vol.5 NO.5 2018 Connecting indonesians in singapore

ASEAN SUMMIT Digital Connectivity IN SMART CITY INITIATIVE

MEMORABLE DAYS & Alluring Nights of Yogyakarta





Also inside: Indonesia's IT Landscape O Chingay Cultural Highlights O An Equal Future for Women in 2235!? O Gaya Meraki: Love & Honour



Message from His Excellency Ngurah Swajaya

on the occasion of the 32nd ASEAN Summit with Singapore as the Chair



ndonesia extended its appreciation to Singapore as the Chair and Host of the 32nd ASEAN Summit held in Singapore 27 - 28 April 2018. Indonesia welcomed the positive outcomes that would not only solidify ASEAN unity, but also its centrality.

President Joko Widodo and Madame Iriana Joko Widodo were very pleased with the arrangement. Indonesia, in particular, thanked the Leaders for their support to the Indonesia's proposal of the Indo-Pacific concept. President Jokowi elaborated further on the concept of Indo-Pacific at the Leaders' retreat and underlined the need for ASEAN to remain proactive and to engage all partners to maintain regional peace and stability and enhance the prosperity of the people.

Indonesia also welcomed the outcomes of the Inter-Korean Summit and hoped it would pave the foundation for long lasting peace in the Korean Peninsula.

Indonesia also spoke of the need to address the humanitarian issue of refugees from the Rakhine State in Myanmar, expedite their repatriation and finding a long-lasting solution for peace and stability in Myanmar.

In the matter related to the matter of the South China Sea, Indonesia strengthened its commitment to the early completion of the negotiation on the drafting of the Code of Conduct (CoC) in the South China Sea.

Indonesia also supported the completion of Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) and to make ASEAN an open economy and competitive production base within the ASEAN Economic Comminity pillar.

ASEAN appreciated Indonesia's role in facilitating the RCEP's negotiation since the beginning of the process and expected the completion of the negotiation by the end of 2018.

Indonesia welcomed the initiatives to develop network of smart cities in ASEAN and promote ASEAN's collaboration to tap the full potential of digital economy.



Indonesia's flag flies proudly along ASEAN at the Embassy at Chatsworth Road

Editor's Note

The View of the Summit



Most recent interview with HE Ngurah Swajaya at the Embassy's Commercial Section in April

This year is Singapore's turn to be the ASEAN Chair and the first ASEAN Summit held here in the month of April, witnessed the launch of an exciting initiative by the Chair and the host country – a project to digitally connect the major cities of all 10 member countries. President Joko Widodo and the rest of the ASEAN leadership supported this move as the nation has ambitions to be a globally connected country using the latest technology and establishing a national information highway grid. In short, President Jokowi knows the power of connectivity. You will find this reflected in the contents of this issue. Let me quote from author and international lecturer Dr Parag Khanna who wrote a book titled 'Connectography'. He posits a global future that will be shaped more by connectivity than by geographical or political boundaries. In fact, he has said (and many agree) that connectivity, "is the single most powerful force in human history. Nothing else is remotely as stable, consistent and fundamental. Next to evolution, connectivity is the single most fundamental feature of human society." Heady stuff that, and will surely affect us all.

As usual insights to this, as also to other important aspects of the Summit were provided by His Excellency Ngurah Swajaya. We are indebted to him, as usual, for providing invaluable background information, ideas and leads for interesting inputs for our stories in Indoconnect magazine. We were particularly fascinated by his insights on the ASEAN Summit and what usually happens during the meetings. Ambassador Ngurah Swayaja happens to also been the first Indonesian ambassador to ASEAN in 2010 before being posted in Singapore.

He explains: "The first Summit under the new Chair is always a meeing between the heads of state. It is a crucial one, as the main agenda for them will be about strengthening the integration process, strenghtening ASEAN unity and ASEAN centrality. That is why I think the President (Joko Widodo) is looking forward to attend the Summit."

Economic integration and making sure the economy is growing is also a top priority. For example, Ambassador Swajaya said the grouping is working on establishing ASEAN as a single competitive production base for brands not produced in ASEAN, to come into the region and tap into its population base of 600 million. And guess what? For this to happen Ambassador Swajaya said, ASEAN must have the right and conducive environment and develop better... You guessed it - connectivity - that important thing that will help achieve this is 'connectivity.' We here at Indoconnect, too think it will be the new buzzword for the future.

Nomita Dhar



PRIONKA RAY Prionka is an author, media consultant, and a facilitator. She holds Post Graduate qualifications in Ad & PR, and degrees in Hospitality Management, as well as in English

& Psychology. She is a volunteer-mentor to teens-at-risk, and founder of In-Group, Support Group for Youth. Prionka has lived in Switzerland, Singapore, Hong Kong & India, and her first book, Sia was published in 2012.

Contributors



MARTIN LUKAS Martin Lukas is the founder of Indonesia Photo Gallery. An IT professional in Globalfoundries by day, and a photographer at heart. Seeing his now that his passion

images, you will know that his passion is to capture the beauty and uniqueness of his wonderful and lovely country, Indonesia. He realized that the images enable him to tell stories and influence people to visit Indonesia.



RANEE SAHANEY She's been a Consulting Editor for 15 years to the Outlook Traveller group of publications and contributed to Discover India, BBC Good Food Guide

and others. In the past 25 years, her features have been published widely and now also in IndoConnect magazine.



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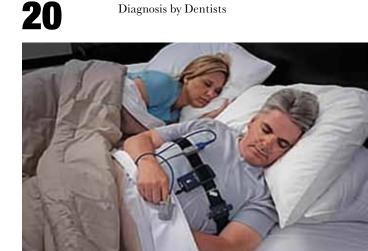
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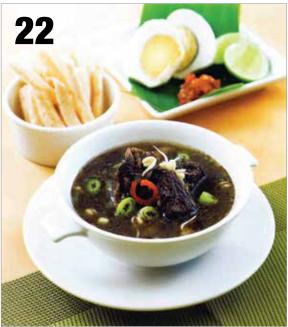
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COVER STORY



Demo by Singtel of an e-payment system for ASEAN leaders. Integrating e-payment systems could be one of the ways to help visitors and tourists make purchases.

ASEAN Digital Connectivity in SMART CITY Initiative

A Smart City Network is proposed to link 26 cities in the 10 countries at the 32nd ASEAN Summit in Singapore. What is in store for the people and what is already happening in Indonesia in the digital realm?

igital developement in individual ASEAN nations are progressing very well especially in Indonesia where it has a major impact on the daily lives of the people, business and governence through mobile communications such as smartphones and the internet. What is new was when at the 32nd ASEAN Summit held in Singapore from 25th to 28th April 2018, Singapore as the current chair of the regional grouping tabled the ASEAN Smart Cities Network (ASCN) which aims to create a 'smart region' through the introduction of a digital-based technological infrastructure that can facilitate the application of IoT or Internet of Things.

At the opening of the Summit, Prime

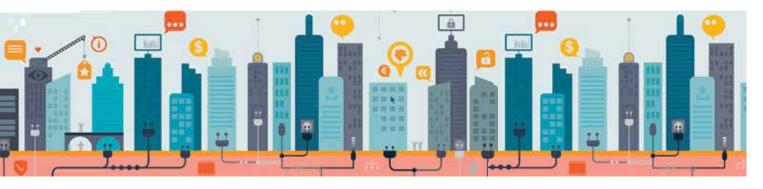
Minister Lee Hsien Loong highlighted some of the "deliverables" in line with the ASEAN Leaders' Vision for a Resilient and Innovative ASEAN. The first is the reaffirmation of the key principles for ASEAN cooperation and articulates our common vision; then this year's priority in establishing the ASEAN Smart Cities Network which he said will use technology, " ... to improve the lives and livelihood of our people; in all ten countries, 26 cities." He also highlighted the ASEAN Leaders' Statement on Cybersecurity Cooperation to deepen regional cooperation and coordination to keep up with the rapid pace of digitalisation.

On Friday night 27th April 2018, Indonesian Foreign Minister, HE Retno Marsudi. had conveyed to the press in Singapore that President Joko Widodo would also be stressing the importance of information technology innovation for the development of smart cities and e-commerce in ASEAN.

"However, the President added that the concept of a 'Smart City' is not only related to the use of technology, but also the effort to build mindset and better attitude of society, so the concept needs to pay attention to the needs and properties of each city, then also consider the local wisdom and has orientation on improvement of public services and community empowerment."

The President has also brought up

COVER STORY



the development of Smart Cities in Indonesia through the "100 Smart Cities Movement" with Jakarta, Makassar and Banyuwangi as pilot cities to promote effective, transparent and reliable city governance and state governance.

Target 2018

In a press conference Prime Minister Lee also emphasized how he hoped that ASCN initiative will take hold by this year, "As for the future of the year, the ASEAN Leaders Vision Statement has set out the things we want to do. It is a long agenda, not everything will be done this year. Certainly, the Smart Cities network, we hope it will be done, will have progress and will have some tangible results this year." The Summit's ASCN Concept Note gave a timeline that culminates in the official launch of the ASCN by ASEAN leaders in November 2018.

At the end of the Summit, the Chairman's statement reiterated the above that the grouping "Recognising the importance of capitalising on the opportunities presented by the digital age, and the need to promote cross-border electronic commerce (eCommerce) in the region, we are also pleased with the progress made so far in concluding negotiations for an ASEAN Agreement on Electronic Commerce and look forward to its signing this year. We noted the initiative to develop the ASEAN Digital Integration Framework to monitor the progress of ASEAN's digital integration. We also welcomed the initiative to develop the ASEAN Innovation Network, which aims to strengthen linkages between innovation ecosystems to spark new collaborations and solutions, and address the demand from the increasingly sophisticated and growing consumer base in the region." "The ASEAN Leaders Vision Statement has set out the things we want to do. It is a long agenda, not everything will be done this year. Certainly, the Smart Cities Network, we hope it will be done, will have progress and will have some tangible results this year."

The Pilot ASCN Cities

Smart cities development cuts across many sectors such as transport, water quality, energy, health care, education, public services, data, and information and communications technology (ICT). In light of cities' often differing priorities, the ASCN will be designed to allow member cities to focus on areas that matter to them, in line with each city's local and cultural context.

11. Ho Chi Minh City

12. Johor Bahru

13. Kota Kinabalu

14. Kuala Lumpur

16. Luang Prabang

15. Kuching

- 1. Bandar Seri Begawan 10. Ha Noi 19. Manila
- 2. Bangkok
- 3. Banyuwangi
- 4. Battambang
- 5. Cebu City
- 6. Chonburi
- 7. Da Nang
- 8. Davao City 17. Makassar
- 9. DKI Jakarta 18. Mandalay

Spreading ASEAN Wide - Smart City Potential of IoT and Green Technology

Smart Energy

- Smart grid
- Energy storage
- Smart meters

Smart Environment

- Renewable energy
- Water and wastewater management
- Sanitation

Smart Transport

- Technologies to reduce traffic congestion
- Green transport electric and hybrid
- Railways metro and monorail

Smart IT

- Cloud computing and analytics

20. Nay Pyi Taw

21. Phnom Penh

23. Siem Reap

24. Singapore

25. Vientiane

26. Yangon

22. Phuket

- Security and surveillance
- Disaster management

Smart Buildings

- Intelligent building management systems to save water and electricity
- Smart waste management

Smart Healthcare

- Remote patient monitoring
- E-health and m-health systems

SNAPSHOT OF INDONESIA'S IT LANDSCAPEExtracts from presentation 'Startup Business: Global Collaboration' By Dr Hari Sungkari, Deputy Chairman of Infrastructure Indonesian Agency for Creative Economy (BEKRAF)

ccording to Steve Blank author of The Startup Owner Manual, "A startup is an organisation formed to search for repeatable and scalable business model." Well digital business models are disruptive and their rules and nature have changed. For example, Uber is becoming an 'urban logistics' company and has over 200,000 drivers (roughly double the workforce of delivery company UPS; Under Armour is not only about selling shirts and shoes but they connect with 38 million people on a digital health platform; Alibaba is the world's largest e-commerce, financial services and technology company that is blurring industry lines while Facebook is the largest media company but it does not create content.

While in Southeast Asia, Singapore remains the main IT hub based on the amount of investments in infocomm, other countries are quickly catching up. Investments in Southeast Asia have grown 230% from just US\$0.3 billion in 2012 to US\$6.8 billion in 2016 with Singapore enjoying 41% of the pie and Indonesia coming in second at 19% (see Figure A). What it does not show though is that while still nascent, investments in Indonesia are soaring reaching US\$3 billion in 2017. Starting from US\$44 million in 2012, \$1.4 billion in 2016 before doubling to US\$3 billion in 2017 (between January to August). This is a tremendous rate of growth with most of the investments in the seed or early stages. However, late stage investments are generating most of the value. Much of these investments are in the E-Commerce and transport category with E-commerce taking the lion's share at 58% and



transport at 38%. In 2017 much of these investments came from China (see accompanying box story below).

Indonesia with its strong macroeconomic outlook and positive demographics (see *Figure B*) has proven to be fertile ground for the growth of tech startups. According to business technology portal, DailySocial Id, there were more than 1,200 startups in 2016. An A.T. Kearney Indonesia VC Outlook Survey (2017) analysis showed the two 'hottest' emerging categories for Investment in Indonesia is fintech (financial technology) and healthcare. While fintech is still in its infancy there will be growing demand for online transactions and alternatives to traditional

Chinese Investors in the News... Indonesia is Southeast Asia's largest online market that has been receiving large amounts of investment in the tech startup scene in 2017. Giants like Expedia, Alibaba, JD.com, Tencent Holdings, Sequoia Capital and Rakuten Ventures are pumping billions of dollars into Indonesia, trying to take a piece of the evergrowing pie. In 2015, Indonesia received \$31 million in disclosed venture capital and the number grew to \$631 million in 2016! (Source: CB Insights). In 2017, investments sreached \$3 billion (as of September 2017). (Source: Jakarta Post). **Tokopedia** - a marketplace that empowers users to set up online shops and handles transactions got \$1.1 billion in capital from China's Alibaba in August. (Source: JakartaPost). **Go-Jek** - the motorbike on demand service secured \$1.2 billion from Chinese JD.com and Tencent Holdings in May 2017. (Source: CB Insights)

YSE Helps Startup that Can Cut Costs for Fishermen by 90%

Five 'wizards' from ELVISH working on new way for fisherman in Indonesia to operate their boats



(Above): Great enthusiasm for the digital life at the Bekraf Developer Day (BDD) in Solo last April, 1,250 participants showed up filling up more than the venue's capacity

banking and financial services. The analysis stated for healthcare there will be increasing demand for tech-enabled consumer services and that this sector is the "largest untapped vertical."

On the part of the Indonesian government, initiatives by BEKRAF the Indonesian Agency for the Creative Economy has received directives from President Jokowi to help develop subsectors of the Creative Economy in the following fields: Applications & Games Architecture Interior Design Visual Communication Design Product Design Fashion Film, Animation & Video Photography Handicrafts Cuisine Music Publishing Advertising Performing Arts Visual Arts Television & Radio

Bekraf organises various activities such as the Bekraf Developer Day (BDD), Pre-Startup (BEKUP) and Startup Incubation with Blibli programmes and help startups participate in the World Startup World Cup in San Fransisco. For more information on these programmes visit: http://www.bekraf.go.id/



Azmi Roqi (2nd from r), CEO of Elvish and YSE 2018 shortlisted participant, engaging in cross-cultural peer learnings with likeminded youths from India and Bhutan at the YSE 2018 Workshop in Singapore

vive Indonesian engineering students might hold the key to boosting fishermen incomes by at least 50% thanks to savvy application of technology. If successful, it would truly be life changing technology for many fishermen in Indonesia. In March this year, the spotlight fell on Indonesian student graduates from the Bandung Institute of Technology (ITB): Azmi Roqi (22, from Cimahi), Ali Zaenal Abidin (23, from Jakarta) and Irham Mulkan (22, from Bandung) as well as two engineers: Ahmad Zaki (23, from Jakarta) and Rama Wardana (22, from Bandung). Together they form tech startup called ELVISH who were shortlisted to present their project at the Young Social Entrepreneurs (YSE) Workshop in Singapore earlier this year. They are on a shortlist to win S\$20,000 in funding to launch or scale up their social enterprise.

Azmi, the project leader of ELVISH (Electric Vessel for Fishermen) who will be graduating from ITB together with Ali and Irham this July, explained how it started, "At first, we were only interested in electric vehicles since it's a cool technology that's very much in the news. We did a design with the electric vehicle industry in mind. While brainstorming, we found this shocking fact (from Indonesian Statistic Centre): Indonesian fishermen form about 25% of the population who live in poverty. We started looking deeper and found out that according to the Indonesian Ministry of Marine and Fisheries, diesel costs make up 41 to 87 percent of the operating expenses of a small fishing boat. Then last year the Indonesian government stopped diesel subsidies and the cost of diesel increased further. Indonesia is a maritime nation and many fishermen are affected."

"This led us to come up with the idea of ELVISH or Electrical Vessel for Fishermen. Based on our initial design mockup we estimated that an electric powered fishing boat can save up to 90% over the cost of diesel! We believe this sustainable technology can help Indonesian fishermen change their lives! We visited the fishing village of Cidaun, West Java to validate our ideas and concepts to check for ourselves. It is true diesel cost is a heavy burden for fishermen and that they are really excited with our technology."

They learned last year from a friend that the Singapore International Foundation organised the YSE and enrolled straightway in the hope of realising their idea! For the complete interview and more information about YSE and how far ELVISH has progressed in their efforts visit: www.indoconnectsingapore.com

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Retail Guru: Is Indonesia Retail Ready for 'Digital Disruption'? By Jeffrey Ng

All eyes are on Indonesia for its growth prospects and opportunities. On the impact of the digital economy on the retail sector we asked Jeffrey Ng, one of the pioneers and most successful figures in Indonesia's retail industry, what is the reality on the ground

ndonesia is the largest economy within Asean, the world's fourth most populous nation and is certainly a country to be watching closely. On the ground, we see this retail potential pan out in rapid retail growth in 1st, 2nd and 3rd tier cities. Even nascent cities are booming. There are new shopping malls being built and there is proliferation of brands keen to satisfy the rising expectations of Indonesians desirous of for a more consumptive lifestyle.

Retailers have seen double digit growths, but over last two years we see increased competition from International fashion brands who are rapidly squeezing out Indonesian retailers who are now finding it very hard to compete.



Growth & Prospects

Consumer spending remains strong and is expected to peak in June when Indonesians celebrate Lebaran, the festival that marks the end of the fasting month. Traditionally, families spend lavishly on clothes and food at this time.

According to an an overview retail is registering single digit growth with retailers cautiously optimistic of the prospects in the near term

Digital Disruption in Retail

Indonesia has a very strong digital and social footprint. Hootsuite's recent survey reports over 130 million Indonesians are on the net and are active social media users. This is about 50% of the country's population.

And there are about 178 million unique Indonesians mobile users. With such a strong digitized footprint, retail businesses are being disrupted by e-commerce.

The sector that is most heavily disrupted is in clothing and fashion where it is estimated that online sales are around \$3 billion in clothing and fashion items. Fashion provides a more profitable margin as compared to electronics and this is where disruption is most vigorous.

Retail Vs Online Challenge

Brick and mortar retailers are generally still unfazed by the e-commerce challenge. Brick retailers are lulled by statistics indicating e-commerce is only 1% of retail sales. These retailers have not connected the dots.

Domestic brands are the prime segment to be disrupted by e-commerce by international fast fashion brands and penetration of cross border e-commerce. This disruption will intensify and market shares will be eroded. Indonesia's large millennia population of over 100 million strong is coming into the market with new buying preferences; by and large retailers are unprepared to maintain market share, Indonesian retailers must be relevant to the new consumers. Indonesia brick retailers should build a strong online capability with their own user-friendly websites, multiple online marketplaces and do active social selling.

Singapore in ASEAN Chair & Collective Opportunities

ASEAN comprises 10 countries and represents enormous opportunities for retail brands to expand within ASEAN countries alone; ASEAN is now the largest market for Singapore.

We are hopeful as Singapore Chairs ASEAN Singapore can push for the fuller realization of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC). We hope AEC evolves into a true common market where goods and services can flow freely and easily. We imagine a common market with many pan ASEAN retail brands, retail events and education happenings that can lift up retail quality and standards for ASEAN citizens

Trends

Retailing has moved from offline to more online and we can see retailing moving from physical to virtual and augmented reality for a 360 degrees' shoppers' experience. The faster a retailer embraces these trends, the faster is the retailer and mall crossing the finish line as winners.

Singapore-Indonesian Retail Collaboration

It is widely acknowledged that Indonesians comprise a large percentage of Singapore's retail footfalls and as such a symbiotic relationship already exists. Indonesia is located at Singapore's doorstep and remains the largest market for Singapore brands and conversely Indonesia's talented designers', artistic craftsman and brands can piggy back on Singapore to gain global brand awareness. There is more that can be done together and I am hopeful government agencies such as Enterprise Singapore can play a bigger role to foster these great opportunities.

GO SOUTH

EDB

Nongsa Digital Gateway for Indonesia

One of the first of its kind – this new breed of business parks – the Digital Park – has been designated as one of the main "digital gateways" for Indonesia and is supported by Singapore!

echnology knows no borders or limitations. Just like its inspiration in the United States of America, the **Nongsa Digital Park (NDP)** has ambitions to be the Silicon Valley of Indonesia! It has started auspiciously with the official endorsements of the Foreign Ministers of Indonesia and Singapore, HE Retno Marsudi and HE Dr Vivian Balakrishnan respectively who were the guests of honour for the launch of the park on 20th March 2018.

Other dignitaries there included HE Ngurah Swajaya, the Indonesian ambassador in Singapore, Bapak Nurdin Basirun, the Governor for Riau Islands and Bapak Lukita Tuwo, Head of Batam Industrial Development Authority.

In her welcome address, the Indonesian Foreign Minister contrasted the main ingredients that have made Silicon Valley a success with what might be required for NDP to take off. She said, "President Joko Widodo recognizes the importance of digital development for Indonesia's economy. Therefore, President has instructed all government officials to support innovation and technology development.

"In the case of Indonesia, I believe there are four aspects that we need to focus our attention: First, expanding access to people; Second, providing access to capital; Third, multiplying access to talent and Fourth, strengthening international cooperation.

The project is the brainchild of Bapak Kris Wiluan, Chairman of the Citramas Group and the Minister thanked the Chairman for providing opportunities for those four aspects to be developed in Batam.

At the Rising50 Leader's meeting last September 2017 in Singapore, Indonesian President Joko Widodo mentioned that NDP will be a "Digital Bridge", a springboard connecting Singapore via Batam to other digital economies in Indonesia and an ideal location to be a platform for digital industry and the development of a start-up incubator.

The project has seen the support of Indonesian and Singaporean Governments through various agencies, especially on the educational initiatives aimed at elevating the skills of Indonesian IT students to empower them with world class technical capabilities. NDP is currently hosting the first section of an educational programme aimed to share with sixty-five specialists from Indonesian Educational Institutions in digital economy new knowledge and skills, which will enable them to further enhance their IT education and training activity. The programme has the support of Temasek Foundation



(Top): NDP launch partners: HE Restno Marsudi and HE Dr Vivian Balakrishnan. (Above): HE Ngurah Swajaya does the selfie honours with guests who include officials from Riau, Citramas, lecturers and representatives from Indonesia and Singapore Polytechnic

International, Singapore Polytechnic (SP) and the Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education, Republic of Indonesia (MORTHE) and Batam Polytechnic.

First Phase

The First Phase of NDP will consist of nine office buildings, the first three being inaugurated by 20th March, with two already fully occupied. This First Phase will see the creation of approximately 1,500 jobs, a number that will grow significantly as the whole NDP project enters future phases. It is slated to attract total potential investments for above US\$500 million.

NDP is located within Nongsa Resort 170 ha area owned and operated by Citramas Group. The facilities within NDP provide Technoprenuers a conducive environment to Work, Live and Play - all set conveniently close to Singapore and the International Airport (Hang Nadim Airport, Batam) located only 15 minutes from NDP.



New \$18 Million Bintan Offshore Marine Centre Gets Singapore's Support

he new Bintan Offshore Marine Centre (BOMC) being built there can help Singapore companies remain competitive and relevant in today's challenging business environment. That was the message from Mr Edwin Chow, Executive Director of Enterprise Singapore, at a reception on Wednesday 9th May 2018 in Singapore organised by BOMC to introduce the development to potential customers and the media here.

Just a day before there was a ground breaking ceremony in Bintan (see inset picture top right) where the cutting edge, world-class Greenfield development took place on a 100-hectare site within Bintan Industrial Estate (BIE). BOMC is investing more than S\$18 million (US\$13.4 million) into Phase 1. The port and facility development will be geared to meet offshore project requirements wherever in the globe those projects may be. It is a joint venture between Australian logistics and infrastructure giant, Qube (70%), who has partnered with Singapore-based marine engineering firm, Singatac Engineering Pte Ltd (30%).

Mr Chow also highlighted how the Oil & Gas industry is undergoing "seismic changes" and a top priority today is finding ways to increase efficiency and reduce costs. "BOMC will allow Singapore companies the flexibility and access to land and labour resources that are needed to respond to this challenge. In a sense, it is like a home away from home, being just an hour away by ferry, companies can take advantage of the lower costs in Bintan as well as Singapore's global connectivity. I would encourage all companies to take full advantage of this opportunity."

Qube will be the operators of the facility under a management agreement on a long term contract.

Members of the BOMC Management Team also gave presentations about what are in store, the plans and features that will make it a facility this region can be proud of. Mr Michael Sousa, the Chairman of BOMC Pte Ltd, said, "Our facility will deliver six berths with a quay line of 700 metres and draft of 10 metres but the really unique feature is that we have access to 100ha of backup land. This means this facility will really able to meet all the logistic requirements of the customer and land is available for multiuses."

Mr Mort Daly, the General Manager of BOMC, said Phase 1 is scheduled to be completed by October 2018. He said that with a draft of 10m LAT, "This is a deep water port and BOMC will also be a licensed international port to cater for vessels' direct import and export of overA rundown on new developments planned (in Bintan) included housing for management level staff and their families, pioneer food and halal processing zones and a new international airport dedicated to the island's resorts.

seas cargo." There is currently passenger ferry services that leave directly from BIE to Singapore daily. Current connectivity to Singapore, one of the world's largest transhipment hub, is enhanced by daily LCT and barge services to Singapore's Jurong Port. "We will have world-class safety, quality and management systems in place and we will make sure this is a one stop shop," said the GM. Comprehensive business support will also be part of the BOMC ecosystem. The BOMC-BIE Business Centre will be a "critical success factor" said Mort Daly.

Guest speaker at the reception, Mr Edmund Lai, the Head of Riau Investment Marketing Gallant Venture Ltd gave details of how the Business Centre will provide tenants and users help to comply with all local and federal laws covering immigration, labour, customs and port regulations. He also gave a rundown on new developments planned that included housing for management level staff and their families, pioneer food and halal processing zones and a new international airport dedicated to the island's resorts.

An Equal Future Only in 2235!?!

A professional womens' association celebrates International Women's Day (IWD) in March with an ALL-MALE panel discussion

ased on current trends, it will take 217 years before women will achieve equal financial parity. In the pursuit for an equal future, PrimeTime Business and Professional Women's Association (PrimeTime) have started a conversation on the role of **male allies** and how they can contribute to the #pressforprogress movement, the only women's organisation in Singapore to have a deliberately all-male panel for IWD.

The event "An Equal Future", took place on 8 March 2018, and was organised in conjunction with International Women's Day, and featured:

• Ambassador Karsten Warnecke, Executive Director, Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)

• Richard Stone, Director, Talent & Organization Effectiveness - AMEA at Mondelz International

• Jonathan O'Byrne, Founder and CEO at Collective Works

• Fredrik Härén, Author and Keynote speaker

• Ganeswaran Subramaniam, Senior Vice President, Head, Personal Insurance, SEAsia, AIG

PrimeTime's Joanne Flinn, author, futurist, and founder of Project Wings moderated the conversation with these five senior male leaders about the role of men in creating gender parity in the workplace, in business, and in politics.

The over 70 mixed gender audience was encouraged to participate in the discussion via the Pigeonhole platform, where they could post questions and vote for the topic to discuss. With over 40 percent of votes, the top male ally action that could be done now was to call out sexist comments in all male groups. Others that turned out high on the votes were: "Explore options to improve quality in hiring and pay" at 32 percent, and "Open discussion with female colleagues about their experiences" at 16 percent. Elephants in the Room

"The speakers talked about how they saw themselves as a male ally... agreed with the idea of feminism for men should start at home, then the workplace and move onward"

Joanne Flinn kicked off the discussion by introducing four colourful elephants in the room, each representing:

Yellow: How we feel – We want to feel joy in an equal future
Green: Where we live – Represents our home, the Planet. In an equal future, we have a green, alive planet. Air and water that is clean.

Blue: What we value – In an Equal Future, will the values that drive us be about money and the financial system? Or will other qualities be valued?
Purple: Who we are – The point of the evening: what will it take for Equality in This Generation? Pink + Blue= Purple. It is possible.

Joanne asked everyone to consider the realities on the motivation and actions that can allow this generation to experience an equal future, and co-creating that reality. The speakers





talked about how they saw themselves as a male ally, and how they help women achieve equal economic parity at work. They agreed that the idea of feminism for men should start at home, then the workplace and move onward from there.

For the full story how the women decided to "Take Action Now" visit www.indoconnectsingapore.com

Chingay Cultural Insights

The Indonesian delegation shines the spotlight on Batak and the 'Extravaganza of North Sumatra'!

ndonesia has been a prominent participant in Chingay, Singapore's premier festive street parade, which marks the 15th day of the Chinese New Year and technically the end of the festive period. In fact, since 2008, Indonesia has been sending the largest number of participants in each parade. In 2018, again a large delegation of around 173 Indonesians took part from various cities and regions (including Indonesian students from Singapore). Almost all came from educational institutes and training organisations representing some of the best of the archipelago's performance and cultural arts, namely:

- OUniversitas Negeri Medan, Medan
- OAl Azhar Syifa Budi, Jakarta
- OBe Management, Jakarta
- ○INSIM, Indonesian students in

Singapore Institute of Management

- ONgariung Angklung, Bandung
- ONusantara Arts Forum, Jakarta
- •Rumah Budaya Indonesia, KBRI Singapura
- OTim Batik 1 Surakarta, Surakarta

Apart from a performance showcase for the more than 2,000 spectators who watched it at the F1 Pit Building and Marina Float here, an estimated TV audience of around 200,000 Singapore viewers watched it live on television; there were broadcast relays to several other countries as well. This year, apart from Indonesia, Chingay also attracted international groups from Thailand, Russia, Korea, Japan, Vietnam, Taiwan and Malaysia.

Emerald Equator

This year's contingent under the name Zamrud Khatulistiwa, meaning Emerald Equator, continued to receive the full support and organisational help for the event by the Indonesian Embassy in Singapore. The lead was provided by Rumah Budaya Indonesia (RBI) under the guidance of the Education and Culture Attaché (Atdikbud) Ibu Aisyah Endah Palupi.

Proudly displayed the two nights of

shows were the rich cultural display of the diversity that exists in Indonesia. Apart from the invaluable experience the student performers get from being exposed to a different environment from what they are used to back home AND taking part in a world-class event, Ibu Aisyah also said, "There is also the opportunity to introduce the richness of Indonesian art and cultural treasures as this event can also promote various interesting destinations in Indonesia, with the aim of attracting Singaporeans to see the beauty of Indonesia from the diversity of traditional clothes, dance and local music!"

First Time

This year for the first time there was a Carnival Area for street entertainment and and LKB (Lembaga Kerjasama Budaya) Widatra Unimed showcased the daily activities of the Batak Toba ethnic group in North Sumatra.

This year's representative head of the Emerald Equator delegation was Bapak Martozet, S.Sn, M.A. from Universitas Negeri Medan (Unimed). Bapak Martozet, who is also the choreographer said, "This is the second year Unimed is taking part in Chingay. This time though we are taking the lead role at the head of the Indonesian group!" The Unimed students succeeded in creating a very favourable first impression with support from the other Indonesian cultural groups from Bandung, Surakatra, Singapore and Jakarta.

Indonesia opened the parade segment titled 'Friends of Singapore' with its theme "Indonesia – Extravaganza of North Sumatra". Another first for this year was when on the first night Friday 23rd February 2018, HE Ngurah Swajaya, the Ambassador of Indonesia in Singapore, performed together with the Indonesian contingent!

This year's Chingay also saw the collaboration of the Bintan Dragon and Athletic Association together with the Singapore Dragon and Lion Athletic Association to present their "The Flower Dragon Dance" item.

Photos by Indonesian Embassy in Singapore.

More photos on page 33 or visit www.indoconnectsingapore.com





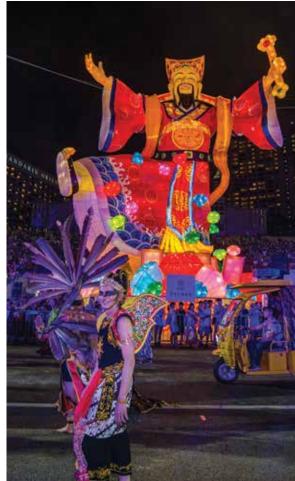
ART & CULTURE













About Chingay The street festival parade started in 1973 as a neighbourhood level event with mainly Chinese cultural elements. It grew to become one of Asia's biggest street and floats parade that showcased Singapore's multi-cultural society as well as exciting global cultures. The name comes from two words in Mandarin 'zhenyi' which means "true art" and 'zhu ngyì' which means "fashioned stage miniatures" or floats according to the Singapore version. Singapore's community grassroots organisation, the People's Association (PA) is the organiser of Chingay Parade in Singapore.



GAYA successful in continuing its 10-year long tradition of showcasing Indonesian history, culture and traditions through this year's moving musical

or love and honour, refers to the fight and sacrifice of the lead character, Cut Nyak Dhien who was actually a real historical figure, who happens to be female, fighting for the freedom of her country. That in essence is GAYA (Gelar Budaya) 2018: MERAKI's story told in stirring, patroitic overtones in this 12th production by the SMU Komunitas Indonesia's the Singapore Management University's Indonesian students.

Again the energy and enthusiam of the cast shines through this powerful performance which charts the historical trials and tribulations of the Acehnese heroine. Her journey towards becoming a warrior embodies themes of war, love and womanhood amidst the tumultuous times under Dutch colonial rule.

In this production which was staged at the Drama Centre on 11th March 2018, the director, Joanna Christine, leads us through the drama and tragedy of the death of Dhien's family as well as the destruction of the very



values that she holds dear. The conflict here culminates in her dilemma of choosing between her own happiness or that of her motherland.

The story, written by Chia De Zhong, of a female freedom fighter, is also an excellent platform to showcase the talents of the students, who might otherwise not have the opportunity to participate in performing arts, so kudos must go to the talented actors, some of whom have not even performed before. MERAKI is a musical in English, so everyone not only had to act but also sing and dance!

In an interview leading up to the show Joanna had pointed that none of them were professional directors or producers and that, "We're participating in this because we love it, there's a lot to learn from the entire experience. That's the fun thing about GAYA!"

She also said that many of GAYA's productions have a historical element as one can always learn something from the past and that is why a story such as MERAKI can still be relevant till today. For example, in 2015, its production titled Malabero showed audiences a different side of the founding father of Singapore, Sir Stamford Raffles, who had also governed Bencoolen, Indonesia and struggled to unify the diverse locals

Just as in other past productions GAYA supporters will note that there are other significant elements that play a prominent role in their productions such as insights into the culture of the many different regions and provinces of Indonesia. These are often show-



Some of the stellar cast in MERAKI (from l to r): Casey Rosalina Lian Kai Shi (as Cut Nyak Dhien); Zhang Yichao; Nada Azura; Athena Su-Hui Maniam; Magdalena Sun and Chevy Valentino Wijaya



cased through the music, dances, costumes and sets of the productions.

The GAYA series of productions started in 2008 and has grown tremendously from its start when it needed just 20 members to stage its first production to over 80 for this year's MERAKI. GAYA has become one of the largest arts and cultural studentnon-profit productions in Singapore. Preparations and ground work for the latest production started in July 2017, half a year before the curtain came up for the first performance at the Drama Centre.

GAYA has matured into a more vibrant and dynamic production that has engaged and impressed audiences with dances and musical elements from a variety of genres. You can sometimes find unexpected contemporary choreography in the dances mixed with traditional Indonesian dances and melodies.



(Above): Director Joanne Christine. (Below): the talented enthusiastic cast and crew

Such hybrid mix of genres has become something of a "trademark" that is distinct to GAYA. MERAKI continues that tradition as it has moved audiences as were moved by the struggles of Dhein; many must have also asked themselves if they would sacrifice as much as the Achinese warrior in fighting for her nation's sovereignty.



Fullerton Concours d'Elegance

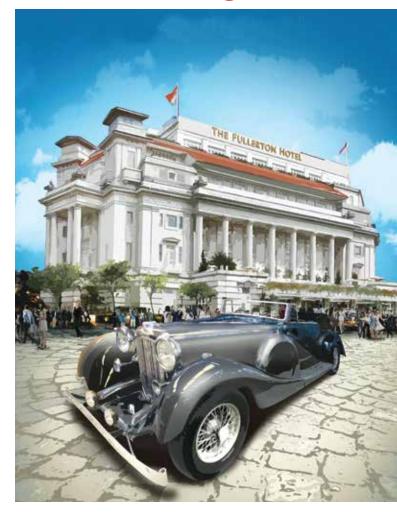
Fullerton Hotel pays homage to its 90-year heritage building and beautiful cars in classic style

t is a unique invitation - to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the Fullerton Building, which is home to the Fullerton Hotel Singapore. Cavaliere Giovanni Viterale, the hotel's General Manager, was happy to announce the launch of the inaugural Fullerton Concours d'Elegance.

He said the event (which will be from 29th June to 1st July 2018) commemorates the long and rich history of the familiar Singapore landmark that used to be the island's General Post Office. Fullerton Concours d'Elegance will showcase over 90 vintage, classic and super cars against the waterfront panorama. This will all be tied together with lifestyle and entertainment events. He hopes this display of world-class cars - each with a distinguished provenance and legacy - will transform the precinct.

He also said the hotel also has ambitions, "...to put Singapore and Fullerton Concours d'Elegance on the map of international motoring events and to this end, the Concours d'Elegance will be a highlight for car collectors, motoring aficionados and enthusiasts. We anticipate to welcome over 30,000 visitors over the three-days of this first ever Concours d'Elegance."

For enquiries on Concours d'Elegance Packages (which include accommodation, breakfast) and Concours admission tickets visit: www.fullertonhotels.com. Admission tickets can be purchased separately at www.fullertonconcours.com.





Appreciation of Things Classic



n French concours d'elegance means 'competition of elegance' and for many years in the modern automotive world it has been a competition about restoring beautiful classic and vintage cars back to their original pristine condition. Probably the most famous is at the annual Pebble Beach Concours D'Elegance charity fundraiser. At the famous golf course in Monterey, California proud car owners parade by the greens their automotive beauties as well as dress in stylish clothes to match the car's period - lending a glamorous touch to the proceedings. So chic and elegant it is quite a mystery why no one has thought of organising a concours on such a scale in Singapore - till now...

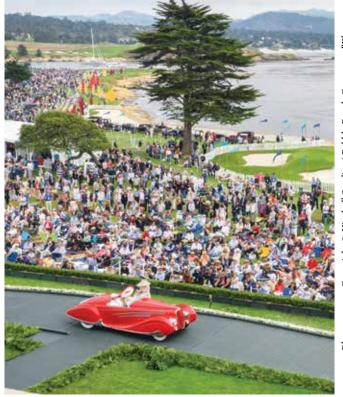
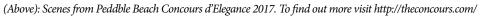


Photo source: Copyright © Kimball Studios / Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance





EDUCATION

Advertorial

Overseas Family School Welcome to Our

verseas Family School (OFS) welcomes you to join its exciting and vibrant community. In addition to providing a well-rounded education for each of its students, OFS prides itself as a very family oriented school, which greatly values its bonds with parents and students.

Admissions are open all year round to accommodate families who are on the move. If English is not your first language and you are worried, fear no more. We have an excellent Study Preparation Program (SPP) designed for non-native learners. They will be taught the academic English needed for other learning subjects like Mathematics, Science and the Arts. Before you know it, they will be ready to join mainstream classes.

From Kindergarten to Elementary School (Pre-K2 to Grade 5), we offer 14 Mother Tongue languages allowing students to maintain and extend their Mother Tongue languages. We see Mother Tongue as an important vehicle for the child's intellectual development. These lessons occur 4 periods a week and are conducted in correlation to the National curriculum of the country and in this way, children can maintain their language as well as their roots.

With nearly 70 nationalities, all students are taught to be internationally minded life-long learners and as a family we work tirelessly towards maintaining a happy, safe and effective school for overseas families living in Singapore.

Academic

• OFS maintains the highest academic standards

• Rigorous implementation of International Primary Curriculum (IPC), International Early Years Curriculum (IEYC), International Baccalaureate (IB) and International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) Curricula The OFS Study Preparation Program (SPP) allows rapid acquisition of English for students who need to learn or improve their English
SPP is an intensive, highly successful and widely acclaimed program, and does not incur an extra fee

Mother Tongue Support

• We offer Mother Tongue classes



in 14 different
languages from
Pre-K through
to Grade 5, for 4
periods per week
Mother Tongue
classes are
integrated into the
curriculum, and
do not incur
an extra fee
The Mother
Tongue

Diversity

• Around 2600 students from nearly 70 countries - no dominant culture

• Student-life is a rich cultural experience, unique among international schools in Singapore

Language Acquisition

• OFS offers a very wide range of languages to learn, from Pre-Kindergarten through to IB Diploma in Grade 12



languages that we offer are Danish, Dutch, Finnish, French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Mandarin, Norwegian, Russian, Spanish and Swedish

EDUCATION

Advertorial

Family of Learning



Sport & ECAs

OFS promotes a huge array of sporting interests for all ages
Our prime focus is to promote full involvement - all students, all ages
There is a huge range of ECA clubs and activities at all levels







For more info visif www.ofs.edu.sg



Enrichment Program

• Besides sports and ECAs, there is a separate Enrichment Program with a greater focus on individual teaching and coaching

• Classes include a wide range of skills from Mother Tongue to sports to music

Campus

• All of our four schools, Kindergarten, Elementary, Middle and High School, are located on the same campus

• Since August 2015, all four schools operate from a stunning new campus with state-of-the-art facilities or call Joyce Chee or Soma Matthews tel: +6567380211

Overseas Family School is at 81 Pasir Ris Heights Singapore 519292

🛨 HEALTH

Unwelcome Sound Bites: Snoring Diagnosis by Dentists



s your snoring keeping you or your partner awake too often? Many of us tend to associate snoring with being overly tired or perhaps too much red wine. What many of us do not consider, however, is whether our snoring is symptomatic of something else; a potential health problem. Your dentist can help with diagnosis and treatment of mild to moderate chronic snoring.

While most of us snore occasionally, chronic snoring can be a warning sign of a more serious problem, in particular, Obstructive Sleep Apnoea (OSA). Apnoea is Greek for "without breath". In this condition you stop breathing for short intervals throughout the night (10 seconds or longer) causing the oxygen levels in your blood to fall and the carbon dioxide levels to rise. This can happen 20 to 30 times or more each hour, all night long.

Symptoms

Research has shown that 1 out of 3 heavy snorers experience severe sleep apnoea. Children too, can suffer from this chronic problem. Many sufferers of OSA may not be aware they have "A full diagnosis requires an overnight stay in a sleep laboratory. However, it is possible to screen for this condition easily, in the comfort of your own home."

the condition. The symptoms can include:

• Extreme fatigue despite a long night's sleep, leading to daytime sleepiness and poor concentration

- Memory loss
- Morning headaches
- Gasping during sleep

Side Effects

The side effects of this condition can include high blood pressure, impotence, depression and irritability, all leading to a reduced quality of life.

People with OSA may not be aware that their sleep was interrupted. Actually, many people with this type of sleep apnoea think they sleep well

Yes, your dentist can help with diagnosis and treatment of mild to moderate chronic snoring!

By Dr Elaine Ng BDS (Singapore)



all night. Their partners may think differently! In fact, the partners of chronic snorers sleep an average of two hours less than those whose partners do not snore.

Home Screening

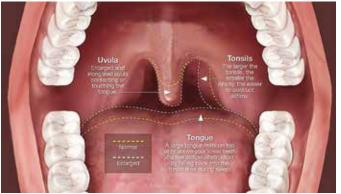
A full diagnosis requires an overnight stay in a sleep laboratory. However it is possible to screen for this condition easily, in the comfort of your own home.

Wearing a special sleep device overnight, your breathing / airflow is recorded and analysed. The device we use, called The ApnealLink, has been proven in clinical trials to be as effective in screening for sleep apnoea as the screening methods at a sleep laboratory, for mild to moderate apnoea. Should you have a form of sleep apnoea, we will then discuss the type of intervention appropriate for you.

If you fall into the mild to moderate category we will discuss with you possible solutions or further referral to a sleep specialist. We will refer you to a sleep specialist for severe cases.

HEALTH 🛃





We will determine whether a sleep appliance will be an effective solution for you. Worn at night and custom made to fit you (it is similar to a mouthguard), the device is designed to bring your lower jaw forward, thus preventing the tongue from dropping into the airway and thereby ensuring you obtain sufficient oxygen while you sleep. These appliances are inexpensive, easy to use and are effective for mild to moderate sleep apnoea.

(Above): Instead of

going to a sleep clinic

- the ApnealLink sleep

to record and analyse one's breathing / airflow

(Left): What dentists

look for in diagnosing

sleep apnea

device is worn overnight

Ensuring you get a good night's sleep will have health and emotional benefits. Speak to your dentist to learn more about your snoring problem.

Some Snoring Remedies You Can Try

• Sleep on the side. Sleeping on your back makes the base of the tongue and soft palate collapse to the back wall of your throat. This causes a vibrating sound during sleep. Sleeping on your side may help prevent this.

• Weight loss. If you had started snoring after gaining some weight, reducing it might help. Weight gain especially around the neck, squeezes the internal diameter of the throat, that might cause collapse during sleep, triggering snoring. • Avoid alcohol, sedatives. They reduce the resting tone of the muscles in the back of the throat, making it more prone to snore. Drinking alcohol four to five hours before sleep makes snoring worse and people who don't normally snore, will after drinking alcohol.

• Get adequate sleep. If you are overtired when you finally do get around to sleep, you sleep hard and deep, the muscles become floppier, which creates snoring.

People with OSA may not be aware their sleep was interrupted. Many think they sleep well all night.

About the Author

Dr Elaine Ng was born and raised in Auckland, New Zealand. After relocating to Singapore in 1997 she trained as a dentist and worked in both public and private sectors.

Dr Ng is experienced in managing trauma having worked in hospital dentistry and Accident & Emergency. Her expertise lies within cosmetic dentistry including crowns, bridges and teeth whitening. She is able to perform wisdom tooth extractions to minor surgeries, and enjoys working with children of all ages.

For more information

SmileFocus is at Camden Medical Centre, 1 Orchard Boulevard, Singapore 248649. Email: enquiries@smilefocus.com.sg

Website: http://smilefocus.com.sg

Orthodontics & Children's Dentistry

(#14-02). Tel: 6834 0877 Email: *family@smilefocus.com.sg*

Family Dentistry (#14-02). Tel: 6834 0877 Email: family@smilefocus.com.sg

Cosmetic Dentistry (#08-02). Tel: 6733 9882 Email: cosmetic@smilefocus.com.sg

Implant & Restorative Dentistry

(#08-02). Tel: 6733 9882 Email: cosmetic@smilefocus.com.sg



FOOD & BEVERAGE



Rawon is an authentic dark-coloured soupy dish from East Java known for its rich taste, which results from the use of strong spices. Because of its strong taste, rawon is usually served with rice and not as a single meal such as soup or soto. When served as an appetizer soup, rawon must first be thinned.

The strong nutty, earthy flavour and dark colour of rawon come from *kluwek* or *keluak* (Pangeum edule). *Keluak* tastes much like a black olive. The basic ingredients for rawon include shallots, garlic, red chili, candlenut, *galangal*, lemongrass, kaffir lime leaves and Indonesian bay leaves. Although most of the spices are then ground, it is still relatively easy to trace the tastes of candlenut, *galangal* and kaffir lime leaves. The slow cooking method results in tender and savoury meat.

Rawon is served with fried shallot sprinkles on top. Should scallion be excluded from the cooking process, it can always be sprinkled on top of the dish. By default, rawon is served with salted egg, raw bean sprouts, sambal terasi (chili condiment with shrimp paste) and shrimp crackers. In Pasuruan, sate komoh adds to the side dish.

In Central Java, there is a similar dish called garang asem. Rawon has become a nationally accepted dish, always present in major Indonesian restaurants.

Betawi natives also have a traditional soupy dish made with *pucung* or *keluak*, called *gabung pucung*. Making use of *ikan gabus* (Channa striata), *gabus pucung* is a twice cooked dish requiring the fish to be fried and then cooked in pucung soup. In Sulawesi, a similar dish is called *pallu kaloa*, made with snapper head. *Kaloa* means *keluak* in Bugis dialect.

It is believed that rawon, garang asem, gabus pucung and pallu kaloa have existed in Indonesian culinary for more than one hundred years.

INGREDIENTS (serves 6)

2,500 cc	water
$500 \mathrm{~gr}$	beef rump
39 gr	3 pcs lemongrass stalks, crushed
20 gr	11/2 cm galangal, crushed

- 8 gr 8 sheet kaffir lime leaves
- 45 gr 3 stalks scallions, sliced by 1 cm
- 4 tablespoons cooking oil

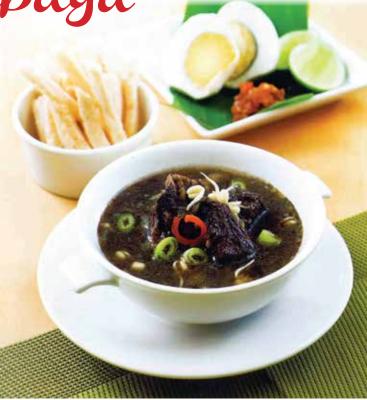
GROUND SPICES

$60 \mathrm{gr}$	2-3 pcs red chilies
80 gr	8 pcs shallots
8 gr	4 pcs garlic
	8 pcs keluwak (black nut), use the soft flesh inside
12 gr	3 pcs candlenuts, lightly toasted
3 gr	11/2 teaspoons shrimp paste, roasted
	2 teaspoons salt
7 gr	2-3 teaspoons coriander, lightly toasted
8 gr	11/2 cm turmeric
21 gr	11/2 cm ginger

1-11/2 teaspoons tamarind juice

GARNISH

180 cc 3 pcs salted eggs, cut into 6-7 small pieces 150 gr mung bean sprouts Sambal terasi (chili paste that uses shrimp paste) Shrimp crackers Sliced limes (to taste)



Nutrient	Nutrient per 100 Grams	Nutrient per portion
Fat	6 g	10 g
Protein	13 g	22 g
Carbohydrate	2 g	3 g
Calorie	110 kcal	190 kcal

DIRECTIONS

1. Place meat in water, bring to boil. Add lemon grass stalks, *galangal* and kaffir lime leaves, continue cooking until meat is tender. Take out the meat, cut in 1x1 cm dices. Measure the broth at 1600 ml. Put the meat back into the broth. Cook at medium heat.

2. Sautee the ground spices until well cooked and aromatic. Add the scallion, stir for two minutes, then add into the broth pot.

Continue cooking until all ingredients are well cooked. Remove from heat.

3. Serving: Pour the meat soup into a bowl; serve with mung bean sprouts, salted eggs, sambal terasi, lime juice and shrimp crackers.

Recipes reproduced from 30 Indonesian Traditional Culinary Icons published by Indonesia's Ministry of Tourism and Creative Economy



What's HAPPENING?

Top events, attractions and activities in Singapore



TORUK - The First Flight by Cirque du Soleil

Date: 24 May-3 Jun 2018. Venue: Singapore Indoor Stadium Website: www.vizpro.sg

Inspired by James Cameron's AVATAR, Cirque du Soleil returns in stunning new light with the fantastical tale of TORUK. Toruk is the predatorial bird feared by all.



But according to an ancient prophecy, one day, there will be a Toruk Makto - a rider of this fire coloured creature of nightmares.

Be transported to the world of Pandora by a visually stunning live set, puppetry and stagecraft buoyed by a soaring cinematic score.

FLOWER DOME: Begonia Brilliance

Date: 25 May to 1 Jul 2018 Venue: Gardens by the Bay. Website: www.gardensbythebay.com.sg

Beautiful floral display Begonias are native to the tropical and subtropical regions of South and Central America, Africa and Southern Asia. They are generally terrestrial, while some are epiphytic. Begonias are monoecious, with separate male and female flowers on the same individual plant. Their leaves are often large and asymmetric, having two unequal halves.



CELINE DION Live 2018 in Singapore

Date: 3 & 4 July 2018. Venue: Sands Grand Ballroom, Marina Bay Sands. Website: www.marinabaysands.com

Celine Dion first time performing in Singapore for 2 nights only. Possibly oncein-a-lifetime experience seeing the winner of five Grammy Awards, two Academy Awards and seven American Music Awards. Tickets start to go on sale from 17th May and start from S\$150 (restricted view) to S\$1,200 (VVIP).

SWIM CARNIVAL 2918 for Children

Date: 26 May 2018 Venue:UWC SEA Dover Campus Swimming Pool. Website: www.eventbrite.sg

For 11-year olds and below who can swim 25 metres with or without a kickboard - it is all for fun as their swim times will be recorded on a ribbon to take

home. Plenty of games and activities for the whole family.





Theo Jansen's Strandbeests Invade SE Asia

The ArtScience Museum will be unveiling the first Southeast Asian exhibition of Theo Jansen's world-famous moving sculptures Strandbeests on 23rd June 2018. **Wind Walkers: Theo Jansen's Strandbeests** is a major retrospective of Theo Jansen's life work. The sculptor from the Netherlands has spent the last 28 years developing a series of wind-powered machines called Strandbeests, which he describes as "a new species on Earth". The exhibition has gathered together 13 large-scale Strandbeests ('beach animals' in Dutch) that blur the lines between art, science, engineering and performance. Made from everyday materials, Jansen's beests utilise wind power to walk in a startlingly lifelike fashion. For more sneak peeks of the beests, visit www.indoconnectsingapore.com

EVENTS



68TH INDONESIAN IMMIGRATION DAY 26 Jan 2018, Indonesian Embassy Singapore

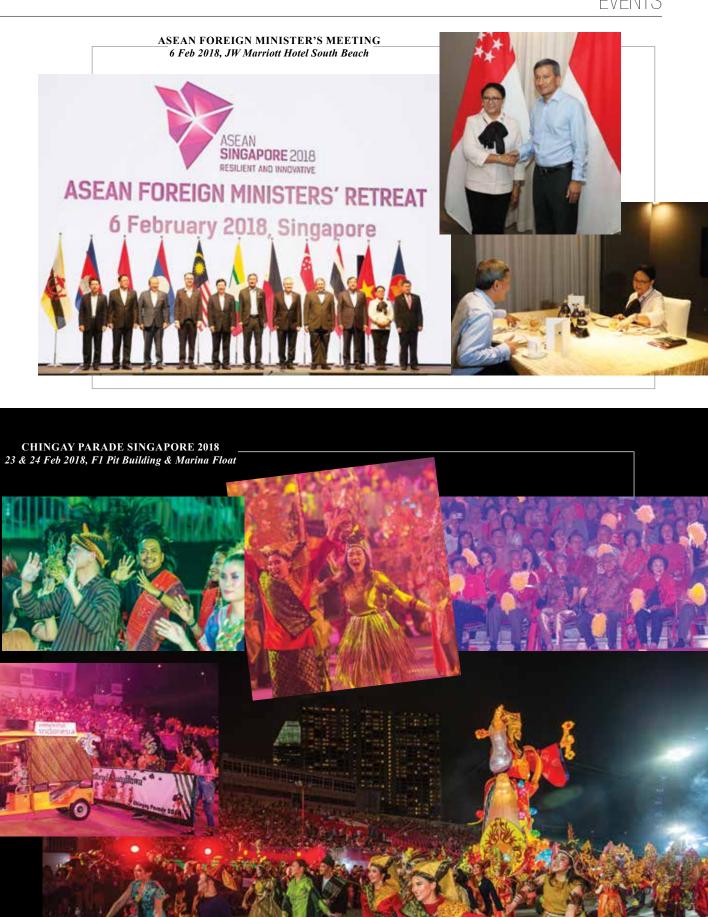








EVENTS



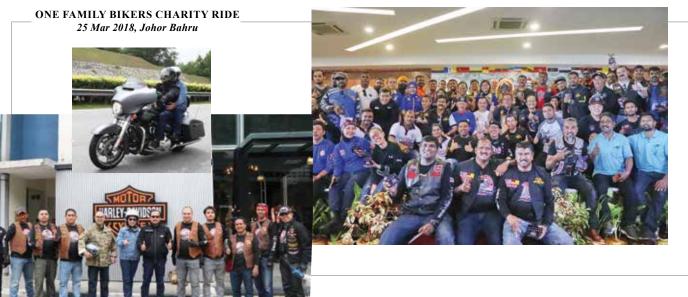
EVENTS

SEMARAK INDONESIA UNTUK PERLINDUNGAN DAN PELAYANAN PUBLIK 11 Mar 2018, KBRI Singapura



PRESS CONFERENCE BAJAFASH 2018 Mar 2018 Central Perk <complex-block>

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Yogyakarta

Memorable Days & Alluring Nights

Top up your personal memory card with a crackling range of stunning holiday experiences journeying through an antique land that has mesmerized travelers down the decades

> By Ranee Sahaney Photos by Martin Lukas www.IndonesiaPhotoGallery.com

he twin towns of Yogyakarta and Solo (Surakarta), the old capital of the Mataram Kingdom, were the heartbeat of civilization in Java. Documented in the plethora of attractions of this mighty cultural hub is the history of the spiritual inspiration that raised the mighty temples of Borobudur and Prambanian.Walk the talk...because getting to know Yogya up-close and personal becomes all the more thrilling when you walk the streets, mingle with the locals in the crowded bazaars and enter poky lanes to find unexpected new discoveries to a visit here. is also the favorite city from where to drive to the inspiring Borobudur temple, another excellent reason why Yogyakarta (Yogya) is the second most visited destination in Indonesia after Bali.





(Above and above right): Vesakh Day at Borobudur

Borobudur Temple

A UNESCO-acclaimed world Heritage site today, the beautifully restored Borobudur temple, a hub for Buddhist devotees and visitors from all over the globe was built between 750-n 850 AD. Borobudur has become the symbol of tolerance and 'harmony in Indonesia'. Just 40-oddkm from Yogyakarta the temple atop a hill is an inspirational shrine and an iconic feature of Indonesia's multi-cultural spiritual roots. Abandoned and left to its fate in the hungry sprawl of an Indonesian jungle, this mighty Buddhist temple lost its preeminence with the rise of the Hindu Sanjaya kings. It was a chance rumor which brought to light the evidence of a 'mountain of statues' reached the ears of the British Governor of Central Java, Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles in the 19th century, who sent off a posse of men to discover the truth...and the rest is history. Clamber up to this grand summit at sunrise for an exceptionally otherworldly experience! The fabulous relief panels, the Buddha statues, the nine stacked platforms rising progressively to the central dome — it's all truly awe-inspiring. Don't miss it!

Prambanan Temples

A guided tour of this beautiful temple complex, just 17km from Yogya, is highly recommended This ancient Hindu temple complex is marked for its superb architecture and Indonesia's ancient linkages to the Indian sub-continent's spiritual moorings. Legend has it that there once about 240 shrines in the complex of which only a few have survived the march of time. What you do have are very evocative in the ornate and elegant splendour. The temple compound of this 9th century shrine is believed to be one of the biggest in South East Asia. Don't miss the panels of bas-reliefs featuring episodes from the Hindu epic of Ramayana.

From storytelling puppets shadow play shows to the lively beats of the gamelan, from Keraton— the Sultan's Palace to Yogya's beautiful museums you have an inspirational time ahead of you. So get set for a really grand time in the cradle of Javanese culture. Yogya was the seat of power of the mighty kings of the Mataram kingdom (16th-17th century) with lofty visions of glory and regal entitlement. And there was royal rivalry too as brothers Pakubuwono II and Prince Mangkubumi's rivalry tore the kingdom asunder in the late 18th century. Taking the name of Hamengkubuwono I, Mankubumi set up his rival seat of power with a splendid palace in nearby Yogyakarta. An unbroken line of nine successive Hamengkubuwono sultans shaped the world of Yogya, honing the splendour of its unique cultural traditions and laws to outrival their sultan cousins at Solo.

Watered by the Kali Winongo , Kali Code and Kali Gaja Wong rivers the city's focal point is the walled old quarter, home to the sultan's palace and many of its tourist attraction. The modern city of Yogya is connected to this lingering reminder of its colourful past by the Ji A Yani.



(Above): Sunrise at Punthuk Setumbu



Kraton – Sultan's Palace

Home to the present sultan, the palace is awash with a fabulous display of antiquities. Take a guided tour to get the most of your visit which also allows for an exploration of its architectural details, the photo gallery, the throne room, the assembly hall and some private apartments. Don't forget to take in a traditional Wayang Kulit or Shadow Puppet performance at the Kraton, organized most evening. Walk ahead westward from Alun Alun , the verdant prospect in front of the palace, to the Masjid Ayung. The Grand Mosque offers an interesting architectural vision. (Left): The roof of the Golden Hall in the Sultan Palace. (Source:)

Sonobudoyo Museum

It's the best one in town with an astonishing collection of wayang puppets. It also features various aspects of Javanese arts. You'll be sured to be floored by its architecture.

Affandi Museum

Check out the impressionist paintings of Indonesian painter Affandi who died in 1990. There are works of other artists also on display.

Taman Sari

Water palaces are always evocative. This beautiful water castle, a gentle cohesion of European with traditional Javanese architectural lines, dates back to 1758 and served as a pleasure palace for the royals. It featured secret passages, opulent rooms and fountains long fallen silent. The castle complex is home to the Pasar Ngasem or bird market, where locals bargain hectically for these avian beauties.

TRAVEL



(Left): Taman Sari (Kraton). (Source:)

(Below): The city's iconic 1-km long Jalan Malioboro that stays open round the clock

Mount Merapi

Set your sights on one of the country's most iconic volcanoes. Rising sheer into a cloudless blue sky in Yogyakarta on the island of Java, it looks all innocence. Sunrise hikes along cooled lava streams are enjoyed by the intrepid.

Shopping

Yogya's largest traditional marketplace Beringharjo is stocked to the brim with goodies, especially local handicrafts apart from basic daily needs.Hanging out in Yogya also means stocking up on Batik materials or dresses for friends and folks back home. A specialty item is the wooden batik, the work of artisans from Krebet village.Carved wood items transform into gorgeous batik masterpieces as home décor centerpieces, trays, gift boxes and the like Keep money aside for a statement piece of silver jewellery from, Kotagede in Yogyakarta is famous for its silver artisans. Choose from a wide range of earrings, necklaces, brooches, rings, and bracelets. Stop by at a studio to watch local artisans at work. Yogya leather works are highly reputed as well. Check out the selection of bags, shoes, belts, even suitcases in the stores. Earthenware and Ceramics from Kasongan village are also good for an explore for mementoes.



ACCESS

Yogyakarta is linked by a slew of daily flights from Jakarta, Surabaya and Bali . It is also linked to from Kuala Lumpur, Malysia by AirAsia. Yogyakarta has excellent rail connections to other major cities. Road connectivity is available by public overland bus services as well.

ACCOMMODATION

A plethora of accommodation options, catering for all budgets can be found in Yogya. In the season time book ahead at the popular hotels

4D/3N TOUR PACKAGES

Popular Borobudur Temple sunrise tours covering Mount Merapi and highlights mentioned in the above article for two persons would range from \$\$350 staying in a 3-star hotel such as Cordela Malioboro to \$\$450 for a 5-star hotel such as Melia Purosani or Royal Ambarrukmo.

FLIGHTS

Depending on when you puchase the tickets and flight schedule direct return flights between Singapore and Yogyakarta can start from S\$317 per person for low cost airlines such as Air Asia to S\$1,204 for legacy carriers such as Singapore Airlines.

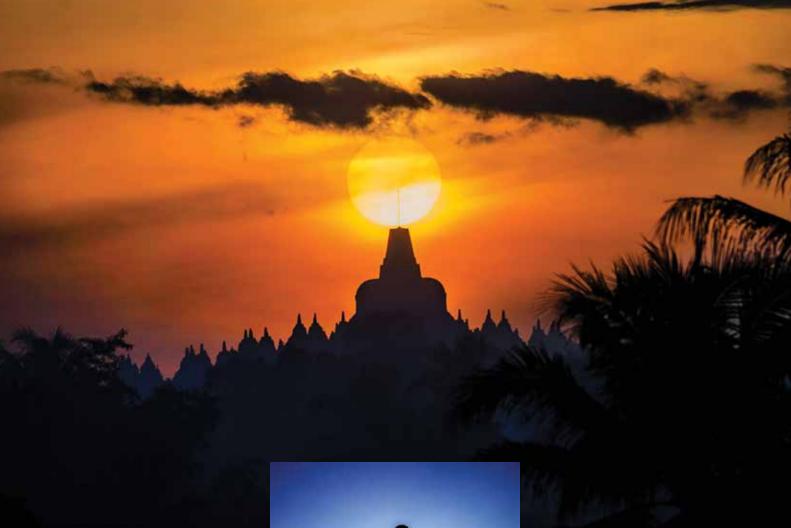
Rule of Thumb

IndoConnect uses www.skyscanner.com.sg to check flight fares



SUNRISE, SUNSET BOROBUDUR

Photos by Martin Lukas www.IndonesiaPhotoGallery.com







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