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2014

Tanabata Festival Celebration

Article prepared by En Hakim



When we proposed to Mr. Brian Philips Clark, the Vice President of International University of Malaya-Wales the idea of jointly organizing the 2014 Tanabata Festival Celebration in IUMW Campus, he immediately agreed and assigned a Team lead by Mr. Sophyan Hakim to work with PAAM to make sure a smooth preparation of the Event.



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President Message

Warm greetings to all our readers and members of the Alumni.
Selamat Hari Raya **Aidilfitri** to our Muslim Friends &
Happy Merdeka Day to Everyone.

On behalf of the new board, we would like to thank the immediate Past President Mr Tan TE and his team for the job well done during his term of service and for the trust and confidence rendered to me coming back to serve again as your humble president for another new term.

I am very much delighted to see many new faces in our new team, and I hope everyone will take up a responsive role to contribute for the good of PAAM.

We had the inaugural "brainstorm meeting" at the second month after formation of the working committee, and everyone in the board had presented their respective projects and programs with activities which they wish to accomplish during the term of service. This is a very encouraging sign of commitment from the team members.

The first 2 months had been very challenging as we tried to promote PAAM activities and to introduce the new committee through the network of the Japanese Affiliated Societies. We had also paid a courtesy visit to our Chairman of the Advisory Board, Tan Sri Amirsham, who is also the Chairman of MIDA., followed with visits to the Embassy of Japan, The Japan Foundation, & The Japan Club. Such visit had

provided opportunities with an insight of many encouraging sign of collaboration and support, and through the sharing session with all the affiliates

We are grateful to our social sub-committee headed by Mr Siao who had organized a trip to the northern region and to coincide with MAFAAS ABK-Penang meet.

Taking such occasion with family members, we visited the durian orchard farm and many places of interest. Mr KT Khor not only played host at his orchard farm but as the "Tour-Guide" showing us around including the heritage eco-park and the charcoal manufacturing factory near Nibong Tebal.

Such social activities had provided a platform for us not just among the committee members but to revive the close network and friendship we had with Alumni members of ABK who was led by their president Mr Chuah and team members. It was a fruitful yet a fun and joyful day for the young and the young-at heart.

The 5th Tanabata Festival was a great success which was jointly organized with the International University of Malaya / Wales in Kuala Lumpur.

The conducive venue attracted a big crowd with festivities supported by university students and friends of PAAM.

Thanks to our organizing chairman-Tuan

Haji Hakim and his team members with the support granted by the faculty members from the university and the morale support by the Embassy of Japan. Lastly to our dedicated staff Ms Lim who coordinated the whole event.

We are now looking forward for the HIDA World Convention which will be taking place at the end of October in Tokyo-Japan. I shall be leading a 5-member team for the convention.

It has been a great learning experience and a wonderful opportunity for PAAM to have your continuous support. I strongly believe there will be more challenging activities year ahead.



29th AGM

Article prepared by Ms Lim



The **29th Annual General Meeting** was held on Sunday, 6 April. Concorde Hotel, Shah Alam. 33 members turn up for this event. Members had a buffet lunch in the Coffee House before the AGM.

AGM started around 2.15 pm when there was sufficient quorum. The Annual Report for 2012 and minutes of the 28th AGM together proposed by Mr Stephen Wong and seconded by Mr Lim Eng Swee. Past President, Mr Tan Teng Ek went through the various points in the agenda including the 6 proposed amendments to PAAM Constitution. The amendments were proposed by Mr Low Kiang and seconded by Mr Chang Boon Ping. All feedback received were recorded and typed onto the power-point slides immediately.

Election of new office bearers for CCM 2014-2016 took place. Mr Stephen Wong was nominated as the Election Chairman with Mr Tan Teng Ek and Mr Balaganesh Pavadai selected as the Election Scrutineers. Around 5.30 pm, the line up of new committee members was announced.



CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER 2014-2016

President

Yang Chor Leong

Vice President

A Aziz Y kamaruddin

Hon Secretary

Mohd Hakim Mohd Nor

Asst Hon Secretary

Cheong Lye Foon

Hon Treasurer

How Chee Seng

Asst Hon Treasurer

Yap Choon Ming

Committee Member

Chan Tein Kee

Mohd Ghazali Abu Bakar

Khor Kai Tong

Ng Boo Jek

Lee Hock Leong

Sew Kok Weng

Siao kent Wah

CCM

2014 - 2016

Getting to know your Central committee



VALERIE CHEONG

Valerie Cheong juggles between being a housewife and her career. She was sent for training in Yokohama, Japan in the early 90's. With her experiences accumulated over the years from the medical field, sales and marketing and financial services, she is now involved in helping people achieve their lifestyle goals. For example, being a non citizen early in life, the experiences gained in the pursuit of getting a Malaysian citizenship is also helpful for people in similar situation. The ability to meet one's financial goal is another.

Valerie has been a life member of PAAM since returning from Japan. She is also involved in the Rotary Movement and is a member of the Rotary Club of Kajang since the 90's. Married with four children, she is now a happy grandmother of one.



NG BOO JEK

Ng Boo Jek graduated with a LL.B (Honours) from University of Liverpool, United Kingdom. He participated in the programme entitled "Intellectual Property Rights for Lawyers" partly organised by AOTS in 2009. Jek currently runs a law practice with two other partners.

Originally from Teluk Intan, Perak, now he resides in Puchong with his wife and son.

Miki Ikenaga from HIDA Japan visited PAAM office



Miki Ikenaga from HIDA Japan visited PAAM office on 27 May and had a short meeting with a few PAAM Committee members. She gave a short introduction on HIDA's recent activities and share HIDA's interest to start some programs through cooperation with PAAM. One of the program mentioned was the invitation of young people from Malaysia to HIDA for about 2-3 weeks to study Japanese Language course at the HIDA Kenshu Center at a fee of about Y250,000 not including air fare. The meeting lasted for about 2 hours and Miss Miki Ikenaga had lunch with the committee before leaving for town for her appointments.

By CM Yap



MANAGEMENT / TECHNICAL COURSES IN JAPAN

For the latest Information/update on HIDA courses in JAPAN: please visit : <http://www.hidajapan.or.jp/en/ikusei/management/course.html>

Application documents formats available at the following website of HIDA: <http://www.hidajapan.or.jp/en/ikusei/application.html>

All interested applicants have to submit full application to HIDA via Persatuan Alumni AOTS Malaysia

PAAM' Courtesy Visit to Japanese Affiliates

By :CL Yang

It was during the 'Inaugural Brain Storming' session that the Central Committee wishes to revive the cordial relationship and close network with all those Japanese Affiliates and especially those who had supported and work in collaboration with us through the years of association with PAAM.

We started with the courtesy visit to our honorable Chairman of the Board of Advisor- Ybg Tan Sri Amirsham who is the Chairman of MIDA. It was very kind Tan Sri who extended invitation to PAAM for technical support with some of the activities for the industrial development in MIDA. We shall form the sub-committee to follow up closely with the relevant division to realize the goal for such collaborations.

In the month of June we visited Japan Foundation and the Japan Club to understand their programs and events that are promoted through their network. It is encouraging to note that there are many of such activities that we can jointly promote and shared among members within the Alumni.

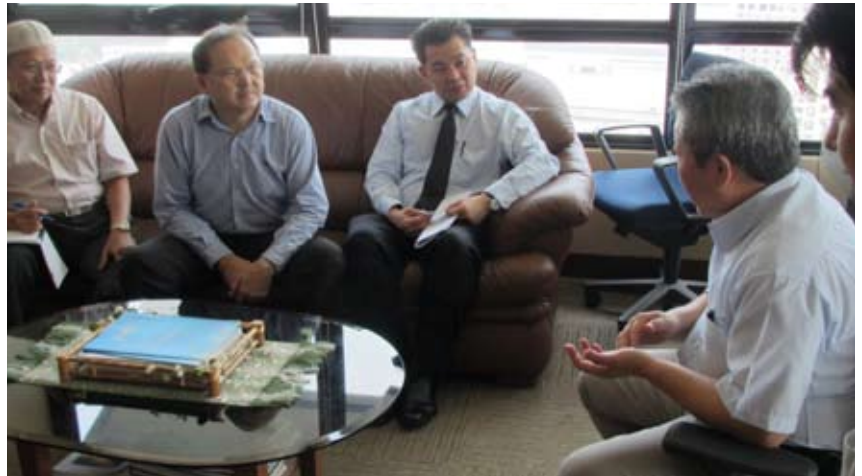
We shall extend similar gestures to all these affiliates should there be a subject of common interest.

On 1st July, our team visited the Embassy of Japan. As we realized that there are many new faces in the Embassy that we are not familiar with, including the newly appointed the honorable Ambassador who at one time we used to have acquaintance with.

The meeting with the representatives during the visit had given us the opportunity to share and update some development which had been traditionally supported by the Embassy of Japan in Malaysia. Example our "Kaizen seminar

for university' and the "Tanabata Cultural Festival" which are held annually and financially supported by the Embassy.

Such visits had provided opportunities and platform for us with an insight of many encouraging signs of collaboration with all these affiliates in the near future and we are thankful with all the support granted.



Hippo Home Stay

Family & Social Outing



Hippo Home Stay in Japan ,
by Cherie Sew

Anyway, the trip was fantastic.

However I did not get to mix around with my host family much, just my host mother. I suppose those who live in the cities have pretty individualistic lives. My host mother also bought me along for Hippo activities and meetings 5 times. They are all very friendly. There was even a day where I spent with another two Hippo members as my host mother was busy.

For me the best part of my stay was my host mother. She was a very kind woman who would smile pretty much all the time. It was also easy to tell that she was a well loved Hippo member with many friends. She'd hold my hand when we were stuck in large crowds so I won't get lost and she would always make sure I was having a good time. After I got back from Malaysia, I added her on Facebook and we've been in touch once in awhile.

The only thing that future participants should take note is coming up with a list of what they want to do in Japan. They will take you do the things you want to do if they can but sometimes if we don't know what we wanted they wouldn't know how to entertain us either.

My host mother brought me to Disneyland!

Regards
Cherie Sew



MAFAAS Meeting & Social Activities



Recently, PAAM had organised a Home stay trip of 2D/1N to Nibong Tebal on the 12th and 13th July 2014. We had a total of 12 members and their families and as it was a small group of participants, we decided and agreed to travel by car pool and the meeting point was at Taiping Utara Exit at 11.00 a.m.

KT-san was patiently waiting for us at the Toll exit when my family and I arrived, followed by Yang-san and his wife together with How-san and his children. We were then led by KT-san to visit the Charcoal factory. On arrival we were greeted by the guide from the Charcoal factory. The guide gave an introduction on how Charcoal is produced from the first process till it finally becomes Charcoal and also the history of the Charcoal factory. Then we were also given an opportunity to physically try our skill on handling the logs. Before we realized it, an hour had passed and we concluded our visit then.

KT-san led us to a Seafood Restaurant for our lunch. To my surprise there were a few Seafood Restaurants there and most of them were packed with tourists. While waiting for our lunch we could see boats ferrying mangrove logs to the nearby Charcoal factory. The Seafood there was fresh and delicious. After lunch we got an opportunity to visit the 1st

Rail Station in Malaysia "PORT WELD" which was built back in 1885.

Our next destination was the "HUTAN PAYA LAUT MATANG". In this Mangrove Forests there were Chalets and there was a path along the Mangrove Trees where we could walk. It was well organized and very relaxing as we walked along the path enjoying the nature. As the tide started to rise we slowly walked back as it was already 4.30 p.m.

We continued our journey to Nibong Tebal where the Home stay houses were located. Nibong Tebal is very popular for the Seafood porridge and we cannot afford to miss this chance therefore we had Seafood porridge for our dinner.

The following morning we had "MAFAAS Meeting". MAFAAS meeting is a meeting between PAAM and ABK Penang. It was suppose to be an annual event but there was a lapse over some years and this time around we are here to re-build the broken link. ABK Penang is currently led by Mr. Chuah. We had a very good and fruitful meeting and both sides agreed that we should continue with the MAFAAS meeting annually and perhaps organize some joint activities in the near future. We also got to meet up with our Past Vice President Madam Au Yong. We would also extend our gratitude to ABK for making this MAFAAS meeting successful.

Our joint activity started immediately after ABK accepted KT-san's invitation to his brother-in-law's Durian Orchard. As we walked along the Orchard, the first fruit that we come across was the Pulasan. The Pulasan was so good that we almost finished eating the fruits from the tree. We were told that the Pulasan seeds can also be eaten and they tasted like Almonds. We tried eating the seeds and indeed they tasted like Almonds. As we walked further we started harvesting the Mangosteen, Dukong and Duku Langsat. We had free flow of Durian, Mangosteen, Cempedak, Dukong, Langsat, Duku Langsat, Bananas and Pulasan. We had a great time enjoying ourselves in the Orchard farm. When time for us to leave we did not leave the Orchard empty handed. KT-san's brother-in-law was so generous that each and everyone of us was given their choice of fruits to bring back. It was already almost 5 p.m and it was time to bid "goodbye". I believed all of us had a wonderful time which we will cherish for a long time.

On behalf of the organizer, we would take this opportunity to thank KT-san's brother-in-law and KT-san for hosting us and organizing this trip. At the same time the Organizers hoped that more PAAM members will join us in the near future, for outings and similar activities.

By KW Siao

2014 Tanabata Festival Celebration

It was Mr. Clark keen support that made the organizing committee working hard in making this event a success. We took this idea to the Embassy of Japan who then agreed to provide expenses support. So the Event became a collaboration of PAAM, IUMW and EOJ.

The Event was held on a beautiful day of 17th August 2014, from 10:00am until 01:00 in the afternoon at the University Auditorium. To commemorate the Event we were honored to have the attendance of Yang Berbahagia Professor Dr Hamzah Abdul Rahman, President/CEO of IUMW and Mr. Idham Ismas Ismail, representing Dr Brian Philip Clarke, Vice President of Department of Student Affairs and Alumni, Mr. Takahashi Yokoyama, Director of Information Service and Mr. Tomakazu Nozaki, Second Secretary from Embassy of Japan, Dr Gregory Ooi, President Japan Graduates Association Malaysia and Mr. Isogaya Hiroyuki, Head of Japanese Language Section – Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur. The Auditorium was beautifully decorated with lanterns, lightings and bamboo trees. Here, we would like to express our thanks to Mr. KT Khor from PAAM for the twelve feet high brightly lighted lantern which was made by himself from recycle plastics and a fifteen feet high bamboo tree which he plucked and transport with the help of some friends.

The Event took-off with speeches by Ybhg. Prof Dr. Hamzah Abdul Rahman, Mr. Takahashi Yokoyama and Mr. Yang Chor Leong and immediately after that we were entertained with a beautiful Japanese song, very performed by the University students and the audience were happy joined in to sing along, by then the celebration was joyfully participated with the audience on the floor eagerly trying out the folding of origami and writing of Tanabata wishes which were hanged to the bamboo tree. At the other end of the Auditorium many were waiting for their turn for the opportunity to dress in Yukata and to have their photograph taken in front of a beautiful-backdrop. The highlight of the Event was the demonstration of dressing in Kimono by a Kimono specialist, Sensei Nakatogawa. Two young ladies volunteered to be models and they turned out to be so beautiful and graceful that almost everybody came forward to have their photos taken together with them. We end the Event with prizes given away for the best lanterns and Origamis.

We are glad that everybody had a good time and wish to thank all for spending their precious weekend celebrating 2014 Tanabata Festival with us. And to those who had their wishes written and hanged to the bamboo tree, may those wishes come through, soon. PAAM, IUMW and EOJ wish that all of you will have a wonderful year with peace. Harmony and prosperity, until we meet again in 2015.

SAYONARA and Mataaimasho.

By :-En Hakim

