Duo out for Camp

Syahrina Ahmad

26 - 28 March 2010. What could possibly happen when groups of students went out for camping. A hullabaloo of aesthetic and energetic group of students, you can bet! This year, an enthralling and enjoyable camping event for Arabic and Japanese students, was held by the Department of Foreign Languages, Centre for Modern Languages & Human Sciences, UMP at Dusun Eco Resort, Bentong, Pahang.

133 registered students (85 Intermediate Japanese and 48 Arabic) from semester 2 2009/2010 had taken part in this event. The camp was targeted to further develop ways of learning the languages through diverse outdoor activities carried out at the resort. Hence, the participants were encouraged to grab the opportunities to maximise the use of the languages through the activities which were designed to be interactive and teamwork-like especially during the treasure hunt, flying fox as well group presentations (drama).

Headed by Mohammad Baihaqi Hasni and Syahrina Ahmad, an Arabic and Japanese language teacher respectively, the two were assisted by other CMLHS associates, Yanti Salina, Fatina Bakar, Hairul Nisma Wahab and Mohd. Edeazry Hamzah as facilitators.

Indeed, the camp was a success. Most campers claimed they had a rewarding time and benefitted a lot from the camp. Apart from learning the language, the soft skills elements such as leadership and team working skills were also highlighted in all the activities conducted.

It was apparent that the camp had managed to lure a wider interest among the students in learning the foreign languages as the camp provided a non-threatening and agreeable environment.