

# COMMUNITY PROGRAMME CAPTURES HEARTS AT KAMPUNG NYENTIL

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The two-hour boat ride, from the jetty of Kuala Medang in Kuala Lipis, will certainly be a life-long treasured experience for 35 Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) undergraduates, including five international students from Bangladesh, Indonesia and Pakistan.

The university students braved through gushing rapids and rushing current of Sungai Relau to get to a remote village – Kampung Nyentil Pos Lanai – in Kuala Lipis, Pahang Darul Makmur, hearts set to embark on their mission, a community programme called “Kembara Hati Siswa Perdana (KeHATI)”.

The community programme, held for the first time, was launched by its patron, the Pahang State Committee Chairman of the Rural Development & Indigenous People’s Affair, Dato’ Wan Rosdi Wan Ismail.

The KeHATI programme, an initiative by the Secretariat of Pahang Undergraduates (SeMAMPAN), was organized in close collaboration with UMP’s Department of Students’ Affair & Alumni, Pahang State Government, Pahang State Foundation and RISDA.

Other participating agencies and programme sponsors were Mentiga Corp Bhd, Pahang state departments of Community Development, Community Welfare (KEMAS) and Special Affairs, National Board of Community &

Family Development (LPPKN), and the Kuala Lipis District’s Department of Information and Office of Youth & Sports.

The five-day programme took off with the 35 students joining their foster families for their homestay mission. Students were expected to acquaint themselves with their families and to record their collective daily activities for historical reference of their journey and mission at the end of the programme.

For the first three days of the KeHATI programme, the students lined up several activities for village-wide participation, including motivational talks and sporting games for the adults and group workshops for the children.

Other governmental agencies, like KEMAS and LPPKN, also played their roles by stepping in to conduct multiparty activities for the children and women-folks, such as hand massage techniques, facial makeover, blood-check as well as advice on selected health concerns.

Students blended in well and forged close relationships with the village community through jungle trekking and participating in the daily activities of Kg Nyentil indigenous people. They learnt how to fish, make animal-traps, source vegetarian food and identify jungle tracks. At the end of an exhausting day, the students shared a patriotic movie with the village elders, who reminisced