



SARAWAK

BAHÁ'Í NEWSLETTER

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Month of Sultan (Sovereignty)

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Pioneer Programme

Sarawak Baha'í Institute

There was yet another Pioneer Training held on 18-24th of December 2009 at the Ruhi Lodge in Kuching. 22 participants have risen to be pioneers in different localities. They are given a series of training with the help of 8 facilitators some of whom are ex-pioneers themselves.

The participants were given tutor training for the Ruhi Books sequence and also taught to perform previews for the junior youth and children classes programmes. Workshops were conducted in order to engage participants in discussions and studies on the messages from the Universal House of Justice and International Teaching Centre. Later, they were also asked to present what they have understood from the messages they have learnt. Auxiliary Board Member (ABM) Mr. Bunsie also helped in the clarifying the concept of Coherence and elaborated on the Ridvan Message 2008.

The methods in improving the growth of a cluster based on the previous experiences were shared. The pioneers from the previous batches also shared their experiences in order to help them obtain a clearer vision of what they went through as a pioneer. With assistance from the Area Growth Committee (AGC) of Kuching, the participants had the opportunity to put into practice what they have learnt in that week.

The presence of Counsellor George Soraya and 4 ABMs helped fuel the flame in their hearts and their spirit to serve. On the last day of the training, all the participants were divided into groups by clusters which they would be assigned to. After that, they formulated plans and set targets for the coming 3 months. At night, 7 members of the Sarawak National Spiritual Assembly, ABM Dr. Shehab Phung and members of the Sarawak Baha'í Institute Board came to give their support to the pioneers and also listen to their action plan.

Last but in no way the least, the four Local Spiritual Assemblies of Kuching North, South, Padawan & Samarahan helped with cooking of the food for the participants. We are thankful to everyone whose contribution made this Pioneer Training Project a success.

When once a
few bold, self-
sacrificing
individuals
have arisen to
serve, their
example will
no doubt
encourage
other timid,
would-be
pioneers to
follow in
their
footsteps

(Compilations,
The Compilation of
Compilations vol II, p.
222)



“... but all, irrespective of circumstances or resources, are endowed with the capacity to respond in some measure; all can share; all can participate in the joint enterprise of applying more systematically the principles of the Faith to upraising the quality of human life. The key to success is unity in spirit and action.”

(Compilations,
Lights of Guidance, p.
546)

Central Region Human Resource Conference

Reported by Nabil Tan Chun

The Human Resource Conference for Central Sarawak was held on the 26th till 28th December 2009 at the Regional Bahá'í Council Office in Sibu Jaya. A total of 43 participants including 8 pioneers from Kanowit, Mukah, Selangau, Sibu and Kapit clusters who came to serve in the Central Region, attended this conference.

The Human Resource Conference started with a welcoming speech from the representatives of the Sarawak Bahá'í Institute and Regional Bahá'í Council of central region. Mr. Jesion presented on “The Divine Plan” while Mr. Jeraman discussed on the topic “Coherence” with the friends. The participants were then later divided into smaller groups to study the message from the Universal House of Justice and International Teaching Centre.

The second day of the conference was filled with more memorable activities. That day began with devotionals, followed by training on the use of the flipchart and pamphlets in teaching the Faith. Mr. Jeraman highlighted the key points of the children class and junior youth gathering previews and also the Anna's presentation. Three participants were randomly chosen to act out the previews for demonstration purposes. To review what they had just learnt, the participants were divided into pairs to practice presenting the flip chart and previews with the aid of the pamphlets.

In the afternoon, the participants went to designated residential areas in Sibu Jaya to share the Message in the surrounding neighborhood. That evening, a reflection session was held to share their fresh experiences. The outcome of their visit in the afternoon was inspiring! Thirteen children were interested to attend the children class and four are interested to join the junior youth gathering. They were also 3 receptive souls keen in joining Bahá'í activities. The contact details were forwarded to the Local Spiritual Assembly of Sibu Jaya for follow up. Mr. Jesion and Mr. Jeraman also shared some opinions, experience and methods which could help improve the skills in presenting and promoting the core activities.

On the final day of the conference, there was a session to pledge for services to aid in their respective cluster's growth and also in clusters which were scheduled to launch Intensive Program of Growth by Ridvan 2010. After the individual pledges were made, everyone were gathered in groups according to their clusters. The respective cluster profiles were analysed, with strategies discussed and formulated to achieve the cluster growth target. The conference ended with the closing remark by the Regional Bahá'í Council of Central region and Sarawak Bahá'í Institute representative.

Northern Region Human Resource Conference

Reported by Geriti

A Human Resource Conference for the Northern Region was held at the Niah National Park. This programme was organized by Northern Regional Bahai Council (RBC) and the Sarawak Baha'i Institute. The objective of this programme was to develop more human resources to participate in more activities in order to achieve the target which have been set by the National Spiritual Assembly. Likewise this would also, at the same time helps the pioneers to accelerate the launching of the IPG and in priority clusters. Among those who were present were Auxiliary Board Member (ABM) Mr. Mail and 4 members of the Northern Regional Baha'i Council .

The programme started with highlights of God's Divine Plan, Coherence and Ridvan Message 2008. This was shortly followed by topics on the importance of the united participation of the individual, institution and community in promising the success of a plan. During the session, we also reviewed the strategies to develop the clusters based on the 30th September 2007 Message. The close cooperation between ABM Mr. Mail in facilitating the workshops have succeeded in assisting friends to understand the current needs of the Cause.

The next day, training on the Junior Youth Spiritual Empowerment Programmes and Children Classes preview was held to improve the methodologies used in introducing these two core activities to the non-Baha'is. As a result, the friends managed to invite 21 junior youths from Rumah Mogan in Bakong to join new junior youth gatherings, of which 19 were non-Baha'is. In addition, more than 20 children and junior youths from Rumah Mat in Niah were eager to participate in the core activities after attending the previews.

An hour to midnight at the Niah National Park, during reflections session it is revealed that for many it was the first time to perform a preview and they were not expecting such a welcoming response. Most of them agreed that doing previews on the children classes and junior youth programmes were not as difficult as what they imagined. This activity was able to boost their confidence in bringing success to their own clusters.



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The next day, the programme started with the presentation of the targets set by the National Assembly for each clusters. Based on the targets givens,

friends started to draw up Plans of Actions. Much gratitude is owed to the participants and also to the Area Growth Committee (AGC) for the support given throughout the event.

Human Resource Conference

(Southern Region)

Reported by Miss Lucy Nabav

26th to 28th December 2009

Siar Beach Lundu

We had an overall attendance of 74 friends attending of which 40 were youth. We began our program with devotions followed by a presentation by ABM Bunsie on Historical Context of the present five year plan. Later ABM Dr. Shehab Phung shared on coherence and Ridvan 2008 message. We then divided into smaller groups to study the 27th December 2005 message. In the evening, we studied the 30th September 2007 message. We concluded the workshop with group presentation.

We began the next day with singing as early as 7.30am, followed by devotions. Later ABM Bunsie shared on Anna Presentation, followed by ABM Dr. Shehab Phung's presentation on Ridvan 2009 Message.

Ms. Tracy (current Pioneer) shared on us how to conduct a Junior youth preview for new contacts. It was followed by Ms. Lucy and ABM Kalong sharing the same regarding children class. Friends were divided into 5 teams

The teams left immediately after lunch. 2 teams went to Kampung Selampit while remaining 3 went to Kampung Kangka.

We shared our learning and experiences that evening. In Kangka, we had 15 children who showed interest in attending children class and 30 junior youth registered to attend the junior youth program.

Our sharing was followed by social night. Each team had prepared some item for the social, including the members of Institutions and our cooks .

The next morning at about 5.45am, we began with exercise at the beach. It was followed by breakfast after we had washed up. Same as the day before, we sang before devotion began. Later we invited ABM Dr. Shehab Phung to do a presentation on neighbourhood. We were divided into smaller group based on the neighbourhood to discuss what we can do in our own neighbourhoods. All the groups presented their plans .

ABMs Dr. Shehab Phung and Bunsie, and Mr. Lee Yi Eng and Mr. Sigom on behalf of RBC South and Madam Marilyn Lee on behalf NSA were invited to give their closing remarks. Everyone was busy taking photos when the program ended. The day was filled with joy. We are thankful to God for guiding us throughout the program



The future has always belonged to youth, and now more than ever before, in order to ensure the fulfilment of Bahá'u'lláh's plans for this planet, the youth must labour and pioneer.