

PROGRAMME

- 09:30 ARRIVAL OF GUESTS/ REGISTRATION
- 10:00 WELCOME SPEECH BY
YBHG. PROF. DR. MOHD EKHWAN TORIMAN
DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR
RESEARCH & INNOVATION AFFAIRS
UNIVERSITI KEBANGSAAN MALAYSIA
- 10:15 SPEECH BY
H.E. MANUEL JOSE BALAGUER SALAS
AMBASSADOR OF THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC TO MALAYSIA
- 10:45 SPEECH BY
YBHG. DATO' KENNEDY JAWAN
UNDERSECRETARY OF THE AMERICAS DIVISION
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS MALAYSIA
- 11:15 BOOK LAUNCHING
"ALIF: KOLEKSI CERPEN JORGE LUIS BORGES"
"SEJARAH ARGENTINA ABAD KE-20"
TO BE LAUNCHED BY DATO' KENNEDY JAWAN
- 11:45 PHOTO SESSION
- 12:00 END OF PROGRAMME & REFRESHMENT

ORGANISED BY



CELEBRATING

ARGENTINA-MALAYSIA 50TH YEAR OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS & BOOK LAUNCHING CEREMONY

FIRST ARGENTINE BOOKS TRANSLATED INTO MALAY

"ALIF: KOLEKSI CERPEN JORGE LUIS BORGES"
BY JORGE LUIS BORGES &
"SEJARAH ARGENTINA ABAD KE-20"
BY LUIS ALBERTO ROMERO

16th May 2017 (Tuesday) | 9.30 a.m. – 12.00 p.m.
Council Room, 5th floor, Chancellory Building, UKM Bangi





CELEBRATING ARGENTINA-MALAYSIA

50TH YEAR OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

Argentina established diplomatic relations with Malaysia on 7 June 1967, four years after the formation of the Federation of Malaysia. The Argentine Embassy was opened in Kuala Lumpur in August 1983 while Malaysia opened its Embassy in Buenos Aires in 1989. Argentina was the first Latin America country to acknowledge Malaysia as an independent country. Since 1967, these relations have grown for 50 years. Both countries have expressed mutual interest in strengthening economic and trade links and reciprocal investment. They have gone beyond economic relations and have shared cuisine and culture throughout the years. In commemorating the Argentine National day on the 25th of May 2017, the Embassy of Argentina in Malaysia and IKMAS UKM, have taken the initiative to co-organise this event to celebrate the richness of this century diplomatic relations. In line with this celebration, we present the launching of the two Argentine books translated into Malay by UKM Press, *Alif: Koleksi Cerpen Jorge Luis Borges* (Zakaria Ali) and *Sejarah Argentina Abad ke 50: Luis Alberto Romero* (Mohd Firdaus Abdul Jabbar & Rashila Ramli); an effort to significantly promote the exchange of cultural literacy between the two countries.

“ALIF KOLEKSI CERPEN JORGE LUIS BORGES”

Alif: Koleksi Cerpen Jorge Luis Borges is a translated work of the infamous Argentine short-story writer, essayist, poet, and a key figure in Spanish-language literature, Jorge Luis Borges. The translation of *El Aleph* (in Spanish) into Bahasa Melayu is a two-pronged effort; i) as an initiative to share the luxury of Latin American literature to Malaysian readers and the Malay archipelagic area as well as ii) to empower Bahasa Melayu as part of the principal goals of Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia. The work presents an idea of an infinite time where most of the stories fall under fantasy category or genre. Through *Alif*, Borges allows readers to dive into various dimensions of life that tackle the issue of immortality, personal identity, and an attempt to understand the fate of a 'nation', race, or ethnicity that cannot be mourned. This collection of short stories gives readers an opportunity to appreciate the variety of issues that can leave a lasting impression on the thoughts and emotions of human beings. A Latin American literary landscape that underlies this book shows the wealth of knowledge that can be embraced and shared together.

“SEJARAH ARGENTINA ABAD KE-20”

Luis Alberto Romero, the famous Argentine historian, in the writing of this book reminds readers, especially the younger generation of Argentina today on the importance of supporting and upholding a democratic system of government for the common good of the society. As the author notes in the preface of this book, he said, the collapse of a country into the hands of a dictator is not an event that often occurs. It is also not that hard to do. However, to make things right and get the regime back into a democratic system as well as maintaining it will never be an easy task. It might take generations after generations of an undisturbed history to only get it improved. By discussing issues of rebuilding and developing the country; politically, economically, and socio-culturally to become democratic from 1910 to 2001, this book is expected to inform readers what Argentina did; the internal struggles that they have to go through, as well as the external forces that painstakingly forcing the country to accept their conditions, to be the Argentine today. It is also meant to inspire readers to learn lessons from their experiences by which the author himself feels that it should be avoided.

