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US collection for national library

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CULTURAL EXCHANGE: The American embassy presents 300 books, journals, compact discs and DVDs to the National Library of Malaysia

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THE American embassy recently gave a collection of 300 books, journals, compact discs and DVDs to the National Library of Malaysia (PNM).

The collection, which is entitled American Shelf, features American society, politics, culture and its role in international affairs.

Counselor for public affairs Bonnie S. Gutman presented the books to PNM director-general Datuk Raslin Abu Bakar at the embassy's Lincoln Resource Centre.

She said it was the best platform for the United States to share its knowledge and expertise, and promote cultural exchange between the two countries.

"I hope Malaysians will borrow

and read the books to stimulate and satisfy their curiosity about American culture. The collection also includes journals for research purposes," said Gutman.

Raslin said the books would help Malaysians to learn and understand more about the US, thus bringing bilateral cooperation between the two countries to a higher level.

"The authors represent American thinkers' contributions on a myriad topics, including history, politics, English teaching, education, environmental protection, creativity and innovation, science and technology, and American literature," he said.

"American Shelf will be located in the adult lending section. The collection enriches the library's book collection and promotes educational cooperation between the two countries."

Raslin said all the items in the



Bonnie S. Gutman handing the collection to **Datuk Raslin Abu Bakar**. On the right is National Library of Malaysia deputy director **Nafisah Ahmad**. Pic by **Salhani Ibrahim**

collection would have to be documented before they were available for borrowing.

"We strive to be a centre of excellence for national heritage and to

provide easy access to national information resources. We also want to inculcate the reading habit among Malaysians," he said.

Also present was PNM deputy di-

rector **Nafisah Ahmad**.

PNM has almost 4.36 million items, which include printed and digital materials. It has more than one million registered members.