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PAAM 33RD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Recently PAAM successfully held its 33rd AGM on 22th April, 2018 at Best Western Hotel, Section 13, 46100 Petaling Jaya, Selangor.

A record number of 42 members attended this AGM which was preceded with a buffet lunch. During the AGM, the following amendments to PAAM's Constitution were deliberated upon and passed:

Amendment number 1: Associate membership category was deleted as there never was an application for this membership.

Amendment number 2: Life membership for those who fulfill clause 4.1 and who have paid the life membership fees may also be accepted.

Amendment number 3: Ordinary Members shall have the right to vote but shall not hold office in PAAM.

Amendment number 4: Notwithstanding Clause 7.1 of the above, whenever a general meeting is convened for the business of acquisition or disposal of a real property, at least one half of the total voting membership of PAAM or the voting members present represent seven times the total number of elected Central Committee members whichever is lower, present shall constitute a quorum.

This amendment is to safeguard the interests of PAAM as the new quorum requires at least 91 members to be present in any general meeting which is convened specially to discuss any acquisition or disposal of PAAM's real property.



(Continue Report on 33rd AGM in page 8)

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT, PAAM



PAAM's 33rd AGM has just been successfully convened on 22 April 2018 in Best Western Hotel, Petaling Jaya. A new Central Committee of 13 members has been elected to ensure that PAAM is run efficiently to benefit members.

As the new President, I am thankful that I have a team of enthusiastic co-workers in the Central Committee who are prepared to expend their precious time, money and energy to meet, plan and execute programs and activities for these two years (2018-2019) for the benefit of members.

What we will have in store for the coming months will be tea talks, social outings, study visits to places of interest, Annual Dinner, home-stay exchanges in Japan (in collaboration with HIPPO Homestay, Japan), cultural activities, etc which will be heavily subsidized by PAAM.

From time to time we will also announce to you the various training courses that will be held in AOTS Japan.

As a new project and if we can get the services of a Japanese language teacher to teach in the evenings, we may even organize Japanese language classes for all members in the evening, at PAAM's training centre. Upon successful attendance of the Japanese classes we intend to reward faithful attendees with a refund of the token fees paid, thus making it FOC. This is of course in the pipeline.

Like I always say, our Alumni Association will be as strong as the members make it to be. If members show interest and enthusiastically support our activities, PAAM will be even more active.

Of course all these activities will be highlighted in our regular PAAM Newsletter, as we wish to keep our members informed. In this respect, if you would like to contribute some of your original articles to this Newsletter, you are most welcomed to do so. And we will surely appreciate your published article with some token cash vouchers.

Finally, to all our Muslim members and friends, I take this opportunity to wish you all selamat berpuasa and Selamat Hari Raya Aidilfitri in advance.

Thank you and warmest regards.

Tan Teng Ek
President PAAM (2018-2019)

What is AOTS

AOTS or the Association for Overseas Technical Scholarships, a Japanese agency, jointly supported by Japan METI and the industry, is entrusted with the task of developing human resources in the third world. It has trained over 8000 Malaysians over the last 3 decades. AOTS is now renamed as HIDA.

All AOTS ex-trainees are entitled to be admitted as a member of the Persatuan Alumni AOTS Malaysia (PAAM) which is the alumni association for all who have participated in AOTS training programs or even events conducted locally by PAAM.

To be a member all you need to do is to fill up a membership application form and submit it to the Secretariat office. There are 3 categories of membership ie life member, ordinary member and corporate membership.

PAAM OFFICE

No. 52A Jalan SS 22/25, 47400 Petaling Jaya, Selangor
Tel: 03-77262863 Fax: 03-77282348 Email: paam@aots.org

Announcement

Articles for Newsletter

To make your newsletter more interesting, we would like to appeal for interesting articles from members. Your articles can be on any topic but should not be too technical. We would appreciate articles that are original and will make an interesting read, between 100 to 200 words. As a token of appreciation, PAAM will send you cash vouchers for articles that are published in PAAM Newsletters.



Japanese Language Teacher - Vacancy

WANTED – PAAM is looking for a free lance Japanese Language teacher who can teach small groups preferably in the evenings in clients' office premises. The person we are looking for must have teaching experience and must be able to speak the language fluently, if he/she is not a native speaker. Must have own transport. Interested – please write in to paam@aots.org for further details etc.



INTRODUCTION TO NEW CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2018-2019



Ms Jacqueline Hui Faat Choo (Committee Member)

Jacqueline Hui started off in her professional career as a teacher in 2 schools and later became a lecturer at Maktab Pengurusan Lembah Pantai and Maktab Pengurusan Ilmu Khas Cheras. After teaching for about 25 years, she joined Petronas as a Training Specialist, training their operational staff in upstream/downstream programs and Train-the-Trainer programs in Malaysia and overseas.

Later Jacqueline started her own Training Consulting firm with Petronas, IBM, the Lion's group of companies and local Banks as her clients.

She attended AOTS training on Organization Management in Nagoya and Osaka. She was in the Central Committee before and had offered skill programs in-house for PAAM members.

She holds a Bachelor of Arts with Dip Ed and a Masters in Education from the University of Malaya. In the recent PAAM's 33rd AGM, Jacqueline was voted into the Central Committee as a Committee member again.



Mr Yeong Soon Seng (Committee Member)

Mr Yeong was attached to Hitachi Sales & Service Malaysia Sdn Bhd for about 30 years. Later he started his own Customer Service Center to support Hitachi Malaysia's after sales service for household appliances. He has been running this Center for about 10 years already.

His first contact with AOTS was when he was offered a scholarship to participate in AOTS' technical training on Household Appliances in 1976 and 1984 in Japan.

Mr Yeong has been an active life member of PAAM for about 30 years already. He is very supportive of PAAM and makes it a point bring his whole family whenever PAAM organizes any activity. Mr Yeong is happily married with 4 grown up children. In the recent PAAM's 33rd AGM, he was voted into the central Committee as a Committee member.



Stephen Wong Kum Sun (Committee Member)

Stephen Wong is a Management & ISO consultant and trainer. He attended the AOTS training programme in Japan for the Environmental Management System some 18 years ago. He joined PAAM since then and has been a Life Member of PAAM for more than 10 years. He was elected as a committee member of the PAAM Central Committee in the recent AGM, 2018. He is currently in the Publication Working Committee and Training & Japanese Language Working Committee.

JAPANESE CLASSES

AEON engaged PAAM this year to conduct two Japanese Language training sessions – Group A started their stint in January 2nd and left for Osaka in March whilst Group B started their class in March. Group B is expected to leave for Japan sometime mid June 2018 for a 6 months training at various divisions under the AEON group.



Group A posing with PAAM's 2018-2020 term new President Mr Tan Teng Ek and Vice president Mr How Chee Seng

HEALTH WATCH - VACCINATION - BY VALERIE L.F.CHEONG, S.R.N.



Source from <http://www.nmbreakthroughs.org/wellness/safe-on-schedule-vaccines-for-children>

People are becoming more health conscious as costs of medical care are continuously increasing. This to some extent can apply to diseases partly caused by lifestyles. What about those communicable diseases and illnesses caused by bacteria and viruses. As the saying goes "Prevention is better than cure."

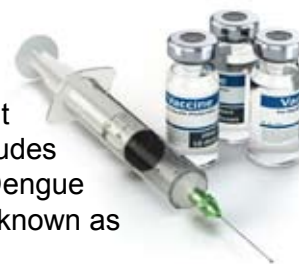
World Health Organization has designated the last week of April as the Immunization Week. We in Malaysia, from infants, adolescents to adults can get immunization with vaccines against quite a number of diseases. Some vaccines are highly



recommended for infants and childhood immunization to prevent getting such diseases like Tuberculosis, Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Poliomyelitis, Measles and Rubella. Vaccination against the HPV virus is now given to females in schools. The other vaccines available are Hepatitis B Vaccine, Influenza B Vaccine, Rotavirus Vaccine and Pneumococcus Vaccine. There is a vaccine against Dengue Fever but not available commercially in Malaysia.

Even though a vaccine, Dengvaxia had been developed against Dengue, a person can still get Dengue again due to the four different related strains of dengue virus. Dengue Fever is endemic here in Malaysia and with the heat and rain, we will see a rise in the mosquito population. It was reported that in year 2017, there were 83,849 reported cases of Dengue and 177 deaths compared with 101,357 cases and 237 deaths in 2016. This year, up to 21st May 2018 there are already 22,775 reported cases and 42 deaths. (Statistics from Ministry of Health, Malaysia).

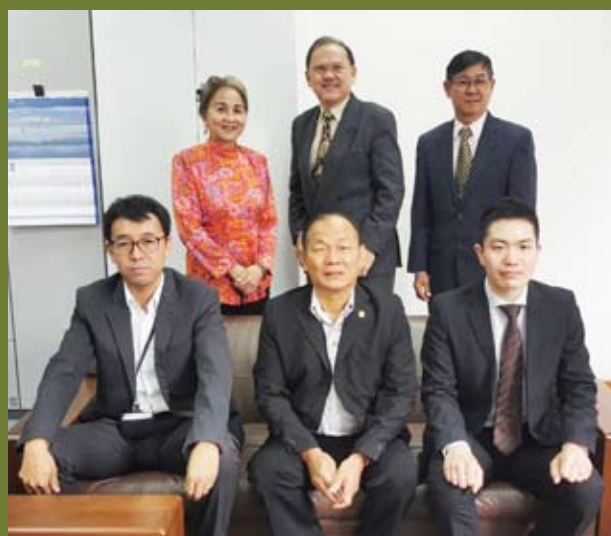
A person who becomes ill between 4 to 7 days after the bite may exhibit flu-like symptoms which include a sudden high fever, pain behind the eyes, muscle, joint and bone pain, severe headache, and a skin rash with red spots. Treatment includes supportive care of symptoms. Complications can lead to the risk of developing Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever, circulatory system failure and shock, and can be fatal (also known as Dengue Shock Syndrome). Always consult a Medical Doctor early.



COURTESY VISIT TO THE EMBASSY OF JAPAN - BY YANG CHOR LEONG

On 2nd May 2018, a delegation from PAAM comprising our newly elected President Mr Tan Teng Ek, Treasurer Mr KT Khor, Valerie the Asst General Secretary and myself paid a courtesy call on Mr. Fumiteru Nishikawa an officer of the Embassy of Japan in Malaysia. Earlier on Mr Nishikawa had invited PAAM to visit them as he would be leaving for Japan for a new assignment and he wanted to introduce PAAM to his new successor Mr Maki.

Nishikawa san had been serving 3 years as the Second Secretary at the Embassy. During his stay here, PAAM had been working closely with him on some mutual projects. He expressed the hope that PAAM will able to play a more active role in promoting Japanese Cultural and related Events. And to work closely with his successor Toshihiro Maki san. We assured them of our utmost best to fulfil our responsibility in supporting such future collaboration.



Sitting L to R : F Nishikawa - EOJ, Tan Teng Ek (PAAM President) and Toshihiro Maki – EOJ
Standing : Committee – Valerie Cheong, Yang Chor Leong and Hon Treasurer Khor Kai Tong

JAPANESE LIFE - EDUCATION VS EMPLOYMENT



This is a regular column contributed by Mr Tan Teng Ek on the peculiarities of the Japanese language as well as his observations and insights on everyday life in Japan.



To the visiting foreigner, Japan is a wealthy and modern country, a land of pristine picturesque sceneries, similar to those that we always see on the postcards and calendars. Everything seems to be run with incredible precision, especially their trains that criss-cross the country in the most efficient and timely mode. Japan seems to be squeaky clean – from their roads to restaurants to marketplaces to parks and even their public toilets!

The Land of the Rising Sun is also a land of the amazing dispensing machines which are placed not only in public buildings, schools and factories but also along the roads and at remote nooks and corners. These machines not only dispense drinks, food stuffs and cigarettes but also condoms, Manga (Japanese comic books), restaurant food coupons, etc.

Indeed we, the foreigners, cannot go away without the impression that the Japanese people are generally a hardworking, disciplined, happy and dedicated lot.



*When Waiting for Trains at the Tokyo Train Stations...
(image from <http://www.deepjapan.org>)*

However beyond this impressive façade, if we take a deep peep into the day-to-day life of the Japanese people, the portrait of life in Japan may not be that serene and rosy. We will be much surprised at the struggles that the Japanese society has to go through.

Take for example the issue of education in Japan. Education and job hunting are very closely intertwined in Japan. Companies hire graduates simply on the basis of which university they graduated from. The strange perception that graduation from top tier universities will guarantee the best employment, hence guarantees success in the graduate's life and career. This "misplaced" perception tends to make things hellish for the young Japanese people. It is very common that every parent's concern is to eventually place their children in the best universities. Japanese children from as young 3 or 4 years old are raised/prepared to excel in high school education in order to be able to enter specific universities such as Tokyo University or Keio University – Japan's elite universities!



To qualify for these universities, the Japanese children have to undergo grueling entrance exams. As a result, the children are often subject to a decade of cram school study in order to get in. This is how the young people are caught in the terrible rat race in Japan. It is not surprising then that the incidence of mental cases, depression and suicides among the young Japanese adults who fail in such rat races is reported to be generally on the rise.

This is one of the many aspects of life in Japan that I think is difficult and not alluring at all to the foreigners. We should thank our luck stars that we, as non Japanese, do not have to deal with this nonsensical aspect of education and job-hunting.

FEATURING KULITKRAF SDN BHD



Kulitkraf Sdn Bhd., incorporated in 1968, is a leading manufacturer of genuine leather footwear and accessories in Malaysia. Located in the Petaling Jaya industrial area, Kulitkraf produces a wide range of genuine leather footwear and accessories with equipment that are the latest in modern technology. These products are being targeted locally and internationally. Our current export markets include Maldives, Brunei, Oman, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Australia and Fiji.

We offer a wide range of leather-based footwear that includes Tactical Boots, Combat Boots, Safety and Industrial Shoes, Executive and Uniform Footwear and also Personal Leather Accessories including Desk Accessories, Leather Document Bag, Leather Folders, wallets, belts and many more. We market these products under our own brand name of: ALPHA, KULITKRAF, ROSSELLI

Clients include the Military, Police Forces, other Uniform bodies and Government Departments. We also supply to Government Link Companies and other private commercial clients.

Footwear application includes footwear for marching, combat, parachuting, jungle and desert operations, mining, oil&gas, production floor, construction and other daily use.

As quality is of utmost importance to us, we are certified under the following Quality Standards : ISO 9001:2015 , MS ISO 20345:2008, Quality Environment Certification-5S and other certifications.

Kulitkraf Sdn Bhd is closely associated with AOTS, with a member of our top Management Team, En Abdul Samad, Chief Operating Officer being selected to undergo a course of training at AOTS Japan. We have also been registered under AOTS' Internship programme, coordinated by the Persatuan Alumni AOTS Malaysia (PAAM), as one of the Malaysian companies ready to accept young Japanese professionals as Intern in our Company to understudy the ways and strategies we operate our business.

We hope to be further exposed to the markets in Japan as well as throughout the business network of AOTS. We can be reached at:

Kulitkraf Sdn. Bhd.,
No. 5, Jalan 19/1, 46300 Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia
Telephone: +603 7957 4633
Telefax: +603 7957 7480
Email: info@kulitkraf.com
Website: www.kulitkraf.com

(Article continue in page 7)

Company Description	
Name	KULITKRAF SDN BERHAD
Country	MALAYSIA
Name of Representative	ABDUL SAMAD IBRAHIM
Year of Establishment	1968
Business Type	MANUFACTURING
Main Products/Services	GENUINE LEATHER FOOT WEAR AND ACCESSORIES
Accreditations	Quality Standards: ISO 9001:2015, MS ISO 20345:2008, Quality Environment Certification-5S
Main Trading Counterparts	Maldives, Brunei, Oman, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Australia and Fiji
Business Relationships with Overseas Countries	Sales Agent and Distributor
Languages	BAHASA MALAYSIA , ENGLISH



Information on former AOTS/HIDA training participants	
Name	ABDUL SAMAD BIN IBRAHIM
Current Position	COO
Training History (year)	1991 & 1998
Training Course	Promis & WBNP
Training Topics	1991-Production Mgt Information System
Language	1998-World Buss. Network Program
Comments	BAHASA MALAYSIA, ENGLISH

Leather products of Kulitkraf



AOTS JAPAN TRAINING PROGRAMS

Course Title (Content Description)	Objective	Period	Place	Application Deadline
	Intended Participants			
NEW! The Executive Program on Corporate Management [EPCM]	Enhancement of participants' practical management capabilities of corporate management, with utilizing managerial functions, pursuing to upgrade corporate management of their companies as executives.	23 Jul - 3 Aug 2018	TKC*	25 May. 2018
	Director-level senior executives who have overall responsibility for their organizational management			
NEW! The Program for Quality Management [PQM]	Enhancement of ability to promote quality management	20 Aug - 31 Aug 2018	TKC*	19 Jun. 2018
	Senior managers promoting quality management and engaged in quality improvement			
NEW! The Program for Quality Problem Solving [PQPS]	To strengthen and improve the problem-solving abilities	3 Sep - 14 Sep 2018	TKC*	2 Jul. 2018
	Managers or supervisors in the manufacturing industry, who wish to acquire practical knowledge of techniques for improving quality and resolving important problems			

* Each of the places mentioned in the list refer to an AOTS Training Center tentatively assigned for each program; however, some programs may be conducted at a hotel.
 ** The original documents must be delivered to PAAM no later than 7 days from application deadline date.
 *** Program information will be updated continually. Please check at www.hidajapan.or.jp

PAAM 33rd AGM *(continue from cover story)*

New Office bearers for 2018-2019

The following life members were duly elected:

Name of new CCM	Position	Name of New CCM	Position
Tan Teng Ek	President	Siao Kent Wah	Committee Member
How Chee Seng	Vice President	Yang Chor Leong	Committee Member
Yap Choon Ming	General Secretary	Jacqueline Ooi Fatt Choo	Committee Member
Cheong Lye Foon	Asst. General Secretary	Stephen Wong Kam Sun	Committee Member
Khor Kai Tong	Hon Treasurer	Tariman Yusuf	Committee Member
Mohd Ghazali Abu Bakar	Asst. Hon Treasurer	Yeong Soon Seng	Committee Member
		Zakaraia Mohd Rahim	Committee Member

Internal Auditors: Ms Sharon Lim & Mr Low Kiang

MS SATSUKI SUETSUGU (INTERN FROM KUBOTA CORPORATION)

AOTS Japan had initiated an Internship program whereby young Japanese professionals are sent to South East Asian countries like Malaysia to be interned in our local companies for a short period of time.

Recently an intern from Kubota Corporation, Ms Satsuki Suetsugu was here for a one month internship program with Hicom Diecasting Sdn Bhd. The period of internship was from 29th March – 24th April 2018.

Ms Valerie Cheong, the current Asst Hon Secretary, was assigned to follow up on Ms Satsuki Suetsugu's internship.



COMING EVENT

PAAM Annual Dinner 2018



Proposed date/time:

7.00pm 6 October 2018

Proposed venue:

One of the hotels in Petaling Jaya

Participation fees:

this will be a heavily subsidized event with lots of goodies to take home



PAAM takes this opportunity to wish all
our Muslim members

Selamat Hari Raya Aidilfitri