



# BULLETIN

CENTRE FOR CIVILISATIONAL DIALOGUE



## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CIVILISATIONAL DIALOGUE (IConCiDi) 2017

**Tangisan  
Rohingya:**  
Tiada Siapa Yang  
Peduli

Seminar Antara Budaya:  
Ilmu, Agama-Ideologi  
dan Budaya

Walk  
for  
**Unity**

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## **Cover Photo**

Pictures on the cover photo are those of a) Professor Dato Mohamad Abu Bakar, Keynote Speaker; b) Dr Andrea Tyndall, paper presenter from the Netherlands; c) Professor Dr Shakila Yacob, Director, Centre for Civilisational Dialogue; d) Mr. Elius, paper presenter from Malaysia; e) Dr Ronojoy Sen, Keynote Speaker; f) Dr Abdul Razak Baginda, panelist for Plenary Session; and participating officer from during the International Conference on Civilisational Dialogue (IConCiDi) 2017.

This bulletin reports on the activities and events conducted by the University of Malaya Centre for Civilisational Dialogue (UMCCD), University of Malaya UNESCO Club (UMUC) and our collaborators.

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# WELCOMING NEW DIRECTOR AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR



**PROFESSOR DR SHAKILA YACOB** is the Director of the Centre for Civilisational Dialogue, University of Malaya and is also a lecturer at the Department of History, Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences, University of Malaya. She is also an associate of the International Institute of Public Policy and Management (INPUMA). She was recently awarded the FY2015-2016 Fulbright Malaysian Scholar Program and was based at the University of Maryland, USA from October 2015 until July 2017.

After receiving her Bachelor of Arts (majoring in Southeast Asian Studies) from University of Malaya, she pursued a Master of Arts in Political Science at Western Michigan University, United States. She received her doctorate (PhD) in Management at the University of Reading Business School, United Kingdom. Her research interests are in the areas of business history, international business as well as in comparative politics. She began her work on the US foreign direct investment in colonial Malaya and postcolonial Malaysia and presently, on the history of international business in Malaysia. Her secondary interests are in the areas of history and new media, which includes critical thinking skills in the teaching and learning of history.

Professor Dr Shakila's most recent book is *Sejarah dan Media Baharu (History and the New Media)* published by Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka, 2015. She also published her book on *The United States and the Malaysian Economy (2008)* by Routledge, under the *Studies in the Growth Economies of Asia* series. In addition to various publications on business history in local journals, some of her selected international publications include Shakila Yacob and Khadijah Md. Khalid, 'Adapt or Divest? The New Economic Policy and Foreign Businesses in Malaysia (1970-2000)', *The Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History*, 40:3, 459-482 (2012), Shakila Yacob and Nicholas White, 'The unfinished business of Malaysia's decolonisation: the origins of the Guthrie Dawn Raid', *Modern Asian Studies* 44.5 (September 2010).

Professor Dr Shakila has appeared on national and international radio and television programmes to give interviews about current issues in the US and also US-Malaysia relations. She writes regularly for *Berita Harian*, *Utusan Malaysia*, and other newspapers and magazines on a wide range of issues concerning politics and government in the USA.

**DR ROSILAWATI ZAINOL** is a Senior Lecturer at the Department of Urban and Regional Planning and Head of Sustainable Planning and Development, Centre for Sustainable Urban Planning and Real Estate, Faculty of Built Environment, University of Malaya (UM). Currently, she has been appointed as the Deputy Director of the Centre for Civilizational Dialogue, the University of Malaya. Since joining UM in 2004, she has published quite a number of articles, chapters in book and books related to sustainable urban development and tourism development. Her research interest is in urban analytics (the use of information technology in urban and regional planning and urban studies especially in GIS), spatial analysis, spatial statistics and healthy city.



Her recent publications include, "Analytic network process (ANP)-based spatial decision support system (SDSS) for sustainable tourism planning in Cameron Highlands, Malaysia" *Arabian Journal of Geosciences* (2017). Besides publications, she is also involved in research related to public health, elderly and flood resilient cities. She also works closely with Majlis Daerah Kuala Langat and offers knowledge transfer services by organising workshops.

# International Conference on Civilisational Dialogue (IConCiDi) 2017

The International Conference on Civilisational Dialogue (IConCiDi) 2017 with the overall theme on "Dynamics of Cultural Diversity", was held from 16-17th May 2017 in conjunction with the Center's twentieth anniversary at the Royale Chulan Damansara, Petaling Jaya, Malaysia. A number of experts, paper presenters, and participants came together to jointly make the conference a success. There were 21 paper presenters from five different countries; Brunei, Indonesia, Taiwan, China and the Netherlands, and from the public and private universities in Malaysia.



Prof. Dato Mohamad Abu Bakar delivering his keynote address

The conference hosted two keynote speakers discussing two significant contemporary global issues and events relevant to the theme of the conference. Professor Dato' Mohammad Abu Bakar from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences spoke on "'Caliphate Writ Large?: The Globalisation of Islamic Values and The Clash of Cultures' in which he deliberated upon the different

interpretations of the caliphate that had an impact on the understanding of Islam and the acceptance of Islamic values.



Dr Ronojoy Sen, National University of Singapore, delivering his keynote address

"'Celebratory Neutrality?: Lessons from India's Constitutional Secularism' was the title of a keynote delivered by Dr Ronojoy Sen, Institute of South Asian Studies and the South Asian Studies Programme, National University of Singapore. Dr Ronojoy eloquently presented the dynamics of the current Indian dilemma of promoting secularism and accepting religious pluralism (see appendix B for the keynote abstract). Both these keynotes were delivered on the 16th and 17th of May, 2017 respectively.

These keynote addresses attracted a few embassy officials from Iran, and Pakistan in addition to the overall attendees. Others who attended the keynote address and opening ceremony include Mr. Peter Chang, from International Chinese Studies, University of Malaya, Ms. Liva Sreedharan

## HIGHLIGHT

and Mdm. Mariammah from Bahai Community of Malaysia, Ms. Shahanaaz Habib from The Star, Dr Aizan Ali from the University of Malaya.



From left: Ms. Madihah, Ms. Norhidayah, Dr Rosilawati Zainol, and Ms. Shahanaaz Habib

The Conference explored several issues and themes on the dialogue of civilisations. There were two plenary sessions held. The first plenary session was co-organised with Professor Kai-Yuan Cheng from National Yang-Ming University, Taiwan. The theme was on "Chinese Civilisation in Taiwan: A Contemporary Reconstruction and Its Implication for a Dynamic Asia" and this session, participated by four professors from top universities in Taiwan, provided for an interesting intellectual discourse on the various aspects of Chinese civilisation.



Sitting from left: Prof. Shi-Shan Lai, Prof Kai-Yuan Cheng, Prof. Szu-Ting Chen, Prof. Su-Chuan Lin

 Click to play



Prof. Kai sharing their experiences on praying/ meditating at the National Mosque during their visit here prior to the conference

*The overall aim of this conference is to encourage dialogues that promote equality and justice as well as freedom for the global citizens of the world.*

▶ Click to play



Dr Abdul Razak explaining on the subject of Malaysian Foreign Policy

There were six parallel sessions carried out during the two-day conference. Presenters from various background presented their papers on the three subthemes: Cultural Understanding and Diversity, Peace, Heritage and Security, and Diversity in Education. Some of the interesting presentations include Ms. Premananthini, who shared how yoga can be used as a way of life, extending beyond exercise and meditation. While explaining, Ms. Premananthini demonstrated some yoga poses and encouraged the audience to practice some yoga moves with her during the presentation. Ms. Dian, one of our presenters from Indonesia, explores the issues and challenges of the Indonesian language and the inherent difficulties that could lead to conflicts within the society. Dr Andrea from Maastricht University shared her study on the success and failure of teaching the holocaust to Israeli's, Palestinian Arab citizenry.

Meanwhile, the second plenary session co-organised with ICON- Center for Global affairs featured two panellists who spoke along the lines of the session theme on 'Cultural Dynamics in Policy Making'. Dr Abdul Razak Baginda explores the varied response of Malaysian leaders to significant historical events in the country and other nations in the region, in particular, Indonesia and China. Dr Roy Anthony Rogers, on the other hand, discusses the diversity that is ASEAN and the road towards regional unity.



All in all, it can be said that the conference successfully achieved its objectives as participants truly enjoyed and has gained much from their learning experience at IConCiDi 2017.

PHOTO GALLERY



Mr. Murtala posing a question to one of the presenters during the plenary session Cultural Dynamics in Policy Making by ICON - Centre for Global Affairs

Mr. Aszlan sharing his opinion to the presenter during the final panel session for IConCiDi 2017



Dr Abdul Razak Baginda during the plenary session on Cultural Dynamics in Policy Making



Prof. Dr Ainin and Associate Professor Dr Faridah Noor officiated the launching of the 20 Years of Celebration: Narratives of Intercultural Relationships & Understanding



Ms. Tengku Nur Qistina, representative from ISIS interviewing Prof. Dato' Mohammad Abu Bakar





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## International Conference on Civilisational Dialogue 2017 (IConCiDi)

*'Dynamics of Cultural Diversity'*

16 - 17 May 2017 | The Royale Chulan Damansara, Petaling Jaya, Malaysia

# THANK YOU

IConCiDi 2017 on "The Dynamics of Cultural Diversity" expresses its thanks and appreciation to:

Professor Kai Yuan- Professor Kai-Yuan Cheng from National Yang-Ming University, Taiwan and his colleagues,

- a) Professor Shi-Shan Lai from National Sun Yat-Sen University, Taiwan
- b) Professor Su-Chuan Lin from National Cheng-Kung University, Taiwan; and
- c) Professor Szu-Ting Chen, National Tsing-Hua University, Taiwan

for successfully organising a plenary session;

ICON- Center for Global Affairs for organising another plenary session, mainly to Dr Abdul Razak Baginda.

All the paper presenters.

Sponsors, mainly National Commission of UNESCO Malaysia.

Department of National Unity and Integration.

Acknowledge the kind assistance of volunteers from the UNESCO Club and informal committee of the IConCiDi 2017.

# TANGISAN ROHINGYA: TIADA SIAPA YANG PEDULI

Forum Awam - Tangisan Rohingya : Tiada Siapa yang Peduli? telah diadakan pada 26 November 2016 bertempat di Dewan Bankuasi, Fakulti Alam Bina, Universiti Malaya.

Forum awam ini membincangkan isu dan cabaran masyarakat Rohingya di dunia amnya dan di Malaysia secara khususnya. Tujuan forum ini dijalankan adalah untuk memikirkan penyelesaian yang sebenarnya diperlukan oleh masyarakat Rohingya. Tiga tetamu yang telah dijemput untuk menjadi panel bagi forum ini ialah En. Mohd Azmi Abdul Hamid atau lebih dikenali sebagai Cikgu Azmi yang merupakan Presiden Majlis Pertubuhan Perundangan Islam Malaysia dan juga merupakan individu yang banyak memperjuang dan membantu nasib masyarakat Rohingya, panel kedua merupakan pengarangkanan di ASTRO Awani dan juga merupakan seorang pelajar bagi ijazah kedoktoran di Universiti Malaya yang menjadikan isu masyarakat Rohingya ini sebagai kajian utama beliau iaitu Puan Azlinariah Abdullah. Turut dijemput En. Abdul Ghani Abdul Rahman selaku Timbalan Presiden Persatuan Rohingya di Malaysia. Forum ini dikendalikan oleh En. Dzulfetri Yusop (pengacara terkenal Astro Awani) selaku moderator bagi forum ini.

Forum ini dimulakan oleh Puan Azlinariah selaku panel pertama bagi forum ini. Video "Selamat Malam Rohingya" terpasang sebagai pembuka bicara, dan beliau memulakan hujahan beliau dengan menceritakan pengalaman bersama masyarakat Rohingya ini dan seksaan demi seksaan yang telah mereka lalui. Forum ini diteruskan dengan panel kedua di mana En. Abdul Ghani menceritakan pengalaman beliau sendiri dan juga serba sedikit sejarah Rohingya kepada para peserta yang hadir.

Terpalit dan terlihat kesedihan di wajah beliau dan juga para hadirin yang hadir. Beliau mengharap agar keadilan kepada warga Rohingya dapat diraih. Seterusnya, tuan moderator telah menjemput panel ketiga, Cikgu Azmi untuk meneruskan dengan hujah beliau. Cikgu Azmi memulakan hujah beliau dengan menerangkan terma genosid dan kaitannya dengan Rohingya. Beliau turut menjelaskan rancangan beliau untuk memastikan keadilan kepada masyarakat Rohingya ini dapat dituntut.

Akhir kata, forum ini telah mendapat sambutan yang menggalakkan sama ada warga Universiti Malaya mahupun umum. Pusat Dialog Peradaban juga telah berjaya mengumpul sumbangan sebanyak RM500.00 untuk didermakan bagi membantu mereka yang memerlukan. Hasil sumbangan ini telah diserahkan kepada Cikgu Azmi untuk beliau meneruskan usahanya membantu masyarakat Rohingya.



# Still An Outsider Inside America



## SPEAKER'S PROFILE

Professor Dr Stephen Ling was a visiting professor at Xiamen University, China. He has written several books such as *This Is China*, *For My Hands Only* and *Crazy Americans*.

On Friday morning of 14 April 2017, Professor Dr Stephen Ling arrived at Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Malaya, to deliver his lecture on *Still An Outsider Inside America*. Before he began his lecture, Professor Dr Shakila Yacob, Director of Centre for Civilisational Dialogue, delivered a welcoming speech and introduced Prof. Ling to the audience.

Prof. Ling began his lecture with an introduction of himself by explaining the meaning of his name and how in hindsight it reflects his life. He also provided a brief history of Malay(a)sia before proceeding to introduce his experiences in the United States. He shared his experiences and determination to find a place to live and work despite his non-immigrant status. Throughout the lecture, Prof. Ling shares his view on life. One of the points that were highlighted by Prof. Ling was about survival of the fittest. He strongly believes the importance of being able to adapt and adopt according to the environment. Prof. Ling provided an example of how bears hibernate to escape cold, to prove a point that behavioural adaptations affect how an organism acts. He briefly spoke about his books *This is China*, *For My Hands Only* and *Crazy Americans*. Conclusively, this public lecture has inspired the audience to continue to thrive in their pursuit of success in life regardless of their background and conditions.



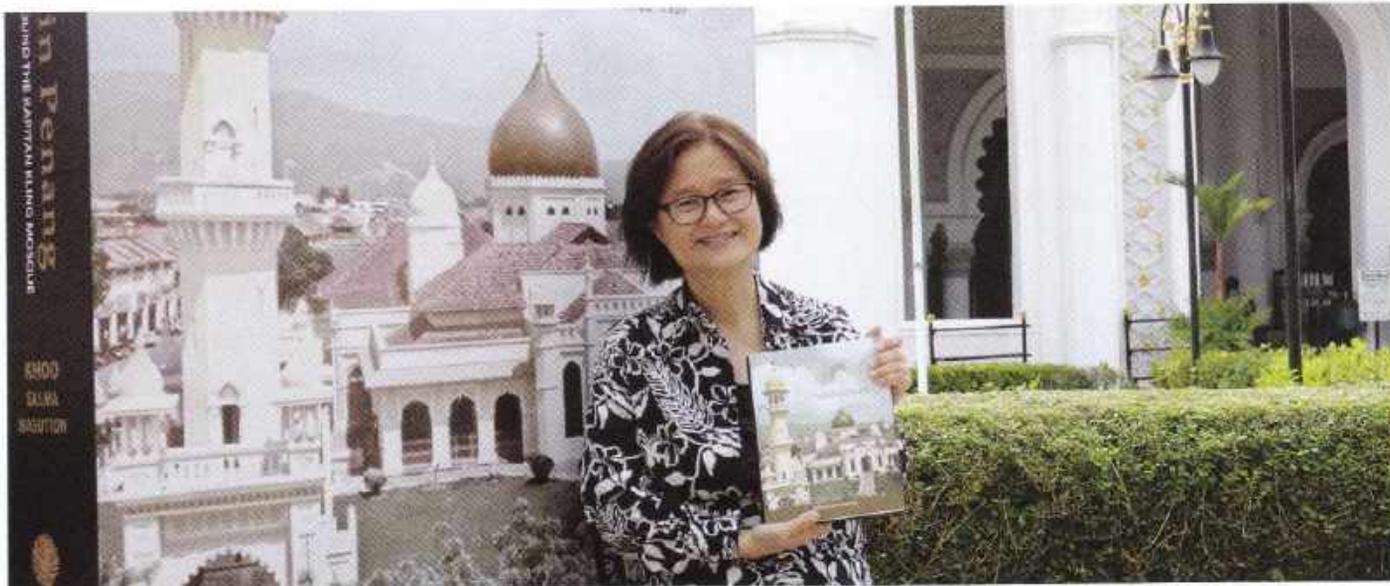
During the lecture



An audience posing a question to Prof. Ling

*"Great and eye-opening talk session!"*

*-Participant*



# The Chulia in Penang and Their Endowments

*The Chulia in Penang and Their Endowments* was organised by the Centre for Civilisational Dialogue (UMCCD) and International Institute of Public Policy and Management (INPUMA), in collaboration with the Department of History, Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences, University of Malaya on 30 November 2016. The seminar which was delivered at the Resource Centre, Department of History by Madam Khoo Salma Nasution, the principal of a Penang-based publishing house; Areca Books, and custodian of the Sun Yat Sen Museum Penang at the Resource Centre, Department of History.

The seminar began with a simple introductory speech by CCD's Director, Professor Dr Shakila Yacob, who was also a representative to respective co-organiser and collaborator of the programme. Madam Khoo started her talk with a brief explanation of the organisation of her presentation and stated that the talk would start off with a brief history of Penang and later will lead on to discussing on Waqf or can be known as Muslim endowment. She shared her thoughts on this matter based on historically-evolved institutions of waqf administration which

have influenced the current concept of waqf. Interestingly, the "Chulia" was then known as Tamil Muslim mercantile and land-owning elite where they passed on their endowments to prevent fragmentation of family estates.

The Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP) participants from various countries who attended the seminar truly enjoy and appreciate the talk on the minority group in Penang. Overall, the talk received full audience and positive response from all participants, and it is hoped that there will be more of this kind of talk shortly.



Audiences were enthralled by Madam Khoo's presentation

# A Cross Cultural Study of Mind and Spirit in Brain Science: Ideas and A New Course Design

A public seminar on A Cross Cultural Study of Mind and Spirit in Brain Science: Ideas and A New Course Design was organised by Centre for Civilisational Dialogue in collaboration with the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, the University of Malaya on January 26, 2017, at Lecture Hall C (DKC), Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Malaya. The public seminar was delivered by Professor Kai-Yuan Cheng, Professor and Dean at Institute of Philosophy of Mind and Cognition of School of Humanities and Social Sciences at National Yang Ming University in Taipei, Taiwan.

Among those who attended the seminar were university students, lecturers from various faculties in the University of Malaya, and a group of international exchange students from Indonesia. The seminar began with a welcoming speech by the Director of Centre for Civilisational Dialogue, Professor Dr Shakila Yacob, who then introduced Professor Cheng to the audience. Professor Cheng began his seminar with an introduction to the National Yang Ming

University before proceeding with an introduction on the mental phenomenon. Interestingly, according to Professor Cheng, throughout his years of researching the cross-cultural of mind and spirit in brain science, Malaysia has been one of the few countries who are open to the idea of a spiritual world.

The seminar received positive feedback from all participants, and it is hoped that there will be more of this kind of talk in the near future.

*"Such talks must nourish the dialogue of civilization, especially the aspects of civilization."*

**-Participant**



Prof. Kai explaining about a Taiwanese philosopher to the audience



Audiences from various background listening attentively to the speaker

# Seminar Antara Budaya: Ilmu, Agama-Ideologi dan Budaya

Agama, ideologi dan kebudayaan saling berkait dan sukar untuk dibezakan kerana ketiga-tiga komponen ini dapat dijadikan sebagai pedoman hidup walaupun ianya mempunyai nilai dan maksud yang berlainan. Tujuan Seminar Antara Budaya: Ilmu, Agama-Ideologi dan Budaya ini diadakan adalah untuk memberi pendedahan kepada para peserta mengenai Budaya, Ilmu, Agama-Ideologi dan Bahasa, dan sebagai satu alternatif dalam menjadikan keilmuan Melayu dalam sejarah dan muzium kepada perdebatan keilmuan semasa. Oleh itu, seminar ini telah diadakan pada 15 Mac 2017 (Rabu) anjuran Pusat Dialog Peradaban (PDP) dengan kerjasama Institut Darul Ehsan. Seminar tersebut yang telah diadakan di Bilik Auditorium, bermula jam 10 pagi dan berakhir pada jam 4 petang. Seramai 7 orang peserta telah membentangkan kertas kerja mereka.

Emeritus Profesor Dr Shaharir Mohd Zain yang merupakan pembentang pertama telah membentangkan kertas kerja beliau yang berjudul, Kos Pengabaian Kebudayaan dalam Penterjemahan Sains Matematik Inggeris-Melayu. Dalam pembentangan beliau, Prof Shaharir menerangkan tentang terjemahan yang melibatkan budaya.



Pembentang kedua: En. Mohd Naim Fakhirin

Pembentang kedua, Encik Muhd Naim Fakhirin, merupakan pelajar PhD dari Universiti Malaya (UM) membentangkan kertas kerja bertajuk Pengurusan Politik Eropah di Alam Melayu. Encik Naim menerangkan tentang peranan kuasa-kuasa Barat seperti British, Belanda, Portugis dan Sepanyol dalam menguruskan politik di Alam Melayu. Menurut beliau, British telah menilai terlebih dahulu sifat Melayu sebelum melakukan keganasan di Tanah Melayu



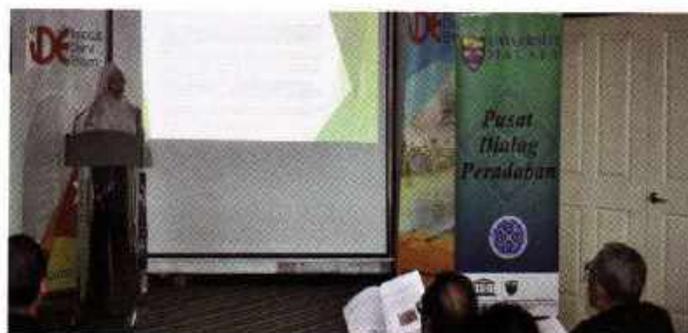
Pembentang pertama: Profesor Emeritus Dr Shaharir Mohd Zain

Click to play



Pembentang ketiga: En. Tarmizi Hasrah

Selesai sesi soal jawab, seminar diteruskan lagi dengan pembentang ketiga, En. Tarmizi Hasrah, yang merupakan pensyarah dari Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM). Beliau membentang kertas kerja bertajuk *Pertembungan Bahasa di Malayonesia: Kelihan terhadap Bahasa Jawi*. Pembentangannya membincangkan pertembungan bahasa Melayu dengan bahasa Arab di Malayonesia yang memperlihatkan kepelbagaian bahasa yang ditimbulkan oleh Bahasa Melayu sehingga menjadi "bahasa kacukan". Ia menjadi bahasa yang dibuat-buat untuk membolehkan orang Cina dan India pada zaman dahulu berkomunikasi. Encik Tarmizi juga menyatakan bahawa bahasa Melayu mempunyai banyak pengaruh bahasa Arab berbanding dengan bahasa Roman.



Pembentang keempat: Dr Ros Mahwati

Pembentang keempat, Dr Ros Mahwati, dari Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM) membentang tentang Perbandingan Penjilidan dan Iluminasi Al-Quran Melayu dan Cina. Dr Ros Mahwati dalam pembentangannya menjelaskan tentang kaedah penjilidan dan iluminasi yang digunakan dalam Al-Quran. Menurut beliau, setakat ini masih lagi tidak dijumpai kemahiran penjilidan yang diwarisi secara turun-temurun.

Click to play



Pembentang kelima: Dr Alinor Kadir

## SEMINAR

Seminar diteruskan lagi dengan pembentang dari Akademi Sains Islam Malaysia (ASASI), Dr Alinor Kadir, yang membentangkan "Tahu" sebagai Konsep Epistemologi Malayonesia. Tahu bererti menunjukkan seseorang memahami sesuatu perkara. Menariknya, perkataan 'tahu' merupakan istilah asli dari Malayonesia, yang tidak mempunyai evolusi dari bahasa lain.



Pembentang keenam: En. Mohd Rohaizat Abdul Wahab

Encik Mohd Rohaizat bin Abdul Wahab kemudiannya membentangkan Sebaran Simbol Kuno sebagai Pengetahuan Sejagat bagi Pelaut Dunia. Pembentangan Encik Rohaizat membincangkan kepercayaan masyarakat pelaut dan symbol yang dijumpai pada perahu dan kapal di seluruh dunia, dan jumpaan symbol pada perahu tradisional Melayu di Pantai Timur. Menurut beliau, evolusi dan pengaruh pada persekitaran sedikit sebanyak mempengaruhi bentuk symbol. Encik Rohaizat juga banyak menunjukkan contoh-contoh gambar symbol yang dijumpai sepanjang kajian beliau. Antara contoh yang diberikan termasuklah kapal ini yang dianggap sebagai berjantina perempuan dan kebiasaannya kepala kapal akan dihiasi dengan mata, sebagai tanda mengawasi, dan seolah mempunyai rupa.

Pembentang terakhir, Puan Nurul Fatini, yang merupakan pelajar PhD Universiti Sains

Malaysia (USM) membentangkan tentang Kebudayaan Langit Pribumi Malayonesia, Oseania dan Australasia. Puan Fatini membincangkan tentang kebudayaan Langit Nusantara dimana masyarakat Melayu tradisional bergantung hidup pada alam seperti dalam pekerjaan bersawah dan memungut hasil lautan. Puan Fatini juga menyentuh tentang idea buruj yang merupakan simbolik alam keliling bersifat tempatan yang berbentuk sastera lisan yang dicorak oleh masyarakat dan petempatan disekitarnya. Beliau juga turut membincangkan tentang susunan bintang belantik yang mempunyai pelbagai tafsiran mengikut masyarakat dan budaya setempat.

 Click to play



Pembentang ketujuh: Pn. Nurul Fatini

*"Bahasa dicipta sesuai dengan akal, tutur dan kepentingan"*

# Migration, Documentation, and Humanisation of Rohingya



## RESTLESS BEINGS

*Restless Beings is a gathering of restless individuals who are passionate about human rights in an organisation founded on the desire to work towards egalitarianism from the roots up. They work with the most marginalised and persecuted communities across the world; the underdogs of society whose plights often brushed under the carpet by mainstream media and the masses.*



On 17 April 2017, the Centre for Civilisational Dialogue welcomed the Co-Founders and Co-Directors of Restless Beings to deliver a talk on Migration, Documentation and Humanisation of Rohingya. The seminar began at 10am and took place at the Auditorium of Institute of Postgraduate Studies, University of Malaya. Mr. Maburur Ahmed and Mrs. Rahima Begum delivered the talk which was attended by lecturers, and mostly postgraduate students. According to Restless Beings, the Rohingyas are one of the most persecuted communities in the world. Despite having lived in the state of Arakan (which is part of Burma) since the 8th century, they were not recognised as citizens of The Union of Burma since the coup d'état by General Ne Win in 1962.

The Rohingyas have migrated to countries like Bangladesh, Malaysia, India, Thailand, Saudi Arabia and Indonesia. However, according to Mr. Maburur, these refugees are not registered, which means they have no documentation to prove their citizenship and origins, and that limits their right to live as a normal human being. Mr. Maburur explained that some refugees, for instance, some pregnant women took the risk of getting caught and jailed if they want their newborn to be registered. The seminar received interesting feedbacks and audiences were engaged with the talk. One of the audiences who attended the seminar was once a

refugee for 15 years from South Sudan. He shared his experiences which moved the audience and just reflects the hope there is in seeing a better world. One of the participants raised an interesting and equally important question, why is this happening? Mr. Maburur and Mrs. Rahima explained that this is all because of the greedy governments who want to exploit the natural resources that is sitting under the Rohingya community. Towards the end of the seminar, Mr. Maburur shared Restless Beings responses towards this crisis, and Mrs. Rahima encouraged us to participate in this movement and contribute to the cause as a university students.



# Visit from Universiti Malaysia Terengganu UNESCO Club (UMTUC)

University of Malaya UNESCO Club (UMUC) welcomed visiting delegates on 11 November 2016 from the Universiti Malaysia Terengganu UNESCO Club (UMTUC). The objectives of this visit are to bridging the cooperation relationship between the two clubs, and to officially invite UMUC to join the Presidential Conference with other selected eight (8) universities to further discuss on programmes that bring forward Malaysia to the international level.



Prof Shakila welcoming the delegates



Delegates concentrating on the presentation



Some of the delegates from UMTUC



A brief speech by one of the delegates from UMTUC



Soaring upwards!

# Walk for *Unity*

## Uniting young Malaysians through walking in university campus

Walk for Unity 2017 was an event that gathers national secondary school students and university students to walk together on this auspicious day. The event was held on 25 February 2017 at University of Malaya with the objectives to encourage students from national secondary schools to communicate with students of different races, and to encourage university students to cultivate a sense of unity and responsibility among the younger students.

This event which involved only girls was the first of its series to promote unity in a diverse culture. A total of two (2) schools participated in this series, which are Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Sultan Abdul Samad, and Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Vivekananda. The event was also participated by both undergraduate and postgraduate University of Malaya students.



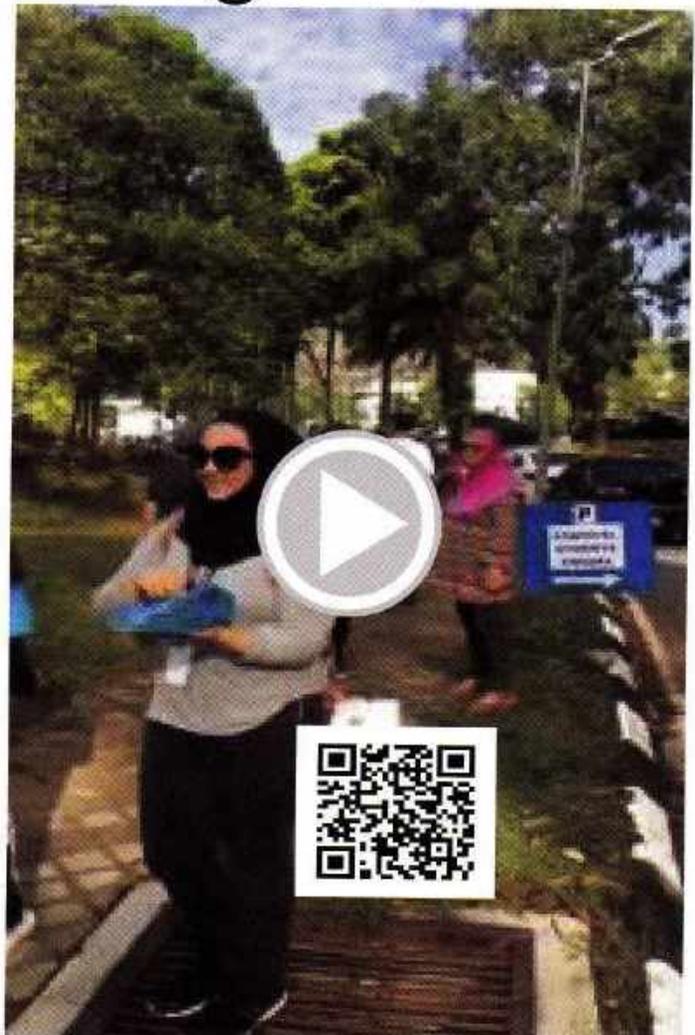
Students from SMK Sultan Abdul Samad with one of the mentor

Students began walking at 8.30am, and they were guided by our University of Malaya UNESCO Club (UMUC) members, accompanied by their school teachers. The volunteers were on standby at three (3) designated checkpoints throughout the journey to give them a mark as they have

passed that checkpoint. The volunteers led the way from UM Central to Rimba Ilmu.

Rimba Ilmu, a Malay word, which means "The Forest of Knowledge" was established in 1974 and occupies an area of 80 hectares. Rimba Ilmu is a tropical botanical garden, modelled after a rain forest garden concept which emphasises the flora of the Malaysian and Indonesian region. At Rimba Ilmu, the students and teachers were brought into a site visit within the Rimba Ilmu where they had the opportunity to witness a "mini jungle" in the University of Malaya.

 Click to play



Volunteers distributing coloured rubber band to the students



Students walking into Rimba Ilmu

Students and teachers were then brought back to the centre of Rimba Ilmu where volunteers helped distribute the food and beverages. Students, mentors and volunteers continued their conversation during this session.

 Click to play



Volunteers distributing coloured rubber band to the students

The event ended with a closing ceremony where the Director of the Centre for Civilisational Dialogue, Professor Dr Shakila Yacob delivered a short speech and some gifts to the lucky draw winners. The Deputy Director, Dr Rosilawati Zainol also delivered a prize to the lucky winner.

Overall, this programme gave participating national secondary school students to have a glimpse of life as a university student from walking within the university campus and interacting with an actual university student in real time. By exposing these young students to the university environment, it encourages them to study hard and smart, so they would be motivated to further their education to tertiary level. In the long run, the act of these young Malaysians walking together on a Saturday morning is a symbolic move as we are encouraging these budding Malaysians from various background to put their differences aside and enjoy the walk together, towards a united and successful Malaysia. All in all, Walk for Unity is an initiative taken by the University of Malaya UNESCO Club (UMUC) and Centre for Civilisational Dialogue (CCD) to ensure that these students are aware that they do have access to quality education regardless of their background.

*"It is very enjoyable, because I get to know more about the University of Malaya"*

**-Student**

PHOTO GALLERY



The route map for Walk for Unity



Students receiving coloured rubber band at checkpoint



Professor Dr Shakila delivering a prize for the lucky winner





Happy faces pre-walking from SMK Vivekananda

Some of the volunteers helping in arranging and distributing food for the participants



Group picture after the programme

# Simposium Sekretariat Pemimpin UNESCO Universiti Awam Kali Ke-1

The first Simposium Sekretariat Pemimpin UNESCO Universiti Awam (SSPUUA) was held at Universiti Malaysia Terengganu (UMT), Terengganu. Four University of Malaya UNESCO Club (UMUC) delegates, Mr. Mark Anak Edward Tuah, President of UMUC; Mr. Tan Chun Rong, Head of Public Relations & Repertoire; Mr. Muhammad Faris Zafri bin Zulkifli, and Ms. Nik Nadia Nik Nazri, attended the symposium which lasted for three days from 14 April 2017 (Friday) to 16 April 2017 (Sunday).



Delegates from University of Malaya UNESCO Club (UMUC)

From left to right: Mr. Mark Anak Edward Tuah, Mr. Muhammad Faris Zafri bin Zulkifli, Ms. Nik Nadia Nik Nazri, and Mr. Tan Chun Rong

The Simposium Sekretariat Pemimpin UNESCO Universiti Awam (SSPUUA) was officiated by the Secretary General of Malaysian National Commission for UNESCO (SKUM), YBhg Encik Khairul Adib Ad Rahman. The symposium began with a Dialogue Session on 'Creating Awareness of UNESCO to Youth' by YBhg Encik Khairul Adib Ad Rahman and moderated by Encik Madzli. The

dialogue started with an introduction to the formation of UNESCO and Malaysia's relations with UNESCO, and discussed the need for UNESCO Club in all universities and the future of UNESCO in Malaysia.

The three-day symposium hosted a number of programmes which were beneficial to the UNESCO club members to further strengthen their understanding on the purpose, governing of, and the issues in the UNESCO club. The presidents of the UNESCO Clubs then attended the UNESCO Presidents' Meeting which aims to discuss the agendas of all UNESCO Clubs. Mr. Mark and Mr. Tan attended the UNESCO Presidents' Meeting, while Mr. Faris and Ms. Nadia participated in the UNESCO Governance Pre-Workshop. During this workshop, each participating university shared their challenges in establishing and maintaining the UNESCO club, such as issues in recruiting new members and projects.



President of UMUC, Mr. Mark attending the UNESCO Presidents' Meeting

## UNESCO CLUB

The delegates also participated in Bengkel Pengurusan Governan UNESCO Universiti Awam in which every university UNESCO Club members presented their best projects or projects that they intend to carry out in the future. Each university then continued to discuss on their organisation chart and niche area as to standardise the governance between the UNESCO Clubs among the public universities.

After all the hard work and brainstorming session, the delegates were taken to the must-visit cultural and heritage sites in Kuala Terengganu. The delegates visited the Crystal Mosque, Pasar Payang, and China Town. Each team were guided by a UMT Liaison Officer who acts as tour guide for the delegates. They also visited some institutions in UMT such as the Museum of the Institute of Oceanography and Environment (INOS), School of Fisheries and Aquaculture Sciences (FISHA) and School of

Ocean Engineering (PPKK) where they were exposed to areas related to marine studies and were demonstrated on how to use the emergency equipment such as distress flares and powder, used when being stranded at the sea. The delegates were also given the opportunity to step inside the ship simulator where they get to see what it takes to sail a ship.

The symposium ended with a closing ceremony officiated by Prof. Madya Dr. Che Mohd Ruzaidi Bin Ghazali, the Deputy Vice Chancellor (HEPA) of University Malaysia Terengganu and En. Zainudin Bin Mamat, Head of Administration HEPA. During the Closing Ceremony, all President from each UNESCO Club signed a resolution of the SSPUUA as a sign of agreement. Following the symposium, the delegates came back home with a better understanding and increased awareness of UNESCO Malaysia's aims and objectives.

Mr. Tan Chun Rong, Head of Public Relations and Repertoire during the visit to Kuala Terengganu



UNESCO Club leaders in front of the Crystal Mosque

(Credit: Instagram @umtuc\_)

UNESCO Club leaders all ready to soar

# Santai UMUC

Santai UMUC was a sharing session that was planned by the University of Malaya UNESCO Club (UMUC) to share their experiences and the knowledge they obtained following their participation to the Simposium Sekretariat Pemimpin Pelajar UNESCO Universiti Awam Kali Ke-1 (SSPPUUA). The sharing session was carried out on 21 April 2017, at Bilik Kuliah 8 (BK8), Faculty of Built Environment, University of Malaya. The two-hour meeting started at 10.00am which began with a warm welcome from the UMUC President, Mr. Mark Anak Edward Tuah.

Santai UMUC is divided into three parts. The first part will be presented by UMUC President, Mr. Mark, followed by Mr. Tan, Mr. Faris Zafri and finally a sharing session by Mr. Mohd Noor, who is now attached at Institute Kefahaman Islam Malaysia (IKIM), and Mr. Azim from Malaysian Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC) who had vast experience with UMUC before. The UMUC members were fortunate to have Mr. Mohd Noor, who was one of the members who managed UMUC, and Mr. Azim, founder of UMUC.

Mr. Mark began his session by explaining the objectives of the meeting which is to share their experiences from attending the SSPPUUA which took place from 14 – 16 April 2017 at University Malaysia Terengganu (UMT). The 3-day event was organised by the Universiti Malaysia Terengganu UNESCO Club (UMTUC).

The second session was carried out by Mr. Tan Chun Rong, who then explained their activities throughout the symposium. Mr. Tan also shared some of the decisions they had to make during the meeting in deciding the niche area for UMUC. In the second workshop, Mr. Tan explained that they had to finalise the cluster and niche area as it is the final discussion session. University of Malaya UNESCO Club has chosen the Education,

Social Science and Culture as the niche area, which consists the main principles in UNESCO.

Albeit this program was not created in conjunction with any international days as celebrated by UNESCO, it has successfully brought together UNESCO club members and opened their eyes and mind to the opportunities that are available as a UNESCO club member. This session also strengthens our understanding of UNESCO and the UNESCO Club itself following the sharing session by the delegates.



From left to right: Mr. Mohd Noor, IKIM; Mr. Azim, MDEC; Mr. Harith, Vice President UMUC; Dr Rosilawati Zainol, Deputy Director of CCD

# Ilmu Swa-Acuan

Bengkel yang tersebut di atas adalah anjuran Pusat Dialog Peradaban (PDP) dengan kerjasama Jabatan Pengajian Sains dan Teknologi, Universiti Malaya (UM) yang diadakan pada 22 Januari, 2017 = 25 J. Awwal 1438H = 25 Syrawana 1939 Saka. Tempatnya ialah di Bilik Seminar Fakulti Sains, UM. Bengkel ini dijangka dimulai pada pukul 10 pg hingga 4 ptg tetapi terpaksa digeserkan pada pukul 10.30 dan berakhir pada 4.40 ptg. Seramai 28 orang mengikuti bengkel ini yang kebanyakan terdiri daripada siswazah pelbagai bidang. Setara peserta yang tamat bengkel ini diberi sekeping sijil.



Prof. Shaharir menerangkan tujuan dan kandungan bengkel kepada para peserta

Bengkel ini dijalankan oleh Prof. Emer. SHAHARIR bin Mohamad Zain (Shaharir b.M. Z), Zamil (rasminya, Felo) Pusat Dialog Peradaban UKM dan Zamil (rasminya Felo) Akademi Sains Malaysia dengan bantuan Dr. Muhamad Alinor bin Abdul Kadir (Alinor M.b. A.K.), sarjana dan karyawan bebas merangkap Zamil Sekutu INSPEM dan PDP.

Tujuan bengkel ini diadakan adalah untuk meningkatkan kefahaman akan maksud ilmu mengikut acuan sendiri, atau ringkasnya ilmu swa-acuan ini; memaparkan kaedah

pembinaan ilmu itu; dan memaparkan kaedah penulisan ilmu itu sebagai sesebuah makalah ilmiah dan membuat latihan terhadapnya.

Bengkel dilangsungkan secara kuliah berasaskan catatan kuliah yang dibekalkan itu dan dibuka peluang berinteraksi (soal-jawab) seluas-luasnya secara celahan peserta bila-bila masa dan provokasi penceramah.

Click to play



Prof. Shaharir menerangkan tentang bahasa sementara peserta membaca makalah yang disediakan

*Program dan pengisian yang sangat baik.*

*-Peserta*

# Hands-On Basic Spatial Data Handling Using Quantum GIS (Session 1)

This workshop was held on 28 March 2017. Participated by four participants, this workshop aimed at providing insights on geospatial data. Three objectives were set namely to develop awareness of the basic capabilities of geographic information (GIS) as one of the research methods, to understand the basic concepts of GIS application and to understand specific ways in GIS application that can be used in a specific discipline. The facilitator for this workshop was Dr Rosilawati Zainol. The workshop was divided into four main sessions. The first session was on the introduction of geographic information system (GIS) application concept. Participants were presented with the

understanding of GIS concept before using the application. The second session was on the introduction to Quantum GIS. In this session, participants were showed step by step on how to use Quantum GIS, a free GIS application software. In the third session, the participants learned the steps to create a GIS database. Finally, in the fourth session, a simple buffer analysis, map visualisation and manipulation were shown to participants. Quantum GIS has a limitation in performing the analysis. Thus, participants are encouraged to participate in the next workshop "Performing Spatial Analysis with GeoDa" which concentrates on learning the concepts of spatial analysis.



Participants receiving certificate of participation from Dr Rosilawati

# Visit from Heibei University

On 9 March 2017, Centre for Civilisational Dialogue (CCD) received delegates from Hebei University Research Center for Social Development of Islamic Countries. Among the delegates that were present include Professor Dr Saliha Bai Gui, the Head of He Bei University Islamic Country Society and Development Research Centre, Dr Yahya Jin Qiang, and Ms Fatimah Zhang Xin Yu who acted as the interpreter. CCD Director, Professor Dr Shakila Yacob, her deputy, Dr Rosilawati Zainol and CCD research fellow, Emeritus Professor Dr Shaharir Mohd Zain was also present. Both parties discussed the possibility of signing a Memorandum of Understanding to allow the following programs to be realised: students exchange, library resources exchange, research collaborations, organising seminars and conferences.



From left: Ms. Fatimah Zhang Xin Yu, Dr Rosilawati Zainol, Professor Dr Shakila Yacob, Professor Dr Saliha Bai Gui, Emeritus Professor Dr Shaharir Mohd Zain, and Dr Yahya Jin



The delegates listening to explanation by Dr Rosilawati Zainol



Professor Dr Shakila receiving souvenir as a token of appreciation

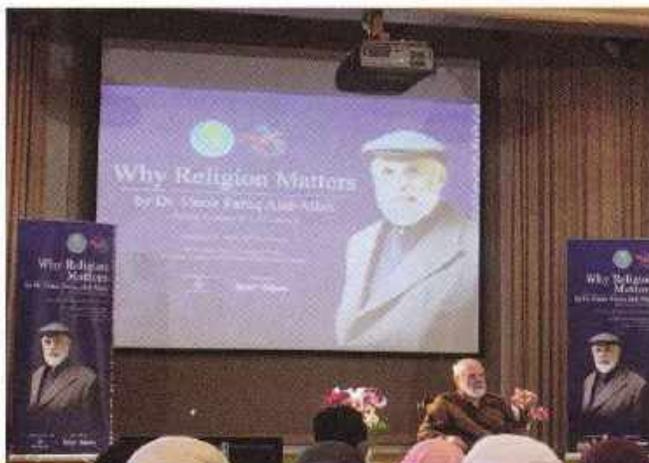
# External Events & Networking



ICON Lecture: Trump, Brexit and Tomorrow's World: A British View by The Honourable Mr. Michael Ballof  
10 January 2017, Tuesday  
The Royale Chulan Kuala Lumpur



Extraordinary Session of the OIC Council of Foreign Ministers on the Situation of The Rohingya Muslim Minority in Myanmar  
19 January 2017, Thursday  
Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre



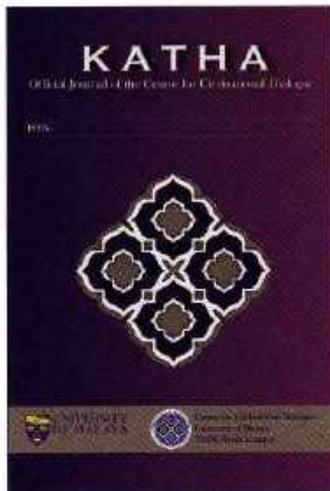
Why Religion Matters by Dr Umar Faruq Abd-Allah  
25 March 2017. Saturday  
Institut Kefahaman Islam Malaysia (IKIM)



Picture credit: IDFR

Cultural Diplomacy Lecture Series 1/2017: "The Interface between Religion and Culture" by Dr Muhammad Salah  
28 March 2017, Tuesday  
Treaty Room, Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

# Call for Manuscript



**KATHA**

The University of Malaya Centre for Civilisational Dialogue (UMCCD) is pleased to announce that the publication of The Journal of Katha (KATHA) is entering its 13th year. KATHA is a peer-reviewed, interdisciplinary journal with readership throughout the field of humanities, social and natural sciences. It provides a platform for scholars, experts, researchers, practitioners, and students to publish original research, review papers, and other scholarly works.

The journal invites research articles, theoretical papers as well as book reviews touching upon any aspect of intercivilisations or intercultural discourses on religions, philosophies, languages, knowledges or sciences. It welcomes manuscripts written in English.

The journal considers manuscripts not previously published or currently under consideration by other publications. By submitting their manuscripts, the authors agree the copyright of their articles are transferred to the publisher once the manuscripts are accepted for publication.

Submit your manuscript here (<https://ejournal.um.edu.my/index.php/KATHA>)

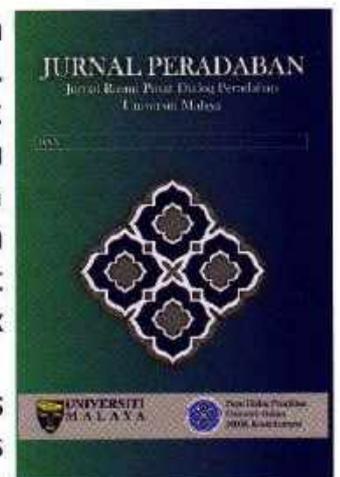
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## Undangan Menghantar Makalah

Jurnal Peradaban merupakan jurnal inter disiplin yang diwasit dengan pembaca merangkumi bidang kemanusiaan, sains sosial dan sains tabii.

Sarjana, pakar, penyelidik, pengamal dan pelajar siswazah dijemput menerbitkan hasil penyelidikan asli, makalah ulasan dan kritikan ilmu tentang antara-peradaban/antara-tamadun atau wacana antarabudaya tentang agama, falsafah, bahasa, ilmu kemanusiaan dan kemasyarakatan, ilmu pengetahuan atau sains dan teknologi sangat dialu-alukan. Manuskrip dalam bahasa Melayu Malayonesia (termasuk Malaysia, Indonesia, Brunei dan Singapura) amat dialu-alukan.

Hanya manuskrip yang belum pernah diterbitkan atau dalam proses penilaian diterbitkan oleh jurnal lain akan dipertimbangkan. Penulis dianggap bersetuju hak cipta manuskrip tersebut telah bertukar tangan kepada penerbit sekiranya diterima untuk penerbitannya.



**Jurnal Peradaban**

Hantar manuskrip anda disini (<https://ejournal.um.edu.my/index.php/ADAB>)



# UMUC is Calling for Members!



The **University of Malaya UNESCO Club (UMUC)** membership drive is back!  
We want **YOU** to join us in upcoming fun-filled activities!

Our previous events:



We are looking for:

-  **Fun-loving, awesome** individuals with a love for volunteering!
-  Interest in **culture, education and science**, or anything in between!
-  Responsible and have that willingness to realise your dream activities/events!

Your opportunities:

-  **Unleash your creativity!**  
Propose and develop your own activity!
-  **Grow together!**  
Build personal and professional network
-  **Give back to society**  
Engage and contribute to your society!

**REGISTER  
HERE!**

<https://goo.gl/forms/dmQxpWD350DFJax93>



**COME  
JOIN  
US!**

For more information on our future events and activities, please visit:  
<http://www.unesco.um.edu.my>



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