

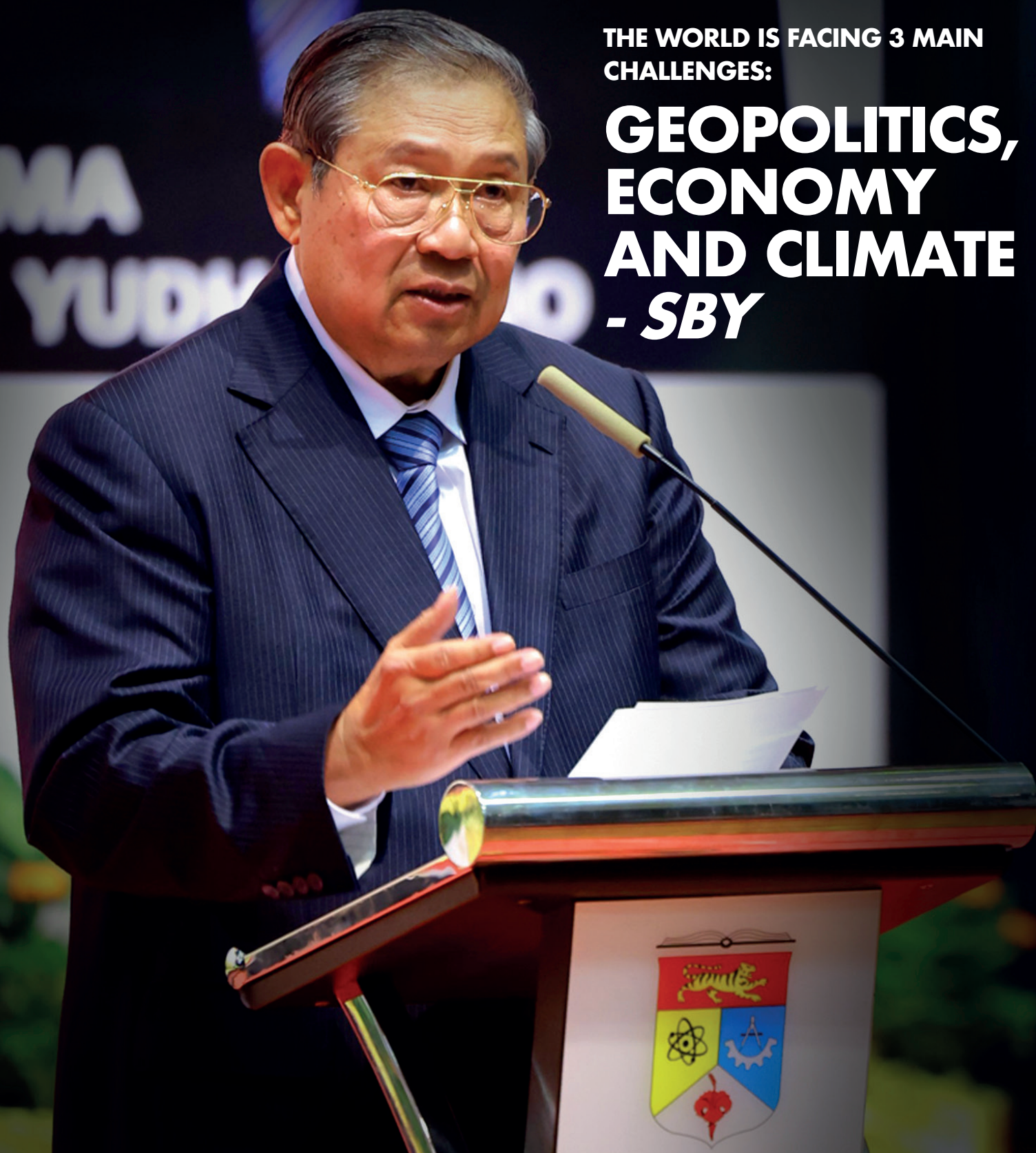
RESONANCE

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**THE WORLD IS FACING 3 MAIN
CHALLENGES:**

**GEOPOLITICS,
ECONOMY
AND CLIMATE
- *SBY***



RESONANCE

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Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia is one of Malaysia's premier research universities. Its astounding and renowned presence in the academia is reflected through the various contributions it has made to the society, remarkable research that its researchers take part in and the many cooperation it has with the industry. Flip through the pages to read about UKM's prestigious achievements in research, publications, students and staff related activities. Happy reading.

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Articles are welcomed and can be sent to:
pkk@ukm.edu.my

Message from the Vice-Chancellor

PROF. DATO' Gs. Ts. DR. MOHD EKHWAN HJ. TORIMAN



After two years of battling the Covid-19 pandemic, the country is slowly returning to near-normal life by transitioning to endemic phase. Consequently, many of the university programmes can be carried out in-person on a large scale while still adhering to the SOPs outlined by the ministry.

The covid-19 pandemic has brought many things to a halt. Just a year ago, we were still hesitant to hold large-scale events in terms of physical presence. However, UKM took the stage this year to deliver the 5th Chancellor Tuanku Muhriz Chancellor's Lecture, which was attended by over 1,000 people.

The Chancellor Tuanku Muhriz Lecture, which had been postponed for two years, was carried out successfully. The event was also attended by other eminent guests, including the former Indonesian President Dr.

Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, who delivered a keynote address.

Along with this lecture, UKM held two other events, which are the Royal Dining Ceremony and Friendly Volleyball Match between the Indonesian (LavAni) and the UKM volleyball team.

These three events serve as a benchmark for UKM's ability to manage various other major events, including being selected to host some of the major national events.

There is still a long way to go. The COVID-19 pandemic has not yet subsided. However, thanks to the vaccine, we can see that the infection rate is decreasing, and people all over the world are free to travel without fear. The government's easing of restrictions demonstrates our readiness to accept this endemic phase in its entirety.

Finally, I urge all UKM residents and students to maintain their safety and well-being. Let's come together to organize more university events as a success as a tribute to UKM's advancement on the global stage.

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The World is Facing 3 Main Challenges: Geopolitics, Economy and Climate Change - SBY

Oleh Asmahanim Amir

The 6th Indonesian President, His Excellency Prof. Dr. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono stated the world is facing three main challenges which are geopolitics, economy, and climate change. Commonly referred to by his initials SBY, he said that the world is entering a new era of major power rivalry, a situation known as geopolitical recession.

"The relationship between major powers is tainted with increasingly intense conflicts, competition, insecurity, and disbelief," he said.

He added that a strategic trust cannot be built overnight, but it will take time and a series of meetings, negotiations, and experience to reach an agreement.

"Of course, strategic trust does not happen overnight; it develops from consistent confidence-building efforts and success in managing or resolving conflicts," he explained.





He delivered the Royal keynote address at the 5th Chancellor Tuanku Muhriz's Lecture, titled "A Better World is Possible."

Attending the lecture were Yang Dipertuan Besar of Negeri Sembilan, Tuanku Muhriz Ibni Almarhum Tuanku Munawir and Tunku Ampuan Besar of Negeri Sembilan, Tuanku Aishah Rohani Tengku Besar Mahmud, Tunku Besar Seri Menanti, Tunku Ali Redhaudin Tuanku Muhriz and Tunku Zain Al-'Abidin Tuanku Muhriz.

Also present, Datuk Seri Diraja Tunku Puteri Intan Safinaz Almarhum Sultan Abdul Halim Muadzam Shah; Indonesian Ambassador to Malaysia, Hermano, Chairman of UKM Board of Directors, Prof. Emeritus Dato' Dr. Mohamad Abd Razak and UKM Vice Chancellor, Prof Dato' Gs. Ts. Dr. Mohd Ekhwan Toriman.

With 662 million people living in ten ASEAN nations, Prof. Dr. Susilo urged that ASEAN must play a proactive role in boosting its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to 3.2 trillion and becoming the fifth largest economy in the world.



"In my opinion, ASEAN's influence and capacity in taking action in major power rivalry in our region is better than a couple of decades ago, but geopolitical recession presents a challenge for ASEAN this year," he said.

Therefore, it is critical for ASEAN nation leaders to strengthen their cooperation in order to be the best at maintaining peace, stability, and good cooperation, he explained.

"The more effort the main power puts into managing challenges, the more peace benefits we can provide to the region.

"This is because the world we live in is dealing with complex issues such as geopolitical recession, international economic safety concerns, and other environmental complications," he concluded.



UKM Chancellor Attended the Royal Dining Ceremony

By Asmahanim Amir

His Royal Highness Yang di-Pertuan Besar Negeri Sembilan Darul Khusus, Tuanku Muhriz Ibni Almarhum Tuanku Munawir, the Chancellor of Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), attended the Royal Dinner Ceremony in conjunction with the 5th Chancellor Tuanku Mukhriz Lecture.

The dinner is to express gratitude to His Excellency Prof. Dr. H. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, the 6th Indonesian President, for attending and delivering a lecture the day before.

Prof. Emeritus Dato' Dr. Mohamad Abd. Razak, the chairman of the UKM Board of Directors, stated that the Chancellor Tuanku Mukhriz Lecture is held annually to enrich the corpus

of knowledge that can provide significant benefits in life through the knowledge sharing by the great figures and scholars in the world.

"UKM also plays a role in ensuring the formation of sustainable human capital for the well-being of society," he said during his speech.

He added that the lecture will serve as guidance for UKM as Universiti Watan in ensuring the continuity of national identity.

"The university will continue to play an important role in advancing and disseminating knowledge through a variety of platforms.



“UKM extends its sincere gratitude to His Excellency Prof. Dr. H. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono for his thought-provoking address. We are grateful that your delegation travelled to all the way to Malaysia from Indonesia to participate in this event,” he said.

Also present at the Royal Dinner Ceremony were UKM pro-Chancellor YTM Dato’ Seri Diraja Tan Sri Tunku Puteri Intan Safinaz Binti Almarhum Sultan Abdul Halim Mu’adzam Shah, Indonesian Ambassador to Malaysia, Your Excellency Hermono Vice Chancellor Prof. Dato’ Gs. Ts. Dr. Mohd Ekhwan Hj Toriman, Deputy Vice Chancellors, and UKM top management.



A man with glasses and a blue blazer is speaking at a podium. The podium has the logo of Universiti Kelantan Malaysia, The National University of Malaysia. The background is dark with some colorful lights.

Leading Academics Meet Business Experts at TZLS: Unplugged

By Murniati Abu Karim

UKM created a platform for academics and business to spark conversation and connection among the community through “Tunku Zain Lecture Series (TZLS): Unplugged 2022”.

The first in its series, TZLS: Unplugged 2022 was inspired by Tunku Zain Al-‘Abidin ibni Tuanku Muhriz who takes centre stage at the start of the ceremony with a lovely piano rendition of Varsiti Kita.

He later presented his inaugural speech titled “Capturing Opportunities for National Renewal” which focused on the tremendous underlying opportunities that exist in this uncertain new era, post-pandemic, and what Malaysia needs to do to move forward in its pursuit of renewal, success, and prosperity.

Prof. Dr. Mohammad Kassim, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and International), said that this programme allows academics and business leaders to discuss innovative

and sustainable solutions as well as unravel the future’s increasingly complex problems and challenges.

“This is consistent with one of the strategic priorities for improving the quality and performance of higher education in the country, which is to strengthen the network of strategic partnership through collaboration with industry through various initiatives,” he said.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Industry, Alumni and Community Partnerships, Prof. Dato’ Dr. Norazah Mohd Nordin who is also Chairman TZLS: Unplugged 2022 said that this lecture series is fresh take on a regular talk programme.

“The concept for this programme is more casual as compared to other lecture programmes. We have incorporated entertainment elements in between the sessions so that the audience can have a good time while participating in a highly engaging educational environment,” she continued.

Co-organised by UKM-Graduate School of Business, the lecture has garnered support from industry partners such as Pharmaniaga Berhad, WCT Holdings Berhad, Telekom Malaysia Berhad, Hyrax Oil Sdn. Bhd, Dayang Enterprise Holdings Berhad, USAINS Holdings, Les Copaque Production, UCSI Group Holdings, Sunway Education Group, (Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) and more.



Kursi Wakaf Sheikh Othman Sarawak to Empower Sarawak Muslims

By Asmahanim Amir

The Sheikh Othman Sarawak Chair, located at the Faculty of Islamic Studies Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) was established to empower Muslims in Sarawak.

Pro Vice-Chancellor (Strategy and Corporate Development) Prof. Dato' Dr. Wan Kamal Mujani said that the chair was established to strengthen the digital economy, involvement in small and medium enterprises, modern agriculture, civilization development such as waqf and baitulmal, as well as the

empowerment of Sarawak's generation of Islamic thinkers.

"The establishment of this chair is the beginning of a more serious effort in formulating a plan for the socioeconomic empowerment of the Muslim community in Sarawak," he said.

He added that the faculty provides a scholarship to a Sarawak student for research under the waqf chair.





“We hope that more Sarawak students will be eligible for this scholarship to conduct more research for this waqf chair,” he said, adding that the waqf chair will be managed in accordance with Shariah practices.

Sarawak Deputy Minister for Utility and Telecommunications, Datuk Dr. Abdul Rahman Junaidi hoped that the collaboration between the Sarawak State Government and UKM, through the Sarawak Islamic Religious Council, would go smoothly and that all plans made would yield positive results.

“The Sheikh Othman Sarawak Chair is Malaysia’s first waqf method, and I hope it will help in establishing close cooperation between UKM and the Sarawak government through Majlis Agama Islam Selangor in all aspects,” he said.



TVET Institutions Urged to Collaborate with Universities and Innovation Agencies

By Murniati Abu Karim



Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions are urged to work more closely with universities and innovation agencies to develop new technologies that benefit the industries.

According to Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Income Generation and Development), Profesor Dr. Norhamidi Muhamad, it is crucial that the TVET path is aligned with the development of the industries driven by the Fourth Industrial Revolution (IR 4.0).

“Strategic collaboration in TVET research and development is deemed an important contributor to the success of TVET institutions. Therefore, future collaborations have to be forged strategically with impactful outcomes.

“TVET has to be relevant, and future-driven that matches the needs of the industries,” he said in his speech while officiating the Empowering Malaysian TVET for Future Development Series 2 seminar.

The seminar was organised by The Faculty of Engineering and Built Environment in collaboration with Malaysian Technical Doctorate Association, MyRIVET Satellite, and the Faculty of Technical and Vocational, Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris.

This seminar serves as a platform that allows the participants to understand the issues, challenges, and opportunities in TVET, especially in the Malaysian context.

It aims to explore new perspectives and opportunities in TVET for policymakers, educators, industry players, and students.

Featured as guest speakers for the programme were Scientific Leader Research Group Vocational Education & Training, Stockholms University, Professor Lazaro Moreno Harera and Federation of Malaysia Manufacturer Dato’ Palaniappan Joseph.



Promoting Peace Education as the National Agenda

By Salleh Sulieman

With increasing reports of violence, bullying, and hate speech, there is a need to re-examine the place of peace education on the national agenda.

According to Dr Hanita Hanim Ismail of the Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) Faculty of Education, numerous reports indicate a serious need to investigate the quality of education and its content.

“Take a look at one the five national principles – courtesy and morality. It is simply an extension of the importance of respecting others as society members,” she said at the 6th International Conference on Social Peace & Educational Alternatives for Violence.





The event also saw the signing Memorandum of Agreement between UKM and Land of Peace Centre for Development and Human Rights, Jordan.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic & International Affairs), Prof. Dr. Mohammad Kassim expressed hope that the MoA could translate ongoing efforts to promote peace education.

“It is hoped that the participation of UKM academic members and the Non-Governmental Organisations in knowledge transfer will indicate the success of this partnership.

“Indeed, the goal is to conduct impactful research toward the development and administration of peace education which I hope to implement in Malaysian schools,” he said.



A photograph of two men in traditional Malay attire (KBM) standing behind a podium. The man on the left is wearing a teal shirt and a patterned sarong, smiling. The man on the right is wearing a maroon shirt and a patterned sarong, looking down. They are both wearing black songkok hats. The background is slightly blurred, showing an indoor setting with a window and some equipment. A large, vibrant green plant is in the foreground, partially obscuring the bottom of the image.

UKM Receives RM1 Million Fund from Undang Johol Foundation

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By Suhaila Shahrul Annuar

RESONANCE

Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) through the Institute of Islam Hadhari received a RM1 million endowment fund contribution from the Undang Johol Foundation to strengthen the education and development aspects of the community in the area.

The initiative was marked by the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoA) between UKM and the Undang Johol Foundation, a subsidiary of the Undang Luak Johol.

Vice Chancellor Prof. Dato' Ts. Dr. Mohd Ekhwan Toriman stated that the endowment fund will be used to strengthen education among students in Johol through scholarships.

"The endowment fund will also be used for research in the field of customs and culture in Negeri Sembilan, as well as community development for the B40 group," he said.

Meanwhile, a memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed at the same event between the Transformation Centre University

Community (UCTC) UKM and Undang Luak Johol.

The MoU was part of an effort to mobilise development of lands in the Undang Luak Johol territories, which include Johol, Kepis, Dangi, Selaru, Gemencheh, Pasir Besar, Air Kuning, Gemas, Palong, Jelai, Rompin, and Padang.

According to Prof. Dato' Ts. Dr. Mohd Ekhwan Toriman, the Luak Johol Indigenous Land Development Project is one of the initiatives by UCTC.

"Our main goal is to help improve the economic status of the Johol community by attracting more investors who are interested in developing the area of customary land.

"We will use our existing expertise to assist the owner of these abandoned customary lands so that we can build on economic projects without destroying the ecosystem of the land area," he said.



UKM Receives Accreditation from RCSEd

By Murniati Abu Karim

Advanced Surgical Skills Center (ASSC) Hospital Canselor Tuanku Muhriz (HCTM) Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) became the first surgical skills training centre outside the United Kingdom to receive a five-year accreditation from The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh (RCSEd).

The accreditation, which takes effect on 7 April 2022, is a continuation of the accreditation received in 2019 as a result of the ASSC's success in achieving and maintaining the international standard of training required in the healthcare system.



UKM Vice Chancellor Professor Dato' Ts Dr Mohd Ekhwan Toriman said, the accreditation is a proud achievement for HCTM and UKM as RCSEd is one of the most prestigious and oldest surgical colleges in world.

"Alhamdulillah, RSCEd has recognised ASSC's sophisticated and international infrastructure facility, as well as its ability to conduct multiple courses.

"UKM will continue to support ASSC and strategic partners in their efforts to strengthen higher education in Malaysia in order to achieve regional and global aspirations.

"The university is always committed to leading development to produce a dynamic and knowledgeable community," he said.

He added that ASSC is directly involved in pre-graduate teaching, post-graduate and clinical studies related to the field of surgery.

In addition to providing high-tech and cutting-edge equipment, the centre serves as a training hub for students, specialists, and general health workers.



UKM Medical Team Heads North to Help Flood Victims

By Asmahanim Amir

Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) mobilised a medical team from Chancellor Tuanku Muhriz Hospital (HCTM) and Tunku Ampuan Besar Tuanku Aishah Rohani Children's Specialist Hospital to assist recent flood victims in Baling, Kedah.

A medical team of 12 volunteers comprised of doctors, assistant medical officers, nurses, and nursing students was sent to the disaster locations as part of an initiative spearheaded by the Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE).

The UKM health team assisted the Ministry of Health Malaysia by providing health consulting services and health treatment at the District Health Center booth.

Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dato' Gs. Ts. Dr. Mohd Ekhwan Toriman stated that as part of its social responsibility, UKM teaching hospital is prepared to assist flood victims who are in need of medical treatment.



“Despite the fact that the affected areas are on the opposite side of the country, UKM remains committed to providing immediate assistance in caring for the community.

“The medical team is providing health consulting services and mobile health treatment to flood victims from house to house,” he explained.

UKM has also deployed 55 volunteers, including staff and students from its campuses in Bangi and Cheras, to assist the flood-affected villagers.

“As Universiti Watan, we are always aware of what is going on in society. Help is available to all regardless of race, nation, or religion. We are all sincerely trying to lighten the load.

“Although the donation is small, the spirit of community is always present in the hearts of UKM residents,” he said.



Cheaper Meals for Students On Campus

By Asmahanim Amir

Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) welcomes the initiative by the Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE) to introduce Menu Siswa Keluarga Malaysia at university cafeterias to reduce the student's burden particularly those from the B40 families.

Vice Chancellor Prof. Dato' Gs. Ts. Dr. Mohd Ekhwani Toriman said the Menu Siswa Keluarga Malaysia is among generous and thoughtful initiative of the university to help its students.

"We completely understand that the cost of living is rising as the price of goods increases.

"Although the assistance may not be much for some students. We should be thankful that the MOHE initiative has come at the right time.

"We appreciate the cooperation of all cafeteria operators in setting the fixed price for Menu Siswa Keluarga Malaysia," he said.



He added that the university cafeterias had set RM3.50 for a lunch set comprising white rice, any one chicken or fish dish, vegetables, and gravy or soup.

The set price is also applicable for dinner comprising fried rice and fried egg, he said, adding that the menu was available at all UKM cafeterias at its Bangi, Cheras and Kuala Lumpur campuses.

He also said the cafeterias would be given a six-month moratorium on their rental payment, in return for their cooperation in the matter.



UKM Volleyball Team Put Up a Good Fight Against Bugor LaVani

By Asmahanim Amir



A friendly volleyball match between the Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) team and the Bogor LavAni, Indonesia team was extremely intense, with both teams putting up a stiff competition.

Despite losing the first and second sets by scores of 25-18 and 25-23, respectively, the UKM team was still able to catch up and tie the game by winning the third and fourth sets by scores of 22-25 and 21-25, respectively. This

brought the match to the deciding set.

The deciding set was intense and thrilling, as both teams played with high spirits before Bogor LavAni won the match with 15-10 points.

Although UKM team lost by a score of 3-2, Chairman of the UKM Board of Directors, Prof. Emeritus Dato' Dr. Mohamad stated that what matters is the sportsmanship displayed by both teams.

"We must keep in mind that the LavAni team is an Indonesian professional team. They are also the champion team of the Indonesian Volleyball League. We couldn't be more proud to go up against a formidable opponent," he said.

The team LavAni, which stands for 'Love Ani,' is named after The Honorable Prof. Dr. H. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono's late wife, Ani Yudhoyono.

It made a history by winning the Indonesian professional league, Proliga 2022 in its first debut.





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Centre for Corporate Communications
Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia
43600 UKM, Bangi Selangor, Malaysia
☎ +603 8921 5540/3370/4142 ☎ +603 8921 4097
✉ pkk@ukm.edu.my

