the group of very committed Malaysia students who performed *Nasyid*, *Dikir Barat* as well as a fashion show of traditional dress in Malaysia.

Reaching Out...

Awang Kelana arrives in Morocco!

On 4 May 2017, the Embassy of Malaysia in Rabat, Morocco had the pleasure to host "Awang Kelana", a backpacker group that travels to various countries to promote understanding about the peculiarities and uniqueness of the Malay culture.



At the Official Residence of the Ambassador of Malaysia, the group presented the various ways of wearing the traditional 'sampang', 'kain pelikat', 'kain sarung' and 'tengkolok' while at the same time shared and elaborated the hidden message and meaning that came through the

various styles used. The group also held a silat demonstration.

The gathering was well attended by selected members of diplomatic corps, officials from several organisations in Morocco, students as well as all the Home-Based Staff and the Locally Recruited Staff of the Embassy of Malaysia in Rabat, Morocco. Many of which had the opportunity to learn to put on the sampang, tanjak and wear the kain pelikat.





2050 National Transformation

The 2050 National Transformation or *Transformasi Nasional* (TN50) is a new 30-year transformation plan for Malaysia. It is a new vision for Malaysia, announced by the Prime Minister of Malaysia during the 2017 Budget. TN50 aims to transform Malaysia into a nation of caliber with a new mindset. TN50 will span three decades, and the youths of all races will form the core of this new transformation plan.

On 19 January 2017, the Malaysian Prime Minister, Dato’ Sri Mohd Najib Tun Razak, launched the first series of national discourse to chart the nation’s direction on a new canvas as the 2050 National Transformation with some 500 youth leaders at Dewan Tunku Canselor, University Malaya. The general goal for TN50 is for Malaysia to become a top 20 country in the world by the year 2050.

In the run up to the unveiling of TN50 in 2019, there will be a series of discussions on what the Malaysian identity should be by 2050 – in terms of how Malaysians view themselves as diverse Malaysians.

The Ministry of Youth and Sports is tasked to collect views from youths in the first few months of this year, before moving on to other groups. The year 2017 will be spent collecting views from public with 2018 the year for the Government to have more focused discussions with experts to see whether the views and suggestions are realistic. Near the end of the next year or early 2019, the Government will form a policy document on TN50 to be announced by the Prime Minister.

“Let TN50 bear witness; (let it) be recorded in history that we are responsible citizens and forefathers, to leave behind the best and the greatest legacy to be inherited by future generations. “From now on, TN50 is our lucky charm. Let the old legacy pass. The future of Malaysia, we will recreate.” - Prime Minister of Malaysia, Dato’ Sri Mohd Najib Tun Abdul Razak, 21 October 2016.



TN50 will be the roadmap, after Vision 2020 that will transform the country’s economy, citizen well-being, environment, technology, social interaction, governance and public administration.

Announcement

To fellow Malaysians in Morocco, if you find yourself in an emergency situation, you can contact the Embassy 24 hours a day. The Embassy of Malaysia in Rabat can be reached at +212 537 658 324 / 55.

This Embassy is open from Monday to Friday from 9.00 am until 4.30 pm. If you have an after-hours emergency, please call the number below:

After-Hours Emergency Contact
+212 624 740 966



Since January 2017, the Official Facebook Account of the Embassy of Malaysia in Rabat has been established. You can follow us on Facebook at:

[www.facebook.com/
MalaysianinMorocco/](http://www.facebook.com/MalaysianinMorocco/)

The Embassy of Malaysia in Rabat will be closed on Monday, 26 and Tuesday, 27 June 2017 in observance of Hari Raya Aidil Fitri.

Should there be any urgency during the said period, kindly call the After-Hours Emergency number for assistance.



Sungai Disusur Sehari-hari
Dalam Gelap Menangkap Ikan
Kami di Kedutaan Menyusun Sepuluh Jari
Salah Silap Harap Dimaafkan

The Home-Based Staff of the
Embassy of Malaysia in Rabat, Morocco
take this opportunity to wish

سَلَامَتٌ هَارِي رَائِي عِيدِ الْفِطْرِ
SELAMAT HARI RAYA AIDILFITRI