

TV3 team wins inaugural Hawana pantun competition

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KUALA LUMPUR: TV3's Islamic Content Department won the inaugural Hawana-Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka (DBP) Pantun Festival 2025, defeating the Astro Radio News team in the final of the Malay quatrain competition, held in conjunction with this year's National Journalists' Day (Hawana) celebration.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim presented prizes to the champion and runner-up at the Hawana 2025 celebration at the World Trade Centre Kuala Lumpur (WTCKL) yesterday.

TV3's Islamic Content Department took home RM3,000, a trophy and a certificate, while Astro Radio News received RM2,000, a trophy and a certificate.

Radio Televisyen Malaysia and the Department of Islamic Development were placed third and fourth, respectively, in the competition, which saw the participation of eight teams.

A total of 32 participants took part in the inaugural event at Wisma Bernama, held as a curtain-raiser to the Hawana 2025 celebration that began on May 31.

TV3's Islamic Content Department team head Ahmad Fedtri Yahya described the win as highly meaningful, following two weeks of anxious waiting for the results.

"I couldn't sleep well, especially last night.

"It has been a while since I last competed, so I was really nervous.

"Honestly, I was a bit scared because people had such high



The victorious TV3 Islamic Content Department pantun team receiving their prizes from Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim. Team leader Ahmad Fedtri Yahya (second from right) says he hopes more pantun competitions will be held in future. NSTP-PIC BY ASYRAF HAMZAH

hopes when they heard I would be competing.

"But *Alhamdulillah*, we managed to become champions. I'm really grateful for that," said the television personality and pantun activist.

He hoped that such competitions would be held in future.

"I really hope this tradition continues.

"Even when I'm old, I'll still

come, if not as a judge, then as a spectator.

"Pantun is close to my heart and I fully support the continuation of this competition," he said.

In addition to the pantun festival, various events were organised for the Hawana 2025 celebration, the fifth edition since its inception in 2018.

The Hawana 2025 Carnival held

at Sunway Putra Mall from Friday till today, features 20 exhibition booths involving major media agencies, government departments and companies, such as Bernama, RTM, Astro, Media Prima Behd, the Department of Information, and the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission.

The Hawana 2025 Forum, jointly organised by Bernama and the

Malaysian Press Institute was held yesterday at the Tun Hussein Onn Hall, WTCKL, discussing "Malaysian Media Council: Regulator or Media Protector?", followed by technology-sharing session "AI and Media: Tool, Threat or Opportunity?"

Hawana 2025 also received sponsorship and contributions from nearly 100 strategic partners. **Bernama**