

# Cluster School of Excellence in collaboration with Universiti Malaysia Pahang on Malay Language Literacy

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Pekan, 17th October 2018- Primary and Secondary School Cluster Excellence in Malay Language has jointly collaborated with Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP), Pekan campus to organize a programme on Malay Language Literacy. The schools involved were SK Selancar 2, SK Bukit Lada and SMK Seri Bera, Pahang. Whereas, the departments UMP who had contributed towards the success of this program were the Department of Academic and International Affairs (JHEAA) and the Center for Modern and Human Language Sciences (CMLHS), UMP. The program was officiated by the Dean of the Center for Modern Languages and Human Sciences (CMLHS), UMP, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Nubli Abd Wahab, also attended by the Deputy Dean of Academic Affairs, Dr. Munira Abdul Razak. This Malay language program conducted aimed at strengthening the teaching and learning of Malay language to school students and to provide exposure on the best activities in improving the performance of Malay language in schools. According to Mr. Saharuddin Ramli (Department of Academic Affairs and International Affairs, JHEAA), UMP, the program of intermediation & cooperation of cluster schools with public universities involves all public universities and cluster schools across Malaysia including UMP. The program aimed to strengthen the teaching and learning of all subjects in the schools under the cluster of excellence including the Malay language. The program was from the Ministry of Education (MOE) efforts in ensuring that education between schools and universities is interrelated, sustainable and relevant at both levels. Thus, the Malay Language Program was among many efforts to ensure the teaching and learning of Malay language in Pahang cluster school continues to excel and follow the IR 4.0.

Although there were only three schools participated in the recent program, this collaborative program has actually been held holistically and continuously since the beginning of the year, involving nine of the state of Pahang cluster schools of excellence in the field of Malay language literacy. Among the schools who had collaborated with UMP for such programs in the past were SK Tunku Azizah, SK Selancar 2, SK Bukit Lada, SMK Seri Bera, SK Temerloh, SK Wira, SK Pekan Jaya, SK Sanggang Seberang and SK Bandar Tun Razak.

According to the mentors of Malay Language for the state of Pahang, Ms. Juwairiah Osman and Ms. Jamilah Bebe Mohamad (CMLHS, UMP), the program and collaboration have been carried out since May this year, including the Action Plan for subjects of excellence, intensive programs to overcome students who are weak in Malay subjects, brainstorming techniques to answer Malay questions, impromptu speech competitions and study tours at UMP. Students and teachers were also welcome to visit the language labs at UMP which have been utilized by students and instructors for the purpose of teaching and learning. Dr. Munira Abdul Razak, Deputy Dean of Academics, for example also delivers R & D lectures via IR 4.0.

More interestingly, on the day of the program, international students from Yemen presented talks and had sharing sessions with the school students on their experiences learning Malay for Beginners and Malay for Intermediate courses taken by all international students at UMP. They presented their talk both in English and Malay during the sessions. Facilitators during the program were recruited among UMP students themselves who had shown their full commitment and co-operation throughout the entire program. The day ended with exchange of tokens and souvenirs from schools involved and UMP. In addition to programs and activities on scheduled dates, UMP also provides consultancy services through communication with mentors for coaching purposes, or to seek advice on running related programs with the cluster schools of excellence.

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