

UMP UNDERGRADUATES' NOBLE CAUSE IN CAMBODIA

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A total of 20 undergraduates and four staff of Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) took part in a humanitarian mission where they carried out community service works and helped the people of Kampung Baik Anlong and Kampung Crai An Dait in Cambodia.

Kampung Baik Anlong was four hours drive from the city of Phnom Penh while Kampung Cari An Dait was different from other villages.

The mission was organised by the Student Representative Council (MPP), with the cooperation of the Student Affairs & Alumni Department (JHEPA).

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Programme Director, Alief Uzair Naharudin said they were well received by the community.

"The children and youths were taught about oral hygiene and the right way of brushing their teeth, were given medicine to clear worms in the guts and lice and given explanation on the importance of personal hygiene.

"They also held a programme, 'Oh My English (OME)' and was

assisted by one of the students who is fluent in Bahasa Melayu, who helped other children to understand the universal language that is spoken worldwide," he said.

He said they learned to use words that were commonly used, adding, response to the OME programme was encouraging and that it was a fun experience for everyone.

On the next trip to Kampung Crai An Dait, it was a challenging but exciting one that included a boat ride crossing the Mekong River. It was something that was simply unforgettable.

One of the programme participants, Muhammad Hafizuddin Rasid, said the journey was a thrilling one where they got to experience the boat ride and arrived safely at the village.

The villagers also received free health checks and another gotong royong session was held where they helped to clean a newly-built surau and its surrounding. The participants took the opportunity to visit a new house which was constructed based on public donations initiated by UMP in a bid to help poor families in the area.

Although the location of Kampung Crai An Dait was not far from the nearest town, the facilities were rather limited. They had to contend using a dilapidated boat to ferry them to town while the houses were still wooden structures. It was different with Kampung Baik Anlong where the facilities were better while the homes were made of bricks.