



SARAWAK

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Army of Light marching across the land of Bintulu

By Vincent Yong

2nd of August 2009 was an auspicious day for Bintulu Cluster. We had our Reflection Meeting and also launched our 12th cycle of Institute Programme of Growth on that very day, with a total of 23 friends gathered at Rumah Benta located at Mile 28. The day started with a round of prayers followed by a study on the Ridvan Message 2008 and 2009 to enhance our understanding of the importance of Intensive Programme of Growth.



“This was a community aware of the vast potentialities with which it had been endowed and conscious of the role it is destined to play in rebuilding a broken world”, an extract from the Ridvan Message 2009, shows us how important it is for us to realize our potential and arise to teach the Cause.

We also reviewed on our current statistic and our Cluster Profile. Five teaching teams were formed and several areas were identified during the planning session, with a goal of 50 new declarants. We revised and

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“This was a community aware of the vast potentialities with which it had been endowed and conscious of the role it is destined to play in rebuilding a broken world”

(extracts from the Ridvan Message 2009)

يا الله
بهاء

“Have no doubt
of the receptivity
of your fellow
citizens from
every segment
of society to the
Message of
Baha’u’llah...”

“Arise then
undeterred by
the storms and
trials...
consecrate
yourselves to
this spiritual
enterprise”

(extracts from a Letter
from the Universal House
of Justice dated 27th
December 2008)



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practiced using
A n n a ’ s
Presentation
before setting
out to teach.
Everyone was
eager to learn
and was full
with spirit to
p e r f o r m
teaching during
the two weeks

of expansion phase which was scheduled to end on the 16th of August
2009. Ya Baha’u’llabha!

Launching Kuching Cluster’ s 16th IPG

By Yee Tsemin

On the evening of 14th August 2009, a huge crowd consisting of friends from all the communities in Kuching Cluster gathered at the Kuching Baha’i Centre to attend the launching of the 16th Cycle of Institute Process of Growth(IPG). The programme began with a devotional session of prayer followed by speeches by Auxiliary Board Member (ABM) Dr. Shehab Phang, representatives of the Sarawak Baha’i Institute (SBI) Board and Sulang. The friends were then entertained with an astounding performance from the Taman Malihah’s junior youth group. The expansion phase is scheduled to commence on the 15th of August until 23rd of August, a period of nine glorious days. ABM Shehab revealed to us that this time we were going to focus our efforts on one receptive area only, the terrace housing of Kampung Stutong Baru.

Like previous teaching campaigns, the Kuching Cluster will be identifying receptive friends as community of interest. However, the teaching teams will be writing a new chapter in history by being the first cluster in Sarawak to perform street teaching. The plan was to utilize youths as the forerunners in the street teaching. The adults were also invited to join the teaching activities during the expansion phase. Our beloved NSA member Marilyn Lee had generously offered her old house as a place for the youths to converge and stay overnight for the two weekends in preparation for the teaching campaign and the musical fireside. The night ended with a fabulous launching for Kuching Cluster’s 16th Cycle of IPG as prepared by Miss IImy Dajai.

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in history...**

Devotional Meeting In SK Nanga Kain, Kapit

By Cikgu Jesion Meding

“Devotional meetings are not only limited to our homes, it can be done in schools too”. Cikgu Jesion Meding describes his personal experience in promoting devotional meeting outside our home environment...

“It started since I was the warden, counselor and year 6 teacher of SK Nanga Kain, Kapit. To maintain discipline and guide the pupils during any class activities such as roll-call or group counseling, I would usually begin the session with some Baha’i prayers which I had prepared beforehand. Knowing that everyone is more than welcomed to pray and reflect on writings of the Baha’i Faith and other religions, the pupils would join the devotional meeting regardless of race, religion, or belief. Now, 24 of my pupils would also join the devotional meeting held every weekend in my house.”



“During the exam week, I would gather them for prayer and say the ‘Remover of Difficulties’ prayer to ease their tension. Now it is a culture in the class to practise devotional before any exams. Some even requested for copies of the ‘Remover of Difficulties’ prayer! As a result, I could see a tremendous change in my pupils’ behaviour and I’m also surprised to see unexpected improvements in their grades.”

Some even requested for copies of the ‘Remover of Difficulties’ prayer!

Even a small candle can ignite a strong flame

By Cikgu Jesion Meding

Even with a small group, the fire of spirituality can be ignited and set ablaze through the initiatives of two youths. In the rural edges of Kapit, these two



youths strived with all their might and through the blessings of the Omnipotent, they managed to form a junior youth gathering with 9 participants comprising of Year 5 -Year 6 students from the

neighbourhood. Being the first time conducting this gathering, they were not confident in their own capabilities but persisted with prayerful attitude and support from the local cluster coordinator. The endless dedication of these two radiant souls resulted not only in regular gatherings every week, but also joyous success of having another children’s class with 14 children. Not only the children were excited, the parents were always seen anxious about the upcoming classes and kept asking when the next class will be held again. They realized that spiritual education is very important for their children as it plays prominent role in forming their children’s character.

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Rallying the Army of Light

By Geriti Katik

Six courageous youths responded to the call of the Universal House of Justice during the 41 Conferences held all over the world, to arise and become pioneers who will be the key persons to assist cluster development and growth. The brave 'Army of Light' of the Land of the Hornbills are Marina anak Benjamin, Emilia anak Ji-ea, Mawan anak Jaban, Sylvester anak Senabung, Salleh anak Anjat and William anak Gait. These six youths, infused with the spirit to serve the Cause, participated in a week of intensive training for pioneers in Kuching from 14th to 20th of July 2009 to prepare themselves for the challenges ahead of them.

During that week, a skills training including a refresher course for Ruhi Book 1- 6, learning and practicing the practical after completing each Ruhi Books, and learning to tutor Ruhi Book 7 was taught to the six pioneers. After that, they had a Vision Training from the 17th to 20th of July 2009. The things that they did during the Vision Training were the in depth study of Ridvan Message 2008 and 2009, 27th Dec 2005 message, and 30th September 2007 message from the Universal House of Justice; viewing the video on Attaining Dynamics of Growth; reviewing case studies; a sharing and learning session from the past experience of the previous pioneers (Pamila and Patricia Mona); skills to analyse the cluster profile; and also devising the Plan of Action.

On the last night of the training, a pot-luck organized by the National Spiritual Assembly was held in Kuching Baha'i Centre. Friends from around Kuching were invited to join the pot-luck which was the final dinner before sending off the pioneers to the respective clusters that they will serve in. Let us all pray for the joy and success of the Army of Light in their period of service! Ya Baha'u'llabha!



Study circle group organized picnic

Report by James J. Rigo

session.

I was given the honour to talk on the devotional and social aspects of being a Bahá'í and the Fund. Another invited guest who worked as a manager at one leading company spoke on honesty and trustworthiness .

BAKONG: On 30 August 2009, Mr. Dorai and family brought the Sungai Biar study circle group and other invited guests, including my family, for a visit to Bungai Beach. There we had a barbecue, water sports and talks and question & answer

The day was enjoyable and the organisers contemplated that on the next outing invitation would be extended to nearby communities in Bakong area.