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CENTRE FOR CIVILISATIONAL DIALOGUE | PUSAT DIALOG PERADABAN



Excerpts from the Officiating Speech by YBhg. Professor Dato' Ir. Dr. Mohd. Hamdi Abd. Shukor, Vice-Chancellor of Universiti Malaya

(Commemorating 25 Years Establishment of the Universiti Malaya Centre for Civilisational Dialogue (UMCCD))

The Preamble of the UNESCO's Charter states "Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed".

Promoting international peace through a mosaic of intercultural dialogue and inter-faith exchange of ideas is central to any public or private educational institution and cultural and religious organisation. Since its establishment on the 13th November 1996 until now, we have had the opportunity to see the development of civilisational dialogue at home and abroad and to appreciate how dialogue actually play an important role in our daily lives, and in our relationships, through the efforts of the UMCCD.

IN THIS ISSUE

EXCERPTS FROM THE OFFICIATING SPEECH BY YBHG. PROFESSOR DATO' IR. DR. MOHD. HAMDI ABD. SHUKOR, VICE-CHANCELLOR OF UNIVERSITI MALAYA

VISIT BY HIS EXCELLENCY IRFAN DAVUDOV (AMBASSADOR OF AZERBAIJAN)

SPECIAL LECTURE AND LAUNCHING OF BOOK "ENVIRONMENTAL WISDOM FOR PLANET EARTH - THE ISLAMIC HERITAGE"

RELIGION AND POST-MODERNISM

UNIVERSITI MALAYA UNESCO CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2022

UM'S WORLDWIDE TEACH-IN ON CLIMATE AND JUSTICE 2022

UM UNESCO CLUB (UMUC)
CELEBRATES WORLD ART DAY 2022

GLIMPSES OF THE PAST



5 June 2009

Lecture on "Concept of God as Understood by Muslims" by Yusof Ma Zhanming (PhD Student from International Islamic University Malaysia)



24 July 2009

Seminar on "Ibn Arabi: The Relevance of His Thoughts in the Quest for Sustainability"



31 July 2009

Lecture on "A New View of Science Supporting Civilisational Dialogue: Towards a Future Global Science" by Dr Elisabet Sahtouris (Visiting Scholar at UMCCD from World Business Academy and World Wisdom Council, USA)



19 October 2009

Lecture on "Dialogue as Necessity and Opportunity" by Prof Dr Leonard Swidler (Visiting Scholar at UMCCD from Temple University, USA)

COMMEMORATING 25 YEARS OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF UNIVERSITI MALAYA CENTRE FOR CIVILISATIONAL DIALOGUE (UMCCD)

One of the mandates of the Universiti Malaya upon its establishment was in fact to enhance inter-cultural dialogue amongst its members as well as the wider society. As one of the premier universities in Malaysia, Universiti Malaya has played that role through the UMCCD at least for the last 25 years. The first inter-civilisational dialogue held was between Islam, Japan and the West via an international conference held by the UMCCD in 1996.

The scope of Dialogue of Civilizations (DoC) ranges from the political, military, security fields as well as the social and economic arenas. DoC also delves into the realms of culture, science and values, the environment, human rights as well as other global issues. When conflicts arise, DoC serves to create a spirit of cooperation, instead of confrontation.

DoC stresses the global resurgence of respect for cultural diversity in world politics and it legitimises the quest for cultural authenticity as an important contemporary need as it affects the relationships between the Western and non-Western world as well as between the ethnicities within different nations. DoC in fact is the best method for managing diversity of culture, faith and ideologies. Our cultural and religious diversities should be a cause for celebration rather than being used as a reason for conflict. This can be achieved not by erasing differences but by creating a unity via shared values through mutual recognition and respect for the dignity of every group and by encouraging the possibilities for amicable and harmonious interactions.

All forms of extremism should be avoided, and fear, hatred, and bigotry should be avoided. Generally, we must move beyond tolerance towards an appreciation of the positive values of others in order to keep harmonious relationship with them, in line with the concept of "Keluarga Malaysia" espoused by our Prime Minister. To keep the good momentum going, likewise in UM, we embrace our core values of Passion, Oneness, Integrity, Sincerity and Empathy (POISE) and I believe the values of POISE are also applicable during dialogues.

- Through PASSION we celebrate the importance of the values of civilisations while respecting differences that exist so that we can give a positive impact to the society, nation and to the global community.
- Through ONENESS, we unite as Malaysian and global citizens via shared values.
- Though INTEGRITY, DoC spreads the values of honesty, accountability, and trustworthiness.
- SINCERITY is the most important element of DoC because it allows for trust amongst us though we may have different viewpoints than others.
- The value of EMPATHY or the ability to feel what others are experiencing from within is also critical for dialogue.

In line with the principle that DoC which is a much-needed mechanism for discoursing issues that arose from the inevitable encounter between nations, ethnic groups, faith systems, ideologies, worldviews and cultures in the 1990's, it is our honour to welcome YBhg. Emeritus Prof. Datuk Dr. Osman Bakar who was the founding father of UMCCD 25 years ago during his tenure as the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic & International) of Universiti Malaya to our special event today. I would like to record our utmost gratitude to Emeritus Prof. Datuk Dr. Osman Bakar who is also currently holding Al-Ghazali Chair of Epistemology and Civilizational Studies and Renewal at ISTAC-International Islamic University Malaysia who is also Emeritus Professor of Philosophy of Science at the Universiti Malaya to this special event today where he will shortly share his thoughts on DoC and UMCCD in the future.

I also take this opportunity to welcome YBhg. Prof. Datuk Dr. Azizan to the university as the current director of UMCCD starting 1st November 2021. Prof. Datuk. Dr. Azizan was the 3rd director for UMCCD and she has been actively promoting DoC both inside and outside the UM. I believe under her current leadership, the Centre for Civilisational Dialogue (UMCCD) will move to new heights of DoC, in line with all the changes that are taking place around us locally and internationally.

Again, it is my pleasure to welcome all of you to this event commemorating 25 years of the establishment of UMCCD and I look forward to even more achievements of the Centre in the future.

GLIMPSES OF THE PAST



11 December 2009

Lecture on "Anthropological Studies on Indigenous People in Taiwan: Three Typical Cases" by Prof Dr Tristan Hsieh Shih-Chung (Visiting Scholar at UMCCD from National University of Taiwan)



21 May 2013

Public Lecture by Irina Bokova, Director General of UNESCO "The New Humanism in the 21st Century: The Role of Good Governance & Education in Empowering the Society"



7 November 2013Public Lecture by Dr Nahid Ferdousi on
"Juvenile Justice System and Wellbeing of the
Children"



25 June 2015

Forum on "Ramadan Interfaith Dialogue - The
Power of Fasting: Purpose and Benefits"

Prof. Datuk Dr. Azizan Baharuddin and Research Fellow of UMCCD, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Durriyyah Sharifah Hasan Adli were involved with the UNESCO Malaysia National Commission (SKUM) granting research awards meeting on 10th January 2022.

Prof. Azizan Baharuddin presented a talk entitled "Knowing and Caring of Nature - An Islamic Perspective" in the Islam-Buddhism Eco Dialogue (IBED Conference 2022), organised by Tibetan Buddhist Cultural Centre Malaysia (TBCC) and Angkatan Belia Islam Malaysia (ABIM), on 15th January 2022.

Dr. Alwani Ghazali, was a moderator in the Islam-Buddhism Eco Dialogue (IBED Conference 2022).

Prof. Azizan Baharuddin was a speaker in a webinar "Asas dan Falsafah Kepemimpinan & Kejurulatihan dalam Pergerakan Puteri Islam Malaysia (PPIM)", organised by the Young Muslim Women Association of Malaysia (Pergerakan Puteri Islam Malaysia (PPIM)) on 12th February 2022.

Prof. Azizan Baharuddin was appointed as an IKIM researcher for a research entitled "Piagam Harmoni Malaysia", on 18th February 2022.

Prof. Azizan Baharuddin was a panelist in the forum "In Focus: Women Leading Climate Action", organised by UKM-YSD Chair for Sustainability on 23rd March 2022



Visit by His Excellency Irfan Davudov (Ambassador of Azerbaijan)

The Centre for Civilisational Dialogue Universiti Malaya (UMCCD) received a visit by the Ambassador of Azerbaijan, His Excellency Irfan Davudov on the 26th January 2022. HE Irfan Davudov was accompanied by the Counselor from the Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan to Malaysia, Mr Rafig Rustamov. They were welcomed by the Director of UMCCD, Prof. Datuk Dr. Azizan Baharuddin together with other UMCCD members. The meeting discussed possible collaborations between relevant centres in Azerbaijan and the UMCCD, to promote global peace and sustainability of civilisation through dialogue.

Special Lecture and Launching of Book "Environmental Wisdom for Planet Earth - The Islamic Heritage"

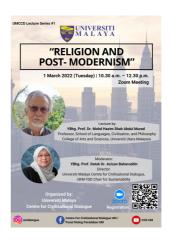




On the 8th February 2022, Emeritus Prof. Datuk Dr. Osman Bakar (Al-Ghazali Chair of Epistemology and Civilizational Studies and Renewal ISTAC-IIUM), delivered a special lecture in conjunction with the launching of his book entitled "Environmental Wisdom for Planet Earth - The Islamic Heritage", published by the UMCCD. Prof. Datuk Dr. Azizan Baharuddin was the moderator of the lecture. The book was launched by Dr. Iyad Abumoghli, Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Special remarks was delivered by Tan Sri Dr. Jemilah Mahmood, Professor and Executive Director of the Sunway Centre for Planetary Health, Sunway University, after that.

Religion and Post-Modernism

On the 1st March 2022, Prof. Dr. Mohd Hazim Shah Abdul Murad (Professor from Universiti Utara Malaysia) delivered the second lecture series of UMCCD, entitled "Religion and Post-Modernism". The moderator of the lecture was Director of UMCCD. In his lecture, Prof. Hazim concluded that the Western society and culture is basically modernistic in their outlook in the realms of politics, administration, economics and technology. As such, Muslim societies must not mimick the Western system blindly but rather, must articulate their own intellectual and cultural position in line with their religious tradition and value system. This important lecture can be accessed at the UMCCD website.



UM's Worldwide Teach-in on Climate and Justice 2022





On the 30th March 2022, UMCCD was invited by Universiti Malaya Sustainability and Development Centre (UM SDC) to organise a forum entitled "Religion & Climate Justice" under the UM's Worldwide Teach-in on Climate and Justice 2022 program. Dr. Mohd Zuhdi Marzuki, Political Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Water (KASA) started the forum with a special address on climate and justice. The moderator was Dr. Fachruddin Majeri Mangunjaya from Universitas Nasional, Jakarta. The speakers were Dr. Asmawati Muhamad, Prof. Dr. Esther Gnanamalar Sarojini, Dr. Shaikh Mohd Saifuddeen bin Shaikh, and Dr. Karma Tashi Choedron. The speakers presented the views of their respective religions and the efforts they have taken in preserving nature towards achieving a sustainable future for all. The program was spearheaded by UM SDC, the Graduate Programs in Sustainability at Bard College in New York, USA and Open Society University Network with worldwide partners such as Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU).

Prof. Azizan Baharuddin was a panelist in the "Roundtable Series: Peaceful Coexistence", organised by the Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia and Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations (IDFR), Ministry of Foreign Affairs Malaysia, on 8th February 2022.

Prof. Azizan Baharuddin was a panelist in the discussion on "Environment and Islamic Education" organised by the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-5.2) regarding the document "Al-Mizan: A Covenant for the Earth" on 1st March 2022.

Dr. Durriyyah Sharifah represented UMCCD as a facilitator for a session at the Asian Universities Alliance Youth Forum (AUAYF) 2022, organised by the Global Enrichment & Mobility Centre, Universiti Malaya under the Asian Universities Alliance platform, from 21-25 March 2022.

Prof. Azizan Baharuddin was a panelist in the webinar "36th ASM ideaXchange: Science and Spirituality in Pursuit of Planetary Health" in conjunction with *Minggu Sains Negara* 2022, organised by the Academy of Sciences Malaysia (ASM) under the Ministry of Science, Technology, and Innovation (MOSTI) on 22nd March 2022.

A newspaper article entitled "Wanita mampu terajui usaha tangani perubahan iklim" faetured Prof. Azizan Baharuddin was published in Berita Harian, on 12th April 2022.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zul Ilham Zulkiflee Lubes, Deputy Director of UMCCD, held the first collaborative meeting between UMCCD and the UNESCO Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education fo Peace and Sustainability (MGIEP), New Delhi, India on 4th April 2022.



Universiti Malaya
UNESCO Club (UMUC)
Annual General Meeting
2022

United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Cultural Organization

Cultural Organization

Cultural Organization

Cultural Organization

Member of the Network of Clubs, Centres and Associations for UNESCO

[Since 2007]

MALAYA

On the 26th March 2022, Universiti Malaya UNESCO Club (UMUC) conducted its Annual General Meeting. The event was officiated by the Director of UMCCD. In her officiating speech, Prof Azizan highlighted the importance of teamwork and positive attitude towards building a better society and civilisation. She also announced the appointment of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Durriyyah Sharifah Hasan Adli, Research Fellow of UMCCD, as the UMUC Advisor. Ms Suhaila Muhamad, UMUC President of 2021, was re-elected as the president for 2022.

UMUC Celebrates World Art Day 2022: A Collaborative Workshop "Bringing People Together, Inspiring, Soothing and Sharing"



The 15th of April is known as the World Art Day, declared by the UNESCO. In conjunction with this, UMUC organised a workshop with the aim of portraying art as a medium that is capable of bringing people together, inspiring, soothing and sharing. The program began with opening remarks from Ms. Suhaila Muhamad, UMUC President. Upon registration, participants received drawing paper and crayons, and were given time to express their creativities using the items, with the theme 'In My Own Time'. After that, a workshop on *batik* colouring was conducted by Madam Fauziah Yahaya, followed by a dialogue session with Mr. Qi Razali about his involvement in art. Participants had the opportunity to ask him questions about his journey into becoming an artist. The program was then continued with a henna art session handled by Jonas John, Secretary of UMUC. The workshop received positive feedbacks from the participants and ended with closing remarks from Assoc. Prof. Dr. Durriyyah Sharifah Hasan Adli.

Upcoming Events / Activities





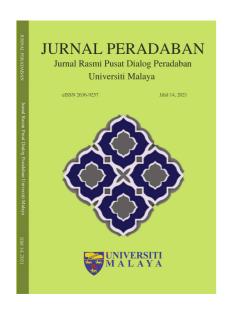






Call for Papers

JURNAL PERADABAN



Jurnal PERADABAN yang telah mula diterbitkan pada tahun 2008 merupakan jurnal berwasit yang diminati pembaca terutamanya dalam bidang kemanusiaan, sains sosial dan sains tabii. Jurnal yang menerbitkan artikel dalam Bahasa Melayu ini juga merupakan satu platform untuk berdialog tentang pelbagai isu berdasarkan pengamatan dan penilaian kritis serta menerima artikel penyelidikan, kertas teori, atau ulasan buku yang menyentuh mana-mana aspek berkenaan wacana tentang peradaban dan dialog antara pandangan budaya, alam serta kepercayaan, bahasa falsafah, danpengetahuan sains.

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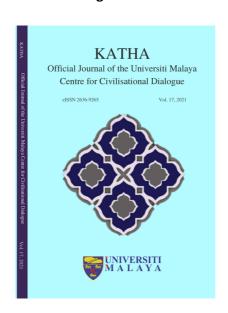
Laman Web: https://peradaban.um.edu.my

KATHA JOURNAL

Journal KATHA first published in 2005,peer-reviewed, is interdisciplinary journal 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 intercivilisational or intercultural discourses on worldviews and faiths, philosophies, languages and knowledges of science.

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OUR BULLETIN

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

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- Centre for Civilisational Dialogue Level 1, Door C6, High Impact Research Building, Universiti Malaya, 50603 Kuala Lumpur, MALAYSIA
- **O**3-7967 5697 / 7790 / 5522
- dialog@um.edu.my
- https://dialogue.um.edu.my/

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