

Fall 2002

Acknowledgments

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

On top of the content of this volume, the Seminar was enriched by pre-departure meetings and readings; educational and cultural excursions and activities in Penang and Kuala Lumpur; and guest presentations on selected topics. A comprehensive report is available from Macalester College. Oral presentations included the following:

Presenter: **Dr. Maznah Mohamad**

Topics: *The Woman Question in Malaysia: In Between Illiberal Democracy and Islam* and *The Politics and Psychology of Pluralism in the Muslim World*

Guide: **Dr. Abdul Rahim Ibrahim**

Excursion: Centre for Marine and Coastal Studies

Guides: **Dr. P. Francis V. F. Lui** and **Dr. P. Sundramoorthy**

Excursion: Penang Island

Host: **Vice Chancellor Professor Dato' Dzulkifli Abdul Razak**

Event: Welcome remarks, Opening Ceremony and Dinner at USM

Presenter: **Dato' Toh Kin Woon**

Topic: *Social and Economic Development in an Epoch of Globalization*

Presenter: **Dr. Mohamed Ghouse**

Topic: *Music and the Arts of Malaysia: Mak Yong*

Event: Troupe Cultural Performance of Traditional Malaysian Dance

Presenters: **Drs. Hassan, Anuar, Baharuddin, and Hifni**

Topic: *Ecology and Biodiversity in Malaysia*

Guide: **Dr. P. Sundramoorthy**

Excursions: Penang Botanical Garden

Selected Islamic, Buddhist, and Hindu religious sites

Presenter: **Dr. Abu Bakar bin Majeed**

Topic: *Islam and Religious Diversity in Malaysia*

Guide: **Dr. Normah M. Noor**

Excursion: Forest Research Institute of Malaysia

Presenter: **Dr. Alias Abdullah**

Topic and Excursion: *Architecture and Urban Planning in Kuala Lumpur and the International Islamic University*

Presenter: **Dr. Zawiah Yahya**

Topic: *Nation and Narration: The Post-colonial Problematics of Writing Malaysia*

Presenter: **Dr. Mohammad Safar Hasim**

Topic: *Science, Technology and Media in an Age of Globalization*

The fellowship and conviviality offered to us by the people we met in lovely Malaysia were extraordinary. With particular gratitude, however, we mention our hosts at the beautiful campuses of the Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) and Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM). We spent the largest part of our seminar at USM, the original contact. In addition to the rich intellectual encounters and comfortable campus housing, we cherish the superb attention given to us by the Dean of the Social Sciences, Dr. Abdul Rahim Ibrahim; the Chair of the Sociology/Anthropology Department, Dr. P. Sundramoorthy; and Administrative Assistant to the Dean, Ms. Teh Gaik Lan. They went beyond the call of duty and our expectations to at once make our presence safe and pleasing, as well as our cultural and scholarly curiosities welcome. Vice Chancellor Professor Dato' Dzulkifli Abdul Razak and his deputy for Academic Affairs, Dr. Syed Ahmad Hussein, were generous with their time, particularly during the brief visit of our President, Dr. Michael McPherson. Penang is unforgettable!

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