





THE STAR, SATURDAY 11 DECEMBER 2021

Daulat Tuanku

Keeping his subjects close to heart



Sultan Sharafuddin always speaks up when it comes to matters concerning the well-being of the people. — KK SHAM/The Star

By WANI MUTHIAH wani@thestar.com.my

SELANGOR RULER Sultan
Sharafuddin Idris Shah can be very
stern when there is a need for him
to address certain issues. Recently,
Sultan Sharafuddin voiced his
displeasure after some religious
school teachers and mosque
officials had refused to get
inoculated against Covid-19.
Through the Selangor Royal

Through the Selangor Royal Office Facebook page, Sultan Sharafuddin expressed sadness and disappointment over their stance. The Sultan had stated, without mincing his words, that the individuals' stubbornness would cause problems for others, especially religious school students.

The Ruler had asked for the names of the religious school teachers, mosque committee members and marriage solemnisers who had declined to be vaccinated.

That Selangor was one of the states with the highest number of Covid-19 cases also perturbed the Sultan deeply.

Besides being briefed regularly on the latest developments, Sultan Sharafuddin had also directed that the vaccination for factory workers be expedited as Selangor is an industrialised state with many factories and manufacturing plants.

Sultan Sharafuddin also constantly reminded his subjects to not let their guard down even after they had been vaccinated as it did not mean that they were now immune to Covid-19.

The Ruler also often urged the people to keep complying with the standard operating procedures set by the Health Ministry and to observe all the tenets of the new normal. The concern shown by Sultan Sharafuddin for his people's safety is reflective of the Ruler's caring nature.

This is also always seen when the Sultan addresses matters related to the state's Orang Asli community. The Ruler had recently extended help by sending rice to the Orang Asli community at the Sungai Judah settlement in Pulau Carey, Kuala Langat.

During the opening of the 2009 session of the Selangor Legislative Assembly sitting, Sultan Sharafuddin had asked the state government to hasten the exercise of identifying and gazetting of Orang Asli land.

He said in his royal address that the Orang Asli community's identity was being eroded, hence their land problems must be resolved.

"I want to stress the need to acknowledge and preserve Orang Asli land which had been seized from them in the last few years,"



Sultan Sharafuddin, Tengku Permaisuri Norashikin and Raja Muda Selangor Tengku Amir Shah departing after an investiture ceremony held in conjunction with the Ruler's 76th birthday at Istana Alam Shah, Klang, on Nov 29. A total of 116 recipients were conferred awards, honours and medals. - Bernama



Sultan Sharafuddin and Tengku Permaisuri Norashikin at the opening of a Nestle plant-based meal solutions factory in Shah Alam in April.

— KK SHAM/The Star

the Ruler had said.

Being a stickler for discipline and good conduct, Sultan Sharafuddin is also outspoken in his criticism of graft and had an audience with Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) chief Datuk Seri Azam Baki a few months ago.

In his address at the Selangor Legislative assembly's opening session this year, the Ruler highlighted that several senior civil servants in the state had been apprehended by the MACC.

The Ruler said it was regrettable there were still those who were dishonest and misused the trust given to them in their capacity as civil servants or political leaders.

"I am giving another reminder that I do not want to hear of any reports about the involvement of the state's civil servants and political leaders in bribery.

"I have directed the MACC to carry out in-depth investigations to clear Selangor of corrupt practices," the Ruler said at the time.

Sultan Sharafuddin also hoped those involved in graft would be brought to court and, if found guilty, punished severely to indicate the people's rejection of bribery.

The Sultan added that the corrupted had no place in society and

must be dealt with.

On the excessive politicking, Sultan Sharafuddin reminded elected representatives that they should not forget their responsibilities towards the people amid such power plays.

"I cannot hide my disappointment and regret over the country's recent serious political strife, fighting and uncertainty.

ing and uncertainty.

"It looks like the Ahli-Ahli Yang Berhormat (elected representatives) do not want to learn from the history of the fall of a nation due to power struggles that led to division in society," Sultan Sharafuddin had noted in his opening address.

The Sultan is also known to speak up when there have been violations of people's rights and privacy.

For example, he had spoken out when the privacy of a state assemblyman was violated through the circulation of some private photos in 2009. While the pictures were being shared on social media along with jeering and snide remarks, much to the discomfort of the assemblyman, Sultan Sharafuddin immediately voiced his concern.

The Ruler's office issued a statement in which Sultan Sharafuddin said he was upset and worried



The Selangor Sultan and Tengku Permaisuri Norashikin attending the investiture ceremony held in conjunction with the Ruler's 76th birthday at Istana Alam Shah, Klang, on Nov 29. — Bernama

over the intrusion of privacy and private rights for the purpose of destroying a person's dignity and reputation.

The Ruler expressed sadness that private lives were being made public and subject to public scrutiny via the mass media.

scrutiny via the mass media.

The Sultan also played a pivotal role in helping Aida Melly Tan Mutalib settle her divorce in 2002. Aida Melly was unable to get a divorce from her husband for seven years as he kept appealing every petition she filed.

A desperate Aida Melly wrote to Sultan Sharafuddin, who is also the head of Islam in Selangor, seeking his help to finalise her divorce.

his help to finalise her divorce.
In all his wisdom, Sultan
Sharafuddin advised the court to
hasten the decision-making process
pertaining to Aida Melly's divorce.

"The Sultan is a kind and compassionate Ruler. His intervention was a light at the end of a long and dark tunnel," Aida Melly had told *The Star* after finally getting her divorce finalised some years ago.

Being an avid reader, Sultan Sharafuddin owns a massive collection of books on almost every topic in his palace as well as several other locations. The Ruler has also donated a large number of books to libraries. Sultan Sharafuddin was born on Dec 24, 1945, at Istana Jemaah in Klang as Tengku Idris Shah to the late Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah, who was the Raja Muda at the time, and his first wife Raja Saidatul Ihsan Tengku Badar Shah.

The Sultan attended the Malay Primary School in Jalan Raja Muda, Kuala Lumpur, before enrolling in St John's Institution. The Sultan continued his schooling at the Hale School in Perth, Australia, in 1960 and later enrolled in Langhurst College in Surrey, England, in 1964.

He became a civil servant upon his return to Malaysia and served in the Selangor state secretariat, the Kuala Lumpur district office and the police department.

The Ruler became the Raja Muda of Selangor at the age of 15 in 1960 when his father was installed as the Sultan of Selangor. He ascended the throne in 2001 after Sultan Salahuddin's demise.

Sultan Sharafuddin is married to former news presenter Norashikin Abdul Rahman, who is now styled as Tengku Permaisuri Selangor Tengku Norashikin.

On the occasion of his Majesty's 76th birthday, the people of Selangor wish Sultan Sharafuddin good health and many more blessed years ahead. Daulat Tuanku!

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Sultan Sharafuddin and Tengku Permaisuri Norashikin were married at Istana Alam Shah in Klang on Aug 30, 2016. — Pic courtesy of Selangor Royal Office Facebook



Tengku Permaisuri Norashikin at the launch of a book about her journey in the palace in December 2019. — FAIHAN GHANI/The Star

Caring royal with a love for animals

By WANI MUTHIAH wani@thestar.com.my

TENGKU Permaisuri Selangor Tengku Permaisuri Norashikin, just like her husband Selangor Ruler Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah, is a working royal. She is always attentive and rises to the occasion when her help or intervention is required.

For instance, when Foodpanda delivery person Nur Athirah Abdul Latiff's motorbike was stolen while she was waiting to pick up a delivery order, Tengku Permaisuri Norashikin stepped in to help.

She bought Nur Athirah a new motorbike to replace the one that was stolen so that the young woman could continue earning a living.

One of Tengku Permaisuri Norashikin's current projects is reviving the telepuk textile design in order to prevent it from becoming extinct.

Telepuk comprises a stamping design made of gold dust on fabric and is synonymous with Selangor royalty.

Unfortunately, according to Selangor Malay Customs and Heritage Corporation (Padat) curator Intan Salina Idrus, the art of the telepuk design nearly died out with the passing of the artisans who used to make it for the Selangor royal court.

"The Tengku Permaisuri asked us about the telepuk and we explained the situation to her. The Tengku Permaisuri then requested that the tradition be revived," said Intan Salina.

She added that Padat was currently training a male apprentice who had shown interest in becoming a telepuk artisan.

According to a paper published by academics from Universiti Teknologi MARA not long ago, the telepuk textile was in use in the state from the reign of its first Ruler, Sultan Sallehuddin Shah (1745-1778).

Being an animal lover, Tengku Permaisuri Norashikin has also voiced her disapproval when animals are treated cruelly by local council dog catching units.

On one occasion, she expressed her disappointment and sadness over the way Subang Jaya Municipal Council staff had handled dogs during a dog-catching exercise.

"I urge the authorities to be more sensitive and humane in dealing with cases involving abandoned animals on the streets," the Tengku Permaisuri Norashikin had said in a statement posted on the Selangor Royal Office Facebook page.

Unfortunately, the local councils in Selangor continue mishandling dogs in dog catching exercises in spite of the royal rebuke.

Perhaps the executive councillor in charge of local government, Ng Sze Han, should heed Tengku Permaisuri Norashikin's concern and raise the matter with the municipal and district councils as well as city halls in Selangor.

The always stylish and elegant Tengku Permaisuri Norashikin also has an orchid named after her – the vanilla norashikiniana – at the orchid conservatory in Frasers Hill

Tengku Permaisuri Norashikin and Sultan Sharafuddin were married at Istana Alam Shah in Klang on Aug 31, 2016, and she was proclaimed the Tengku Permaisuri Selangor effective Sept 8 that same year.

Tengku Permaisuri Norashikin was previously an air stewardess before becoming an award-winning newscaster with RTM.

She has two grown-up children, Nur Amanda and Adam Salleh, from a previous marriage.







As an animal lover, Tengku Permaisuri Norashikin regularly advocates for humane and compassionate treatment of animals, especially abandoned ones. — Selangor Royal Office/NOR AFIFI EHSAN/The Star





Danilett Fuetnku



DULI YANG MAHA MULIA SULTAN SHARAFUDDIN IDRIS SHAH ALHAJ IBNI ALMARHUM SULTAN SALAHUDDIN ABDUL AZIZ SHAH ALHAJ

D.K., D.M.N., D.K.(Terengganu), D.K.(Kelantan), D.K.(Perak), D.K.(Perlis), D.K.(Negeri Sembilan), D.K.(Kedah), D.K.(Johor), D.K.(Pahang), S.P.M.S., S.S.I.S., S.P.M.J.

SULTAN AND RULER OF THE STATE OF SELANGOR DARUL EHSAN AND ALL ITS DEPENDENCIES

Heartiest Salutations & Congratulations

In Conjunction With
His Royal Highness' 76th Birthday

On 11th December 2021

From

Chairman,
Group Executive Vice Chairman,
Board of Directors, Management and Staff of



Daulat Tuanku The star, Saturday 11 December 2021

Steeped in tradition

By WANI MUTHIAH wani@thestar.com.my

DURING important ceremonies held at the Selangor royal palaces, a procession bearing the various royal regalia will formally make its entrance into the venue hall before the event begins.

One cannot but help notice the tall, lithe figure of the Bentara Raja leading the entourage while bearing the royal spear Lembing Sembuana.

The Bentara Raja, Tengku Ezrique Ezzuddean Tengku Ardy Esfandiari, who is a member of the Selangor royal family, had first carried the ceremonial and sacred spear in 2013.

"I was first tasked to carry the Lembing Sembuana during the swearing-in ceremony of former mentri besar Tan Sri Khalid Ibrahim back in 2013," recalled the 33-year-old Tengku Ezrique Ezzuddean.

He explained that the Lembing Sembuana is only used during ceremonial appointments of state officials, the Orang Besar Istana's Menjunjung Duli (pledging allegiance) ceremony as well as other official ceremonies that the palace officials believe requires the ceremonial spear.

The Lembing Sembuana is made of iron mined from Selangor's nine occupied districts during the tenure of the state's second Ruler, Almarhum Sultan Ibrahim Shah Almarhum Sultan Salehuddin.



The Lembing Sembuana is made of iron mined from Selangor's nine occupied districts during the tenure of the state's second Ruler.

A replica of the spear is also a central feature in Selangor's coat of arms.

On the criteria required for one to be chosen for the position, Tengku Ezrique Ezzuddean said it was based on familial lineage.

"Selection is made amongst members of the royal family by the Royal Council with the approval of His Royal Highness the Sultan," explained Tengku Ezrique

He added that the duration of a Bentara Raja's tenure depended on the discretion of the Sultan.

Tengku Ezrique Ezzuddean said

he was presented with a watikah (official scroll) to denote his appointment as the Bentara Raja by current Selangor Ruler Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah during a ceremony held at Istana Bukit Kayangan in 2019.

On what is required of him prior to a ceremonial event, Tengku Ezrique Ezzuddean said he had to attend rehearsals.

"For any event, there will be a rehearsal two to three days prior where I can familiarise myself with the movements required," said Tengku Ezrique Ezzuddean, who is a director of an aviation company that procures and sells helicopters.

He added that he prepared himself mentally and physically for an event by having a good rest a day earlier.

"On the morning of the event, I will bring my Bentara Raja attire and get ready at the palace (Istana Alam Shah). The palace supervisor (Mr Kadir) will assist me in putting on the bengkung, samping and other accessories," he said.

He also shared that if he arrived

He also shared that if he arrived at the venue early, he would start practising the entrance and exit during the event on his own. Tengku Ezrique Ezzuddean,

Tengku Ezrique Ezzuddean, who enjoys golfing and boxing, is married to actress, model and host Syamim Mohd Farid.

He is the eldest of three children and his father is the Tengku Sri Paduka Shahbandar Tengku Datuk Ardy Esfandiari Alhaj Tengku Abdul Hamid Shah Alhaj.





(Above) Tengku
Ezrique Ezzuddean
dressed in the full
Bentara Diraja
attire and (left)
bearing the
Lembing
Sembuana during a
recent event at
Istana Alam Shah
in Klang.
— Pix courtesy of

— Pix courtesy o Tengku Ezrique Ezzuddean



Danilati Fuanku

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Tengku Amir and Finance Minister Tengku Datuk Seri Zafrul Tengku Abdul Aziz (left) speaking at a 'Selangor Youths Have a Say' dialogue session in August 2020. - RAJA FAISAL HISHAN/The Star



Sultan Sharafuddin and Tengku Amir giving out goodies during an iftar dinner for 300 children from orphanage homes and Sekolah Jalinan Bimbingan Kasih in May 2019. - LOW BOON TAT/The Star

Empathetic Crown Prince

By WANI MUTHIAH wani@thestar.com.my

SELANGOR'S Crown Prince, Raja Muda Tengku Amir Shah Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah, takes after his father, the Sultan, in many ways, especially when dealing with issues concerning the rakyat's welfare.

In addition to leading the Football Association of Selangor (FAS) as its president, Tengku Amir heads Yayasan Raja Muda Selangor (YRMS) and the Selangor Youth Community (SAY).

The 31-year-old heir to the Selangor throne has carried out many philanthropic activities through YRMS and SAY, and has given many youths a second chance in life.

SAY also collaborates with the UK's Prince's Trust International, which was founded by the Prince of Wales in 2015, and has embarked on an initiative to help youths through a nine-week personal and professional development programme.

Recently, a special event was held to celebrate the achievements of youth through the programme which was graced by Tengku Amir.

In his speech at the event, the Crown Prince talked about all the youth groups participating in the team programme that had gone all out to help the needy.

"I am proudest of the impact that all of you have made through the programme, especially during the community project stage.

"I remember how the young people in Cohort 1 engaged with an Orang Asli community and went to a care home.

"The young people in Cohort 2 conducted an online forum on mental health, which inspired the young people in Conort 4 to conduct an online forum as well on domestic violence.

"I find it amazing for both cohorts to come out with relevant topics in these times as cases on mental health and domestic violence are on the rise during the lockdown.

"Last but not least, I remember that the young people in Cohort 3 visited a homeless shelter, ensuring comfort and cleanliness among the less fortunate there," Tengku Amir had said.

He added that it was amazing to see the youths being so passionate about giving back to society while also looking to better their own



Sunway Group brand marketing and communications senior general manager Nik Tasha Nik Kamaruddin (second from left) and Pusat Jagaan Kanak-kanak Rukaiyah Yatim dan Miskin president Dr Abd Rahman Kurais (10th from left) during a visit to Pusat Jagaan Kanak-Kanak Rukaiyah Yatim dan Miskin as part of the #Sunwayforgood Raya Cheer outreach programme in April this year.

opportunities in life.

Tengku Amir is also known to be stern when it is required of him. This was evident when he took over the helm of the FAS in June 2018, when it was at its most troubled point.

Not wasting a single minute, Tengku Amir had used his mettle to sort out the bickering within the football association and put in place a brand new machinery to run the organisation smoothly.

Neither did Tengku Amir mince his words when taking the officials to task during the FAS crisis.

"It's too late now to say sorry because I have given enough chances, enough warnings," the Crown Prince lambasted the feuding officials at the time.

While trying to appease the officials and clearing up the factional disgruntlement, Tengku Amir had explained to them that they could work together to create a good football team.

Selangor FC chief executive officer Dr Johan Kamal Hamidon, who was formerly the SAY chief executive officer, told The Star previously that Tengku Amir was always concerned about the

people's best interests.

"Tengku Amir has always put the people first since the day he began heading both SAY and YRMS.

"At SAY, Tengku Amir works closely with existing community groups in areas such as community service, entrepreneurship, sports and the arts to maximise the potential and impact of the respective initiatives," he had added.

Tengku Amir was officially decreed as the Crown Prince and heir to the Selangor throne on May 3, 2002, when he was just 11.

He was born in San Francisco, the United States, on Dec 12, 1990, and is Sultan Sharafuddin's only

He holds a degree in Ecology and Environmental Biology from Leeds University and was commissioned Leftenan Muda in the 17th battalion of the Royal Malay Regiment at Terendak Camp, Melaka.

He was trained at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst in the United Kingdom.

In October 2016, Tengku Amir underwent the age-old rites of the state's royal institution endorsing his accession as the Selangor throne's heir apparent.



Tengku Amir and Selangor Mentri Besar Datuk Seri Amirudin Shari (left) inspecting a water quality device to detect pollution after the launch of the Selangor International Business Summit 2021 on Nov 19. - RAJA FAISAL HISHAN/The Star





Daniel Fuenku



DULI YANG MAHA MULIA SULTAN SHARAFUDDIN IDRIS SHAH ALHAJ IBNI ALMARHUM SULTAN SALAHUDDIN ABDUL AZIZ SHAH ALHAJ

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Teng seated in a helicopter at the Selangor Aviation Show 2021 in Shah Alam. According to Teng, the number of private jets touching down at Selangor is also expected to increase in the coming months. - KK SHAM/The Star



Teng (centre) launching the Selangor Aviation Show in Shah Alam along with Selangor State Secretary Datuk Haris Kasim (right) Invest Selangor chief executive officer Datuk Hasan Azhari Idris. - Bernama

Turning S'gor into a global business hub

By WANI MUTHIAH wani@thestar.com.my

WITH a view of strengthening Selangor's commercial standing by enhancing high-end businesses, the state's investment arm Invest Selangor has embarked on various endeavours. One of its latest accomplishments is the recently concluded Selangor Aviation Show

Themed "Selangor, the Asean Business and General Aviation Hub", the inaugural event was reflective of the state's pursuit of becoming a regional centre for aerospace and aviation activities.

If the state successfully meets the target it has set for itself, Selangor will become a regional aviation hub rivalled only by Singapore.

The pursuit of this sector is also in tandem with results of global data which revealed that the business and general aviation industry were resilient sectors in the face of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The business and general aviation sectors were also the quickest to recover from the adverse effects of the pandemic compared to other aerospace industry sectors.

Selangor executive councillor in charge of industry and trade Datuk Teng Chang Khim said the sectors generally known in the aerospace industry were the defence and commercial or civil aviation sectors. However, little had been done in the past to explore the business and general aviation sectors.

"Business aviation covers private jets and chartered aircrafts while general aviation encompasses small aircrafts, helicopters and drones.

"This is the area we are trying to develop given its potential as well as Selangor's strategic location," explained Teng.

He said more global conglomerates were chartering flights for business travel instead of

commercial flights post-Covid-19. "Studies show that boarding a

commercial flight comes with 700 touch points from the time one leaves home and arrives at the intended location compared to only 20 touch points when travelling in private aircrafts," he added.

According to Teng, the number of private jets touching down at Selangor was also expected to increase in the coming months.

He said the increase in business and general aviation activities in the state would help Selangor expand its maintenance, repair and overhaul business.

Teng said Selangor also had the space and expertise to manufac-ture small aircrafts which was also one of the state's targeted indus-

Selangor Mentri Besar Datuk Seri Amirudin Shari, meanwhile, said Selangor already had an advantage with Subang Airport.

"We already have a diamond in the rough with Subang Airport and we are determined to help unlock its potential to support and sustain growth in the business and general aviation industry," Amirudin said.

During the Selangor Legislative Assembly sitting in August, Teng revealed that the state had received more than RM22.45bil in investments with some 411 manufacturing projects approved from January 2020.

He added that RM10.43bil and RM12.02bil were from domestic and foreign investments respec-

Recently, Amirudin said the Selangor government was geared towards becoming a centre for hi-tech manufacturing.

To realise this intent, Selangor was seeking investors with expertise in automation, industrial Internet of Things and advanced robotics, he added.



The Selangor Aviation Show 2021 reflects Selangor's pursuit of becoming a regional centre for aerospace and aviation activities. - KK SHAM/The Star



offline and online connectivity. Invest Selangor has also launched the Selangor Biotechnology Action Plan 2021-2030 with the aim of turning Selangor into a regional biotechnology

hub for innovation, technology

dissemination, investment and human capital development.

Amirudin said

Selangor was

hub given its

location, links

with various

industries as

well as good

offline and

online connectivity.

global business

ideal as a

strategic

The Selangor government has big plans to turn the state into a regional economic force to be reckoned with and its aggressive initiatives are already paying off.

During the recent opening of

Business Summit 2021, Amirudin

location for a global business hub

given its strategic location, links

with various industries and good

had said that Selangor was an ideal

the fifth Selangor International



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UEM Sunrise Berhad

Addressing mental health needs

By WANI MUTHIAH wani@thestar.com.my

RECENTLY, a group of participants at a leadership workshop organised by the Selangor Youth Community (SAY) conducted an online forum on mental health.

This was indeed apt given the increase in mental health issues amongst the masses in recent times.

Given this situation, the creation and registration of the Selangor Mental Health Association was a timely calling.

Reaching out at the community level

Its pro-tem president Datuk Dr Andrew Mohanraj said the Selangor Mental Health Association (SMHA) was set up to address mental health needs at the community level and to complement mental health services by the public sector services.

"The SMHA is planning to reach to reach out to community leaders through its suicide prevention programme called 'A Conversation on Suicide'.

"We will also be reaching out to people who have loved ones with mental health issues.

"Caregivers of those with chronic mental illness are often a forgotten lot," said Dr Mohanraj.

He added that SMHA hoped to organise caregiver support groups in several pockets in the state, focusing also on youth resilience, "I hope that with the SMHA, we will be able to help and guide those who are in need of support and guidance."

Ng Suee Lim

particularly among those living in rural areas.

"In order to be closely linked to the state, the SMHA's pro-tem committee had invited the Selangor Speaker's office to be its patron and the invitation was accepted by Speaker YB Ng Suee Lim," said Dr Mohanraj.

He added that the SMHA was

He added that the SMHA was also hoping to have a royal patron and would be seeking advice on how to go about it soon.

Among those sitting on the SMHA management committee is former Selangor Health Department director Datin Dr Ang Kim Teng.

Timely initiative

Meanwhile, Ng said it was timely

for the SMHA to be conceptualised and launched given the need to address mental health issues in the country.

"I hope that with the formation of the SMHA, we will be able to help and guide those who are in need of support and guidance," he added.

Early intervention

According to Ng, there are many people who are initially unaware that they or their loved ones are experiencing mental health issues.

Hence, their condition is more often than not neglected until it reaches a serious stage, he pointed out

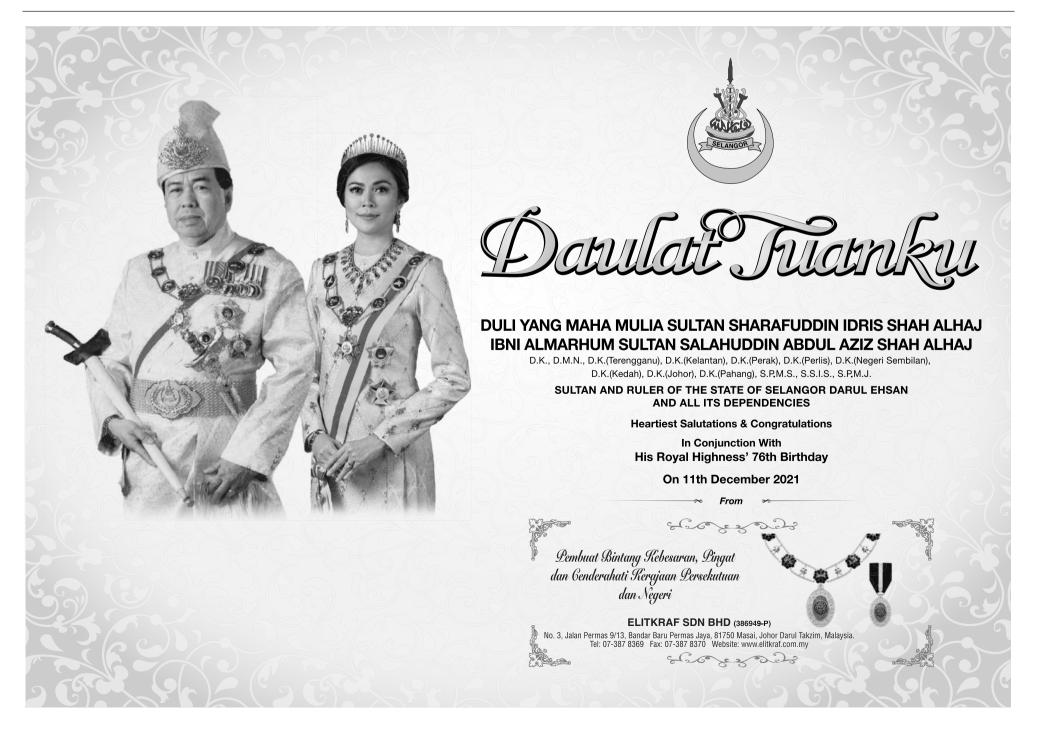
"If we are able to help these people detect such mental health issues early, we can provide the necessary help and support to ensure that their quality of life is maintained whilst they undergo the necessary treatment and counselling sessions," said Ng.

He added that once the SMHA gained momentum, it would be able to provide timely and critical support to everyone who needs help to address mental health issues.

The Selangor state government had also recently launched the Selangor Mental Health Programme (Sehat) to address the nationwide increase in the number of people facing mental health issues.



Dr Mohanraj and Ng are committed to making mental health services more accessible to those in need.





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Rustic heritage charms of Klang

By WANI MUTHIAH wani@thestar.com.my

RECENTLY crowdsourced global database Numbeo raised the ire of Klang residents when it dubbed the town as the most dangerous "city" in South-East Asia.

For Klang residents, the allegation was not only baseless but also ridiculous. One has to come from Klang or be acquainted with the town to realise that "to know Klang is to love Klang".

Highly misunderstood by outsiders, the royal town is nothing like what Numbeo made it out to be or what outsiders assume it is like – unsavoury.

On the contrary, Klang is a quaint town with old charm which is also quickly developing to meet current needs and demands to be on par with other fast-growing towns and cities.

Besides having a multi-racial population which also includes the Orang Asli community, Klang is known as a haven for food lovers. But food isn't Klang's only glory as the town is also steeped in history and has many charming facets that are unique to the town.

Historical literature states that Bronze Age artefacts were found in Klang, indicating that Klangites first came into existence during prehistoric times.

As Port Klang was the arrival point for several migrant communities from other parts of Asia some 200 years ago, the town's



The Sultan Sulaiman Mosque, also known as Selangor's royal mosque, was opened in 1933. — SAM THAM/ The Star

revious interview housing estates and neighbourang town parameters hood centres.

In spite of the rapid development in South Klang, Abdul Ghani had said that the town's charm lay in its heritage buildings, which still exist in areas defined as the original Klang township.

"In these areas, much remains unchanged and Klang's old rustic heritage charm, which makes it a special town, still exists," he said.

Klang has many unique and interesting places to boast of and one of them is Kai Hong Hoo, the only temple in Malaysia dedicated

to the Song Dynasty's most notable judge, Justice Bao.

There is also the Kota Bridge that connects North and South Klang and was opened in 1961 by Almarhum Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah. It is also the first double-decker bridge to be built in Malaysia.

Kota Raja Mahadi, meanwhile, was built as a protective fort during the Klang civil war from 1867 to 1874 between the royals Raja Mahadi and Raja Abdullah.

Unique and interesting places of worship in Klang include the Sultan Sulaiman Mosque, opened in 1933; the more than a century old Indian Muslim Mosque in Jalan Tengku Kelana, which replicates Muslim architecture in South India; the more than a century old Kuan Yin Temple, which is the worship point for Klang's Hokkien community; Sri Sundararaja Perumal Temple, which is the country's first granite temple; as well as the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes which is home to the glass panels from Sime Darby Medical Centre that show alleged apparitions of Mother Mary and Jesus Christ.

Another place of interest in Klang is the Sultan Abdul Aziz Royal Gallery at the Sultan Suleiman Building built in 1909 by British architect Arthur B. Hubback, who also designed the Kuala Lumpur and Ipoh railway stations, Carcosa Seri Negara and Masjid Jamek in Kuala Lumpur, among others.

current identity revolves around a melting pot of cultures brought in by these groups of people

by these groups of people.
Klang, which was once
Selangor's administrative capital,
has many places of interest and the
town is a tourist attraction in its
own right.

The town is also divided in two sections – North Klang and South Klang – with the former being the older part of the town whilst the latter is currently the conduit for a rapidly growing commercial centre.

Orang Besar Klang Datuk Abdul Ghani Pateh Akhir had told The Star in a previous interview that the old Klang town parameters were only from Bulatan Seratus to Klang High School in the north and up to Simpang Lima in the south.

"The areas outside of these perimeters were regarded as the outskirt areas.

"In South Klang, it used to be just the graveyards and plantations after we had passed Simpang Lima," he recalled.

However, the last two decades have seen extensive development and the former "border" literally vanishing with the opening of new



The beautiful Church of Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Jalan Tengku Kelana features glass panels from Sime Darby Medical Centre that show alleged apparitions of Mother Mary and Jesus Christ. — CHAN TAK



The iconic Kota Bridge is the first double-decked bridge in the country. — KK SHAM/The Star



Kuan Yin Temple (Goddess of Mercy Temple) is over 100 years old and the worship point for Klang's Hokkien community. — KK SHAM/ The Star THE STAR, SATURDAY 11 DECEMBER 2021



DAULAT TUANKU

MAY ALLAH THE ALMIGHTY BLESS OUR SULTAN



HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS SULTAN SHARAFUDDIN IDRIS SHAH ALHAJIBNI ALMARHUM SULTAN SALAHUDDIN ABDUL AZIZ SHAH ALHAJ

D.K., D.M.N., D.K. (Terengganu), D.K. (Kelantan), D.K. (Perak), D.K. (Perlis), D.K. (Negeri Sembilan), D.K. (Kedah), D.K. (Johor), D.K. (Pahang), S.P.M.S., S.S.I.S., S.P.M.J.

SULTAN AND RULER OF THE STATE OF SELANGOR DARUL EHSAN AND ALL ITS DEPENDENCIES

Heartiest Salutations And Congratulations

In Conjunction With His Royal Highness's 76th Birthday
On 11th December 2021

WITH UTMOST SINCERITY



THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF SELANGOR DARUL EHSAN

16 Daulat Tuanku The star, Saturday 11 December 2021

Much to see and do in Selangor

By WANI MUTHIAH wani@thestar.com.my

SELANGOR has many places of interest and attractions which make it a haven for tourists in each of its nine districts.

While the town and cities have cosmopolitan outlets and fine dining restaurants, its outskirts offer lush greenery, natural waterfalls and adventures one will never forget.

Some of Selangor's rivers are best suited for white water rafting and tubing enthusiasts. For those who are into natural waterfalls, the Kanching Eco Forest Park and its surrounding lush forest in Rawang is a must visit.

Water cascades beautifully from its seven magnificent waterfalls and pools have been built where people can bask in the sun and sounds of nature while taking a dip.

And who has not heard about Templer Forest Eco Park. which has been a tourist attraction for decades before the state's other natural water attractions were opened up to the public?

Families regularly go there for a leisurely day out to enjoy its swimming pool located in the midst of nature as well as hike up its many trails. Another popular spot for locals is the Selayang Hot Spring, which is a natural hot water spring.

Visitors throng the area to take advantage of the hot spring which helps heal and counter various skin ailments due to its high mineral content.

In addition to the iconic Klang, other places of interest include the state capital Shah Alam, which is more than just Selangor's administrative conduit.

Formerly the massive Sungai Renggam Estate, construction of Shah Alam first took off in 1963 and was still uncompleted when it was proclaimed the capital of Selangor in 1978 after Kuala Lumpur became a Federal Territory in 1974.

Places of interest in Shah Alam that are technology-based are i-City, the Garden of Islamic Arts, the Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Mosque (also known as the Blue Mosque) and the Shah Alam Lake

Meanwhile, the lush green park

at the Garden of Islamic Arts is said to be inspired by the Garden of

Another town with many attractions is Sekinchan, which offers tourists the privilege of staying amidst beautiful and lush padifields.

The once sleepy town is now a bustling tourist destination with many homestays, hotels and resorts.

One of Sekinchan's resident padi farmers, Allen Lim, has expanded his family business by setting up a padi museum which used to receive about 10,000 visitors a month prior to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Besides a display of the various varieties of padi and rice, the museum highlights the agricultural tools used and shows visitors how padi farming has evolved over the years.

Furthermore, there is the Sekinchan Wishing Tree at Pantai Redang Datuk Kong Temple. Worshippers can tie or toss their

Worshippers can tie or toss their requests and wishes tied in a red ribbon, weighed down with a little metal disc, atop the branches of the massive tree. Thousands of red ribbons can be seen adorning the tree.

Not far from Sekinchan is the Firefly Park Resort in Bukit Belimbing, Kuala Selangor. Visitors can take a slow boat ride along the Selangor River and enjoy the sights and sounds of fireflies illuminating the mangrove swamps along the side of the river.

As for those who want a close encounter with the culture and artefacts of the Orang Asli community, they can visit several villages located at Kuala Langat's Carey Island

Amongst the villages belonging to the indigenous community in Kuala Langat are Kampung Orang Asli Sungei Kurau, Kampung Orang Asli Sungei Judah, Kampung Orang Asli Sungei Bumbun and Kampung Orang Asli Sungei Jugra.

The Mah Meri tribe, known for its exquisite carvings and artwork, has a beautiful cultural village that is open to tourists on Carey Island.

Indeed, Selangor is a tourist destination which has many things to offer, from cosmopolitan treats to the beautiful sounds and sights of nature.



The Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Mosque, also known as the Blue Mosque, is the state mosque of Selangor, the country's largest mosque and the second largest mosque in South-East Asia. — Tourism Malaysia



The Sekinchan
Wishing Tree at
Pantai Redang
Datuk Kong
Temple is
adorned with
wishes written
on red ribbons.
— PAMELLA LIM/
The Star



Learn more about the rice we eat at the padi museum in Sekinchan. — KK SHAM/The Star



Families can have a splashing good time at the Kanching Eco Rimba Park in Templer Park, Rawang. — GLENN GUAN/The Star





DULI YANG MAHA MULIA SULTAN SHARAFUDDIN IDRIS SHAH ALHAJ IBNI ALMARHUM SULTAN SALAHUDDIN ABDUL AZIZ SHAH ALHAJ

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On 11th December 2021

From

Tan Sri Dato' Sri Lim Hock San (Executive Chairman)

Board of Directors Management and Staff



18 Daulat Tuanku

Warm wishes for a respected Ruler

Selangorians across the state extend their wishes to Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah on the occasion of His Majesty's 76th birthday today.



As the Royal Patron of Yayasan Raja Muda Selangor (YRMS), Tuanku is helping youth from poor families nurture their skills and talents to achieve their dreams. I had the privilege of serving as YRMS executive director for 13 years until I retired in 2017. May Allah SWT bless Tuanku and his family with good health always. Daulat Tuanku.

Aminah Abd Rahim Social worker



As a proud Selangorian who enjoys growth and harmony, I wish Tuanku happy birthday. As a science, technology and innovation enthusiast, I hope to see Selangor on par with developed nations. As an ordinary rakyat, I also wish for inclusivity, respect and tolerance. Daulat Tuanku.

Datin Dr Mahaletchumy Arujanan Executive director, Malaysian Biotechnology Information Centre



I would like to take this opportunity to wish our beloved Sultan a very happy birthday and many happy returns of the day. May Tuanku be blessed with good health for many more years to come.

Datuk B.K. Tan Businessman



Wishing His Royal
Highness Sultan
Sharafuddin the
happiest of birthdays
and may you enjoy
many more years of
good health and
prosperity. May
Selangor continue to
prosper and progress
successfully and
peacefully under His
Highness' grace.

Aida Melly Tan Mutalib Artist & Designer, Era Collectiques



Wishing His Royal
Highness the Sultan of
Selangor a happy
birthday. Selangorians
are indeed blessed to
have a Ruler who is kind,
conscientious and acts
as a protective umbrella
over its people. May
God bless His Royal
Highness with a long
and happy life.

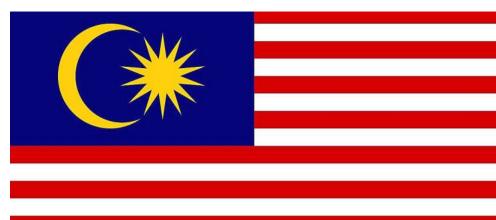
Datuk Murugesan Sinnandavar Lawyer



THE STAR, SATURDAY 11 DECEMBER 2021

Daulat Tuanku 19







I wish Tuanku a very happy birthday. May Tuanku be blessed with good health and longevity, and may the state of Selangor continue to prosper with lots of goodwill and peace under Tuanku's reign. Daulat Tuanku.

Suzan Kuah Business owner



I would like to wish His Royal Highness a joyous birthday. May Allah SWT bless Tuanku with good health, longevity, happiness and the wisdom to continue ruling Selangor. Daulat Tuanku!

Shahrul Nizam Kasim Senior Assistant Director, Department of Skills Development, Human Resources Ministry



From scaling up a mountain to circumnavigating the world with a yacht, an adventurous man who does not shy away from challenges, that's our beloved Tuanku. Wishing our "King of Hearts" a happy birthday. Thank you for leading Selangor with your wisdom and love. May you continue to lead Selangor as an exemplary state.

Kamal Kanapathy Company director



Having lived in SS2 my entire life, I've watched highways, buildings, malls, shoplots and schools develop and transform Petaling Jaya into the sprawling city it is today. Happy birthday and thank you Tuanku for your leadership, guidance and stewardship in the transformation of Selangor, from a proud Selangorian.

Louis Tan Businessman



Wishing Tuanku a very happy 76th birthday. May Allah bless Tuanku with longevity and good health so that, we the people of Selangor, will continue to prosper and succeed under you reign. Daulat Tuanku.

Nor Fariza Daud Corporate communications department Selangor State Secretariat



Wishing Tuanku good health and happiness always. Here's hoping that Tuanku will continue to care for your subjects with the care and compassion that Tuanku has repeatedly shown for many more years to come.

Sagar Velayuthan Business development manager



Happy birthday Tuanku. Wishing you good health and may Selangor continue to prosper under your rule. Here's to many more years under Tuanku's reign.

Ng Swee Wuan Accountant



Wishing His Royal
Highness the Sultan of
Selangor all the very
best and a wonderful
76th birthday. May
Tuanku enjoy the best
of health always and
celebrate many more
birthdays to come.

Derene LeeBusiness owner



Wishing Tuanku a very happy 76th birthday and many more happy returns of the day. May the people of Selangor enjoy continued harmony and more prosperity under Tuanku's reign.

Kavitah Ganasan Science trainer



Daulat Tuanku! Happy Birthday to His Royal Highness the Sultan of Selangor. Wishing Tuanku many blessings for the year ahead and excellent health always.

Kamelia Nisha Khairul Annuar Founder and owner of Kamelia Cosmetics **20** THE STAR, SATURDAY 11 DECEMBER 2021



Daniet Frienky



DULI YANG MAHA MULIA SULTAN SHARAFUDDIN IDRIS SHAH ALHAJ IBNI ALMARHUM SULTAN SALAHUDDIN ABDUL AZIZ SHAH ALHAJ

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From

IJM CORPORATION BERHAD AND ITS GROUP OF COMPANIES

















