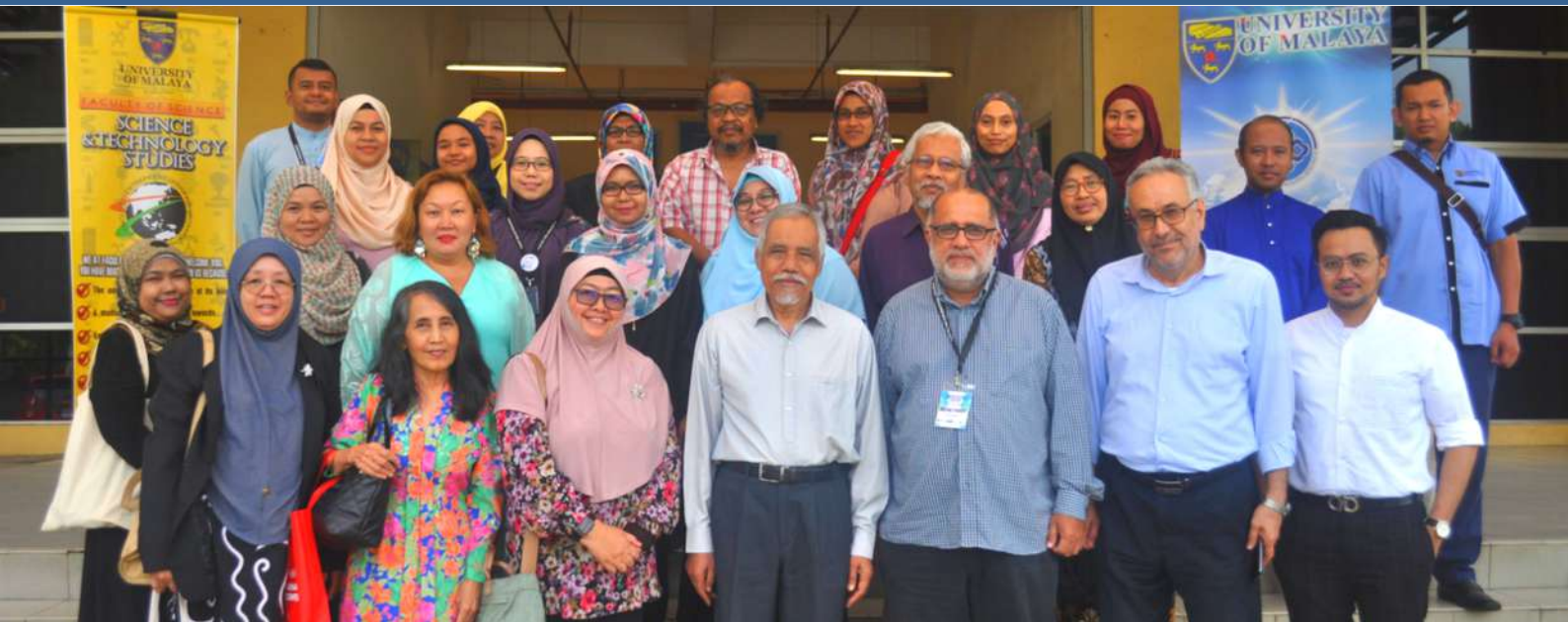


# BULLETIN

CENTRE FOR CIVILISATIONAL DIALOGUE  
PUSAT DIALOG PERADABAN



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**04** 21ST CENTURY YOUTH: A YOUTHFUL  
SOLIDARITY FOR PEACE

AND MORE!

## THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CIVILISATIONAL DIALOGUE 2019

The UM Centre for Civilisational Dialogue (UMCCD) and University of Malaya UNESCO Club (UMUC) have successfully organised the International Conference on Civilisational Dialogue 2019 at University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 15 & 16 August 2019. An international conference that has gathered scholars from various countries with the keynote addresses delivered by two (2) renowned speakers discussing on the significance of contemporary global issues and events relevant to the theme of the conference.



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



University of Malaya UNESCO Club  
Member of the Network of Clubs, Centres and  
Associations for UNESCO  
[Since 2007]

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## **CENTRE FOR CIVILISATIONAL DIALOGUE UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA**

### **BULLETIN**

The bulletin reports on the activities and events conducted by the UM Centre for Civilisational Dialogue (UMCCD), University of Malaya UNESCO Club (UMUC) and our collaborators. All articles and photos are original and belong to the centre. (Unless stated otherwise).



Centre for Civilisational Dialogue /  
Pusat Dialog Peradaban

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# THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CIVILISATIONAL DIALOGUE 2019

The International Conference on Civilisational Dialogue (IConCiDi) 2019 with the central theme on “Youth Role in Managing Cultural Diversity: Towards Sustainability”, was held from 15-16 August 2019 at the Lecture Theatre Complex, Faculty of Science, University of Malaya. Some paper presenters and participants came together to make the conference a success. There were 20 researchers/paper presenters from five different countries; Indonesia, Iran, Sri Lanka, Kazakhstan, and Malaysia participated in the conference.

IConCiDi 2019 was officiated by Prof. Dr. Ainin Sulaiman, the Dean of Social Advancement and Happiness Research Cluster, University of Malaya. The conference had two keynote speakers discussing on the significance of contemporary global issues and events relevant to the theme of the conference. Distinguished Prof. Datuk Dr. Shamsul Amri Baharuddin from Institute of Ethnic Studies (KITA), Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) spoke on “The Youth and Making Sense of a National Agenda:

Unity, Cohesion and Reconciliation in Malaysia”. While Distinguished Prof. Datuk Dr. Osman Bakar, International Institute of Islamic Civilisation & Malay World, International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM) has presented the keynote entitled “The Four Pillars of An Enlightened Cultural Diversity Defining a Role for Youths”.

There were five parallel sessions carried out during the two-day conference. Presenters from various background presented their papers on the three sub-themes; Peace, Heritage & Security, Diversity in Education and Cultural Understanding & Diversity.

Overall, this interactive conference provided several exciting insights and highlighted the importance of inter-community, intercultural and inter-civilisational dialogue to promote the sustainability of cultural diversity in diverse communities of Malaysia.



*"We cannot celebrate diversity without reaching unity"*



# YOUTH DIALOGUE

## "To Live and to Learn Together"

The programme "Youth Dialogue: To Live and To Learn Together" funded by King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue (KAICIID), an inter-governmental organization that promotes the use of dialogue globally to prevent and resolve conflict to enhance understanding and cooperation was held from 7-22 August 2019. UMCCD supports the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which mainly focused on the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion by implementing programmes to overcome stereotypes in a long-term process that leads to a culture of dialogue that enables a better understanding of people of other cultures and followers of other religions.

Most of the participants were among staffs of the University of Malaya which came from diverse backgrounds such as Iran, Yaman, Nigeria, Pakistan and China. The programme started on 7 August 2019 with the visit to houses of worship around Selangor and Kuala Lumpur. The journey began with a visit to Yuan Lin Xiao Zhot Temple, a Buddhist temple located in Petaling Jaya; followed by the Federal Territory Mosque or also known as *Masjid Wilayah Persekutuan*; Sin Sze Si Ya Temple, a Taoist temple located in the heart of the city, Kuala Lumpur; Sri

Subramaniam Temple at Sunway City and last but not least the Church of the Assumption in Petaling Jaya. The following week after the visit to houses of worship, the participants had a Round Table Discussion which was held for two days at iCube Room located at the Academy of Islamic Studies, University of Malaya. It was facilitated by Datin Prof. Dr. Raihanah Haji Abdullah. The participants were introduced to the fundamental of dialogue that comprises the introduction, ground rules, importance and skills of dialogue. The discussion also focused on the essence of identity and respects among religions as well the conflicts and influences in inter-religious dialogue.

The final activity for the programme was held on the 22 August 2019 which was a visit to Selangor and Federal Territory Association for the Mentally Handicapped located at Wisma Harapan, Brickfields, Kuala Lumpur. According to Mrs Veni, the Manager of the centre, there were about 150 trainees in the centre among young children, adolescents, and adults. She gave an introduction about the centre and take the group for a tour on the three-storey building consisting classrooms, workshops, sensory room and artwork room.

Before the programme officially ended, a reflection session among the participants was conducted for them to share their opinions and valuable insights that they gained throughout the programme. Majority of the participants were satisfied and keen to join a similar programme as "Youth Dialogue: To Live and To Learn Together" in the future.





## HARMONY DIALOGUE WITH YB TUAN SENATOR WAYTHA MOORTHY PONNUSAMY

30 August 2019 - The **Harmony Dialogue** was initiated by The Office of Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (National Unity and Social Wellbeing) to meet with the representatives of various religious organisations registered in Malaysia. The aim is to discuss inter-religious understanding, and its vital role in fostering national unity among Malaysians who practice different faith. This session will help in promoting good values, respect and mutual understanding among the Malaysians.

Attendees include members of the Committee to Promote Harmony and Understanding among Religious Adherent (*Jawatankuasa Mempromosikan Persefahaman dan Keharmonian Antara Penganut*

*Agama*), an independent body that is tasked to promote greater understanding among various religions practiced in Malaysia. Organisations represented in the committee include Allied Coordinating Committee of Islamic NGOs (ACCIN), Christian Federation of Malaysia (CFM), Christian for Peace and Harmony in Malaysia (CPFM), Malaysian Buddhist Association (MBA), Buddhist Missionary Society Malaysia (BMSM), Bahai' Community Malaysia, Malaysia Hindu Sangam (MHS) and Malaysia Gurdwara Council among others. Other participants of the dialogue programme include representatives from University of Malaya Centre for Civilisational Dialogue, religious-based NGOs and Think Tanks.

## BENGGEL KRITIKAN KEFAHAMAN SAINS

oleh

*Profesor Emeritus Dr Shaharir Mohamad Zain*



Sebuah bengkel bertajuk “**Kritikan Kefahaman Sains**” telah diadakan di Bilik iCube, Blok iSains, Fakulti Sains, Universiti Malaya pada 11 & 12 September 2019. Ia merupakan program kerjasama yang dianjurkan oleh Pusat Dialog Peradaban bersama Jabatan Pengajian Sains dan Teknologi, UM. Program ini telah dikendalikan oleh Profesor Emeritus Dr Shaharir Mohamad Zain yang merupakan Felo Penyelidik Pusat Dialog Peradaban.

Dr Mohammad Alinor Abdul Kadir dan Dr Maisarah Hasbullah telah dijemput sebagai pemudahcara bengkel ini. Bengkel ini telah dihadiri oleh 25 orang peserta terdiri daripada pelajar Universiti Malaya dan agensi luar.



Antara perkara yang dibicarakan ialah falsafah sains Barat pra-1960-an khususnya klasikisme (termasuklah kaedah sains, justifikasisme dan maksumisme); dan pasca-1960-an hingga kini, khususnya Popperisme, Kuhnisme, dan Lakatosisme dan budayaisme; falsafah Islam (khususnya karya Nasr dan al-Attas), kalamawanisme; dan falsafah sains Malayonesia khususnya karya al-Nasafi dan Shaharir.

Melalui program bengkel ini, adalah diharapkan para peserta dapat meningkatkan kefahaman dan membetulkan lagi kefahaman mereka terhadap sains termasuk matematik.





# MERDEKA-MALAYSIA DAY 2019

The **Merdeka-Malaysia Day 2019** was held on 14 September 2019 at the Auditorium, Faculty of Education, University of Malaya. The program was organised by the Bahai Community Malaysia in collaboration with the Religious Affairs Division, Department of National Unity and Integration, Faculty of Education and the Centre for Civilisational Dialogue, University of Malaya.

The program started with a welcoming speech by Mr. Vijaya Segaran Vadiveloo, representing the Bahai Malaysia Community. Followed by Associate Professor Dr. Zuraidah Abdullah, who represents the Dean of the Faculty of Education to give the opening speech.

The program was attended by 130 youths of various racial and religious backgrounds. The activity was continued with a sharing session and a forum which was organized to raise awareness and aspirations of the youth to strengthen understanding and harmony among Malaysians now and forever.





## UNESCO WORLD TEACHERS' DAY/ ACADEMIA DAY

On 5 October 2019, **UNESCO World Teachers' Day 2019** and the first **National Academic Day** were officially launched by YB Minister of Education, Dr Maszlee Malik by planting the Meranti Copper tree as an opening symbolic.

The Center for Civilisational Dialogue (UMCCD) and the University of Malaya UNESCO Club (UMUC) collaborated with the Higher Education Department (JPT), GERAK, PKAUM, University of Malaya Educational Leadership Institute and Cesta 16 to celebrate this historic day.



Earlier, the activity of the Solidarity Walk and the Zapin Exercise began in the early morning. Participants from many levels show their support for the teachers by participating in the 3 km walk around UM. The program ended with a forum titled "The Role of the Academia and Teachers in Designing a Great Society in the Revolution 4.0 Era" at the Experimental Theater, University of Malaya.

Through the activities organised in conjunction with UNESCO World Teachers' Day 2019, it is hoped that we can build unity and harmony in various races/ethnic groups in Malaysia and enhancing the role of teachers in our community.





## VISIT FROM LYCÉE ANDRÉ MAUROIS OF ELBEUF HIGH SCHOOL NORMANDY, FRANCE

A total of 18 high school students accompanied by three teachers visited to the Centre of Civilisational Dialogue on 18 October 2019. The visit has been highly anticipated by both the students and the community of the Centre as both sides are very supportive and active to share, discuss and explore on inter-cultural dialogue as well as to understand and learn about inter-faith dialogue, tolerance and essence of multi-culturalism.

The delegates received warmly welcome by Emeritus Professor Dr. Shaharir Mohamad Zain from the Centre for Civilisational Dialogue and Mr. Collins Chong from the Marketing and Recruitment Centre, UM. The students started off the event by producing an incredible choir performance, followed by an opening address by Emeritus Professor Shaharir who spoke on civilisational collaboration and understanding as well as presenting on the vision and objective of the centre. Mr. Collins then proceeded to give a briefing on University of Malaya as a whole and the students and the teachers were then engaged in an interactive discussion and Q&A session with the presenters.

The event was concluded by the serving of light refreshments to the participants and a group photo where the participants and the teachers expressed their gratitude for the fruitful and memorable hosting of the event, particularly on the rare and valuable platform to foster and enhance knowledge and understanding on inter-faith dialogue and practices.

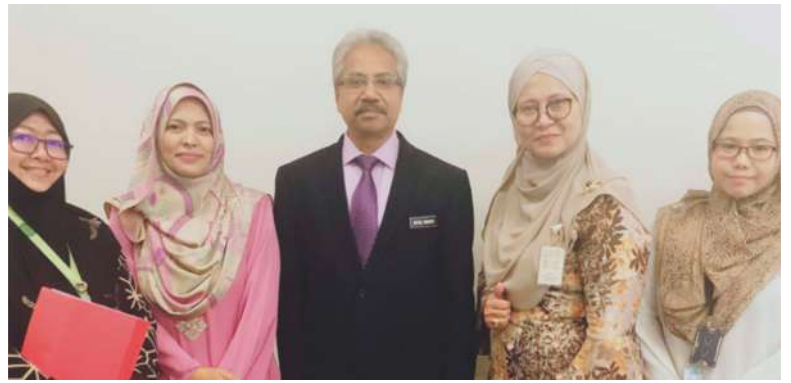
The event has been a success with knowledge gained, friendship fostered, collaboration enhanced, and values taught.



## A Meeting with YB Tuan Senator Waytha Moorthy Ponnusamy

A discussion with YB Senator P. Waytha Moorthy, the Minister in the Prime Minister's Office (National Unity and Social Wellbeing) was held on October 22, 2019 (Tuesday), at the Malaysian Parliament.

This discussion aims to discuss the potential co-operation and collaborative program on Social Welfare Issues. Also present at the discussion session was Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rosilawati Zainol, Director of the Center for Civilisational Dialogue, Mrs. Hajah Nurul Akmalina Hj. Shamsuddin, Director of Religious Affairs Division (JPNIN) and two CCD's Associate Members, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zuraidah Abdullah and Dr. Zuwati Hasim.



## Discussion on Future Collaboration with HWPL Malaysia

A discussion with Ms Kaylee Koehlinger, representative of Heavenly Culture, World Peace, and Restoration of Light (HWPL), Malaysia was held at the Centre for Civilisational Dialogue's office on 6 December 2019.

The discussion is to propose a collaborative program with CCD in 2020. Ms Kaylee has expressed her intention to host a series of seminars on international conflict and law. The purpose of the program is to raise awareness of international conflicts among university students in particular.

The Director of the Centre for Civilisational Dialogue, Assoc. Prof. Gs. Dr. Rosilawati Zainol was satisfied with the proposal and very excited to continue the good relationship with HWPL. The seminar series is expected to run separately and target participants among university students. It is hoped that this program will receive an encouraging response and achieve its objectives.



## 21st Century Youth: A Youthful Solidarity for Peace



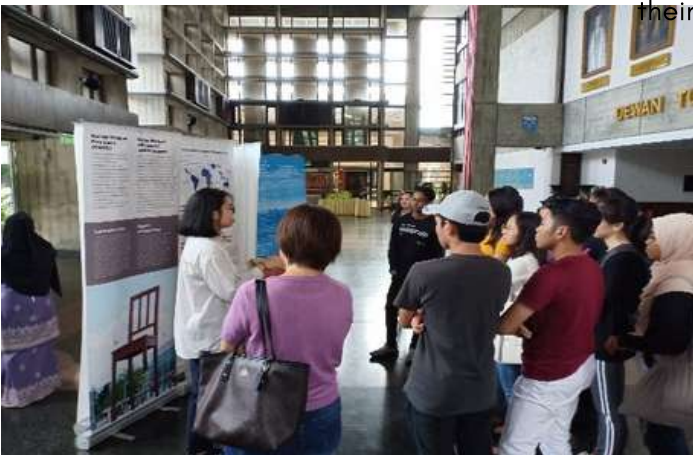
24-25 October 2019 - **21st Century Youth: A Youthful Solidarity for Peace** serves as an eye-opener for university students to the current peace issue in this world. This program acts as an initiation to improve awareness of peace among university students. The program was organised by the Academy of Islamic Studies, and co-organised by the Centre for Civilisational Dialogue, UM Cultural Centre, Centre for Internship Training and Academic Enrichment (CITra) and Soka Gakkai Malaysia (SGM).



The event began with "A Youth and people-centred Approach Towards Peace and Harmony" forum, followed by an exhibition on "Everything You Treasure - For a World Free from Nuclear Weapons". The forum was held on 24 October 2019 at the Auditorium at Academy of Islamic Studies followed by a two-day exhibition at the Academy of Islamic Studies and the Dewan Tunku Canselor, UM.

Among the invited speakers were Emeritus Professor Tan Sri Dato' Dr. Dzulkifli Abdul Razak, Dr. Hj. Mohamed Maliki Mohamed Rapiee, Prof. Dr. Sumiani Yusoff and Prof. Dato Dr. Christopher Boey Chiong Meng as the moderator. The forum is to discuss the topics on nuclear weapons, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and youth participation in creating a harmonious society. The forum received 522 participants from the UM community and outsiders.

Through the exhibition, the participants took the opportunity to bring the issue of safety and the real state of nuclear weapons to the community. Overall, it is hoped that the visitors may realise that everyone can contribute their efforts to creating a peaceful world.



## WORLD PHILOSOPHY DAY 2019



15 November 2019 - The **World Philosophy Day** is celebrated every third Thursday in November to highlight the importance of philosophy among youth. In conjunction with the World Philosophy Day 2019, University of Malaya UNESCO Club (UMUC) organised activities to celebrate the UNESCO's International Day. The celebration of World Philosophy Day 2019 at the University level took place on 15 November 2019 at Meeting Room, Marketing & Recruitment Centre (MRC), University of Malaya. The programme started with a talk on "Role of Philosophy in Modern Life". A freelance speaker, Mr Arief Subhan Arman was invited to speak on the topic. Mr. Arief shared his perspectives on why it is so important the philosophy in our daily life, especially in the new era. Nowadays, youth are not aware the importance of philosophy which may lead them towards a better life.

Before ending the talk, there was an engaging and thoughtful discussion among the speakers with the audience. The participants for this talk include Datuk Rajmah Hussain, CCD's advisor; Professor Dr. Khadijah, the former Executive Director of Institute of Public Policy and Management (INPUMA); and other undergraduate and postgraduate students. Following the talk, the University of Malaya UNESCO Club (UMUC) organised fun and engaging educational game where participants were given a crossword puzzle. The main objective of this game was to show that philosophy could be fun and to encourage the youths to be interested in philosophy. At the end of the programme, participants enjoyed the game and the winners received some custom merchandises sponsored by the Centre for Civilisational Dialogue, CCD.





## **BENKEL TERMA RUJUKAN JAWATANKUASA PENERBITAN PUSAT DIALOG PERADABAN**

14 Januari 2020 - Pusat Dialog Peradaban (PDP) Universiti Malaya memulakan aktiviti bagi tahun 2020 dengan mengadakan bengkel Terma Rujukan (Term of Reference) bagi Jawatankuasa Penerbitan pusat ini. Sejak penubuhannya, PDP telah menghasilkan dan menerbitkan karya ilmiah dalam bentuk buku, monograf, buletin dan risalah.

Tujuan penubuhan Jawatankuasa Penerbitan ini adalah untuk memperkukuhkan tadbir urus dalam menjalankan proses penerbitan yang merupakan penunjuk prestasi utama (KPI) pusat ini.

Dua (2) orang Ahli Bersekutu PDP juga turut menghadiri bengkel ini iaitu En. Chang Lee Wei dan En. Mohd Noor Musa bagi memberikan buah pandangan selain daripada staf PDP.

Selain agenda terma rujukan Jawatankuasa Penerbitan ini, beberapa isu dan cadangan aktiviti tahun 2020 turut dibincangkan bagi memberi gambaran kepada ahli bengkel terutamanya kepada Ahli Bersekutu PDP.

## **A VISIT FROM UNIVERSITY OF LOCKNOW & CCS UNIVERSITY MEERUT, INDIA**

The UM Centre for Civilisational Dialogue (UMCCD) has received a visit from University of Locknow and CCS University Meerut, India on 15 January 2020 at the CCD's office. The courtesy visit was welcomed by Assoc. Prof. Gs. Dr. Rosilawati Zainol, the Director of CCD along with Emeritus Professor Dr. Shaharir Mohamad Zain, the Research Fellow of CCD. The representatives from India, Prof. Dr. Ravindra Kumar and Dr. Kiran Lata Dangwal and Dato' Seri Dr. Dharmadass Damoo had expressed their intention to have a collaboration with CCD soon. It was a fruitful discussion and the Director of CCD looking forward to discussing further on future cooperation.



# ASEAN Women Interfaith Dialogue: Promoting Understanding for an Inclusive and Peaceful Society

12 – 13 November 2019

Sheraton Grand Jakarta Gandaria City Hotel,  
Jakarta, Indonesia.

In accordance with the endorsement of the ASEAN Institute of Peace and Reconciliation (ASEAN-IPR) Governing Council, Indonesia has the privilege to convene an ASEAN-IPR event entitled ASEAN Women Interfaith Dialogue: Promoting Understanding for an Inclusive and Peaceful Society on 12-13 November 2019 in Jakarta, Indonesia. This activity is held in cooperation with the Australian Government and the Asia Foundation.



Datuk Prof. Dr Azizan Baharuddin, Honorary Professor at the Centre for Civilisational Dialogue was invited as Malaysian representative at this special workshop. The ASEAN Women Interfaith Dialogue is part of the ASEAN-IPR's efforts in building peace, conflict management and resolution as well as to push forward gender mainstreaming in interfaith dialogue. This activity is also one of the ways for ASEAN to further implement its commitment as laid out in the 'Joint Statement on Promoting Women, Peace and Security in ASEAN', which was adopted at the 31st ASEAN Summit on November 13, 2019. A total of 125 participants ranging from ASEAN dialogue partners, diplomatic corps, women's organizations, think-tanks and academia participated in this event. The main objective for this activity is to share experiences and best practices on how women could contribute to strengthening their roles in managing diversities as well as identify common challenges towards diversity and inclusivity and its way forward.

This event is held in cooperation with the Australian Government and the Asia Foundation. A total of 125 participants ranging from ASEAN dialogue partners, diplomatic corps, women's organizations, think-tanks and academia participated in this event.

The main objective for this activity is to share experiences and best practices on how women could contribute to strengthening their roles in managing diversities as well as identify common challenges towards diversity and inclusivity and its way forward. This event is held in cooperation with the Australian Government and the Asia Foundation.



## 2nd KAICIID/OIC International Workshop on Fostering Inter and Intra Religious Dialogue to Prevent and Mitigate Conflicts in South and South-East Asia

17 – 19 December 2019

### Hotel Borobudur Jakarta, Indonesia

Following the incident and tragic, tragic attack on Easter Sunday 2019 in Sri Lanka, coupled with negative sentiments against particular religions spreading across the region which is a home to the most diverse faiths in the world, King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue (KAICIID) and Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) had co-organized International Workshop on Fostering Inter and Intra Religious Dialogue to Prevent and Mitigate Conflicts in South and South- East Asia in Jakarta.

Datuk Prof. Dr Azizan Baharuddin, Honorary Professor at the Centre for Civilisational Dialogue was invited to participate and contribute at the workshop. The aim of the workshop is to provide a wider opportunity for representatives of Buddhist and Muslims communities as well as for policy-makers from countries in South and Southeast Asia (Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Thailand), to assess the current developments with regard to inter and intra-faith relations in the region, and subsequently to identify practical recommendations towards constructive collaboration among Buddhists and Muslims, at national as well as regional levels.

The workshop provide a platform for dialogue and exchange of views among approximately 40 religious leaders of Buddhist and Islamic backgrounds and policy-makers, coming from Indonesia, Myanmar, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and representatives of ASEAN institutions.





## Celusan Nurani

# APA ADA PADA BAHASA?

Satu daripada dongengan atau mitos tentang bahasa ialah jawapan lumrah kepada soalan "Apalah ada pada bahasa?". Hampir semua yang membaca cetusan Nurani ini akan menjawab "tak ada pun, bahasa hanya alat perhubungan atau komunikasi sahaja". Jawapan ini begitu lumrah dan bersahaja hingga tiadalah siapa pun yang akan mempersoalkannya kecuali pelajar universiti dalam bidang bahasa. Bahasawan memang telah lama berteori dan membuktikan benarnya teori tentang sarat nilainya bahasa, iaitu sejak bahasawan Jerman von Humboldt (meninggal 1835) melahirkan teori ini dalam awal abad ke-19 M berasaskan bahasa Jawa yang dibandingkan dengan bahasanya Jerman. (Ini bukan kali pertamanya ilmu diperoleh Barat berasaskan bahasa alayonesia (rumpun Melayu)). Sejak itu banyaklah sarjana yang mengukuhkan teori ini hingga teori ini dianggap fakta oleh sarjana dan istawan atau rausiawan (orang berilmu banyak dan berhikmah, learned scholar) yang terutamanya dalam bidang kemanusiaan dan sains sosial. Namun masyarakat umum tetap dengan pendirian "tiada apa dalam bahasa" itu. Itulah yang menjadikannya dongengan atau mitos yang susah hakis tentanag peranan bahasa dalam kehidupan terutamanya dalam pembelajaran, pengajaran dan lebih-lebih lagi dalam penyelidikan.

Dongengan tentang bahasa ini mendapat sokongan besar di Malaysia ini apabila Mahathir memaksa Melayu, menerusi Sekolah Melayu, menerima dasar Pendidikan sains dan matematik dalam bahasa Inggeris, iaitu yang terkenal dengan nama dasar itu sebagai PPSMI (pengajaran dan pembelajaran sains dan matematik dalam bahasa Inggeris) mulai 2002. Jika dalam bidang kemanusiaan dan sains kemasyarakatan pun susah dijelaskan atau masyarakat menerima bahasa ada peranannya dalam kefahaman dan pencorakan ilmu itu, maka dalam bidang sains dan matematik lebih-lebih lagilah sukarnya diterima bahasa berperanan apa-apa di dalam apa jua bendanya sains dan matematik itu. Hamburan pantas keluaranya ialah "satu tambah dua" atau "dua kali lima" sama sahaja dalam bahasa apapun! Itu sahaja sudah cukup mematikan sesiapa pun yang amatir dalam soal ini untuk membahaskan sebaliknya. Nasib baik juga pengaruh politik dan pengiklanan sekarang dapat menerobos pemikiran "budak kecil" atau naif ini. Dalam politik, biasalah kita dengar atau ketahui "satu tambah satu" tak sentiasa menghasilkan dua atau menghasilkan benda yang sama bila-bila masa pun. Ambil sahaja "satu" itu sebuah parti atau seorang anggota sebuah parti. Jika parti A yang ada satu ribu ahli bergabung dengan parti B yang juga ada satu ribu ahlinya, maka parti gabungan A dan B itu tidak semestinya beroleh dua ribu ahlinya. Ini bermakna "satu tambah satu di sini tak sama dengan dua bahkan boleh berbagai-bagai". Dalam iklan juga selalu ditonjolkan satu barang harganya sekian-kian, katalah RM 5.00 dan satu lagi barang harganya RM8.00 tetapi harga dua-dua barang ini ditulis sama dengan RM 10.00 sahaja! Ini pun menunjukkan "satu tambah satu tak sama dengan dua". Pendeknya "satu tambah satu sama dengan dua" dan "dua kali lima sepuluh" itu untuk sifir situasi yang unggul yang sebenarnya amat sukar dicapai sehingga sifir itu boleh dianggap satu penghampiran (pelebi-kurangan) yang berguna, dan layak dihafal oleh semua bangsa di dunia dalam bahasa apa pun.

Jika kita naik ke atas lagi kepada persoalan makna sesuatu bilangan, iaitu seperti makna bilangan "satu" bagi sesuatu bangsa (dalam sesuatu bahasa) maka hampir pasti makna itu tidak dipersetujui oleh semua bangsa/bahasa seperti makna "Tuhan itu Satu" yang semestinya berbeza daripada ajaran Islam dengan Kristian misalnya. Begitu juga makna bilangan belasan (eleven, twelve,... dengan sebelas, dua belas, ...) berbeza segi etimologinya (asal-usul istilah) dan ini melahirkan kaedah pengajaran dan pemahaman ilmu aritmetik amnya menerusi bahasa Inggeris dan bahasa Melayu... bagi guru-guru yang tidak tenggelam dalam buku-buku ilmu ini dalam bahasa Inggeris atau terjemahannya.

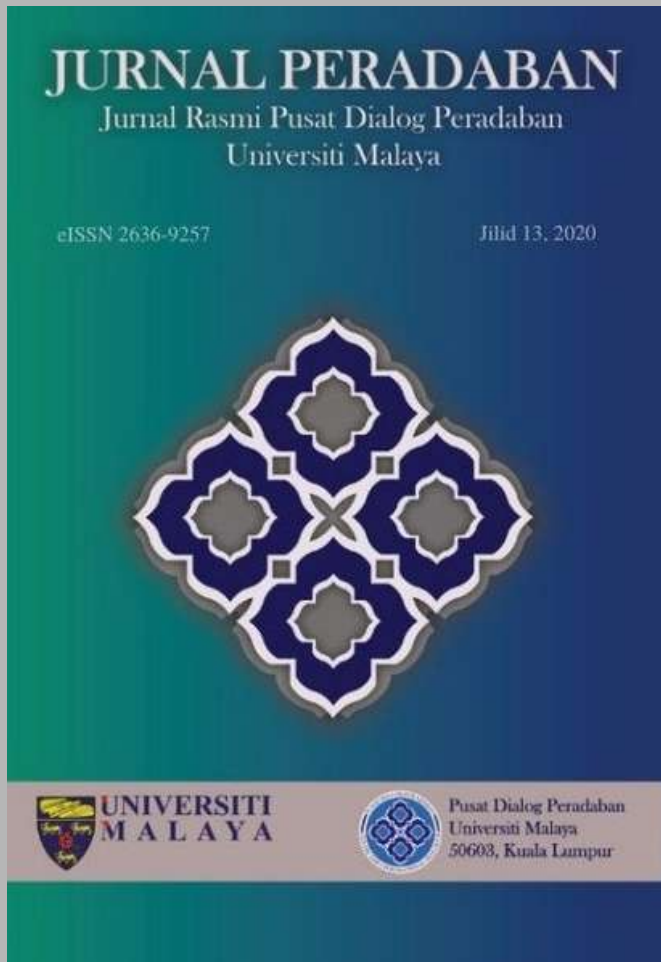
Bagaimana bahasa berbeza mampu memberi kefahaman dan daya pengkritikan terhadap sesuatu ilmu yang sedia ada lagi kurang dihargai oleh mereka yang hanya menganggap bahasa selain bahasa yang dia kenal sesuatu ilmu itu adalah tidak penting bahkan rendah tarafnya, atau paling mudahnya dianggap semua bahasa sama sahaja peranannya dalam ilmu. Pada hal, ambil sahaja ilmu perbankan dengan istilah interest dan "bunga" (sejak 1970-an diubah kepada "faedah" bagi melembutkan fahaman "bunga") dan ilmu ekonomi dan pengurusan dengan istilah the best (yang dikuduskan/disakralkan sebagai optimum) dan "yang terbaik" akan menyentak hati nurani seseorang yang akrab dengan bahasa Melayu dan lebih-lebih lagi menghayati Islam. Pasangan istilah ini membawa nilai yang amat berbeza sehingga melahirkan ilmu yang berbeza pula bagi sarjana berkenaan. Ilmu perbankan berbahasa Inggeris itu melahirkan ilmu perbankan Barat yang betentangan ilmu perbankan Islam, dan ilmu ekonomi dan pengurusan barat (yang kita kenal menerusi bahasa Inggeris) yang berasaskan makna the best sebagai optimum itu berbeza dengan ilmu ekonomi dan pengurusan dalam acuan kita (bahasa Melayu dan Islam) kerana makna "yang terbaik" dalam bahasa Melayu ialah yang berpada-pada ("buat baik berpada-pada ...") dan dalam Islam ialah wusta (yang terjemahan kurang tepatnya "sederhana" atau "pertengahan") kerana al-Qur'an dan hadis menyatakan "yang terbaik" itu ialah wusta (ummatan wasatdan/umat Islam itu umat wusta, Surah al-Baqarah, ayat 143; dan khayr al-umiiru ausatduha/perbuatan yang terbaik itu ialah berwusta, hadis al-Baihaqi; Allah tidak menyukai al-mu'tadiyyn/pelampau, Surah al-Baqarah, ayat 190; dan Nabi Muhammad SAW menyumpah "musnah" kepada al-mutanattda'awn/pelampau, hadis Muslim). Tidak syak lagi bahasa Melayu dan Islam-lah yang mempengaruhi sarjana Melayu membina matematik mudharabah bagi menggantikan mathematics of interest, dan pewustaan atau wustaisation bagi menggantikan pengoptimuman atau optimization. Ini contoh bukan sahaja penyembulan "bahasa jiwa bangsa" tetapi juga "bahasa penemu ilmu".

**SHAHARIR MOHAMAD ZAIN**  
13 Feb. 2020/18 J'akhir 1441/22 Magha 1942



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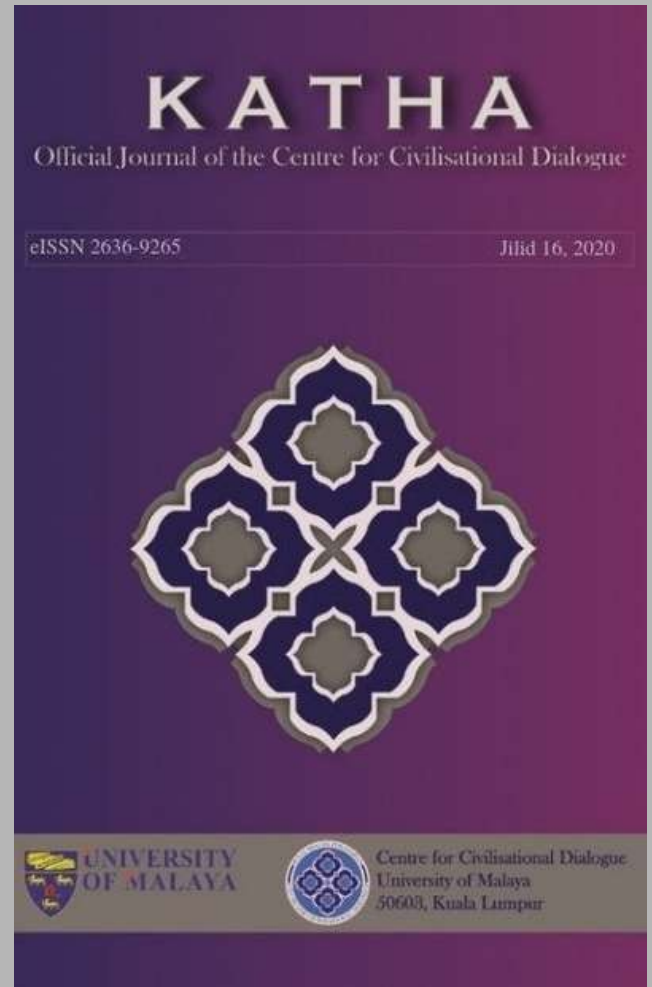
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