



**KUALA LUMPUR**

# City News

K U A L A L U M P U R C I T Y H A L L

ISSN 1675 - 1876 Free Copy

Issue 1/ November 2002

Ramadhan 1423

## KNOW YOUR MAYOR

**B**orn on 11 March 1947 in Simpang Rengam, Johor, Datuk Mohmad Shaid bin Mohd Taufek, the current Mayor, City of Kuala Lumpur is a Malaysian civil servant holding a BA (Hons) Sociology/Anthropology University of Malaya, (1970) and a MBA, American University, Washington D.C, USA (1982). He also graduated with a Diploma in Management Science from INTAN in 1967.

He was the Principal Deputy Secretary General, Prime Minister's Department, Malaysia and has held many senior government appointments. His long and distinguished career from 1970 -2002 saw him serve amongst others, as the Principal Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Lands and Mines, The Public Services Department, Director of the Institute of Public Administration (INTAN) Southern Region, State Financial Officer, Negeri Sembilan, Director of Inspectorate Division in the Modernisation of Administration and Management Planning Unit, Prime Minister's Department (MAMPU), Malaysia and State Secretary Negeri Sembilan

Well known for his expertise in reforming, restructuring and turning around Government Departments and ailing subsidiary companies of government agencies, he has also presented no less than 20 papers at local and international forums.

Datuk Mohmad Shaid is also well known for having initiated some changes to the Civil Service from 'a general and administration bias to a more technical based orientation'. This resulted in a degree of changes in the way things got done in the civil service, with a certain measure of recognition and acknowledgement given to technical personnel and their contribution to the service. The change also made the civil service more relevant to the changing times.

An active volunteer soldier in the Territorial Army with the rank of Colonel, he is credited with introducing a Cyber Café in the First Battalion, Regiment 508 and also at the National Mosque in August 2001. Besides, he had also conducted studies on the establishment of Kelas Al

Quran and Fardu Ain (KAFA) under LEPAI (1986) and the effectiveness of Kelas Al Quran and Fardu Ain (KAFA) (1996).

Datuk Mohmad Shaid is also recognised as the first mayor in City Hall to pause during meetings for 'al-azhan'. A trait now followed by senior muslim officers in City Hall during meetings chaired by him.



Y.Bhg Datuk Mohmad Shaid Bin Mohd. Taufek,  
Mayor of Kuala Lumpur

**"My vision for the city is to make Kuala Lumpur an ultra modern, garden city of lights, safe and secure and free from all the social vices and problems. I am very concerned about the poor and depressed sectors of urbanized Kuala Lumpur, poverty eradication and providing reasonably satisfactory housing and recreation for the poor. This is a major challenge to me."** - Datuk Mohmad Shaid.

A deeply religious man and married to Datin Hajjah Kalsombi bt. Abdul Rahman, the mayor is blessed with four girls and a boy. A doting father and a loving husband, he spends as much time as he can with the family although hard pressed for time in his new station in life.

Datuk Mohmad Shaid is also concerned about unfortunate women, abused mothers, single parent mothers/women, senior citizens and some youth. The activities and pursuits of some of the women and youth warrants serious attention and affirmative programmes need to be specifically designed for them, so that they are in consonance with the positive values of the city's social culture. He hopes that these youth will engage in sporting and beneficial activities that will make them good citizens and future leaders of the country. With regard to single parent mothers, Datuk Mohmad Shaid intends to create

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### FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK: BRIDGING THE COMMUNICATION GAP

Communication is an important aspect of city administration. It is extremely essential for City Hall to regularly disseminate news on the plans, development, activities and programmes of the City.

Disseminating correct and timely news helps citizens and stakeholders in the city to understand what is going on in the City. It also helps them to get closer to City Hall and cooperate with City Hall to develop the City into a first class city – a garden city of lights.

In January 2002, City Hall recognizing the need for a vehicle to communicate launched the Berita Bandaraya in Bahasa Malaysia. The newsletter was also well received by City folks. City Hall was able to clarify various issues through this newsletter because some replies sent to the print media for clarification were not published.

In 1997, City Hall with the help of Radio Malaysia started a live 1-hour programme to answer questions from the public. Known as Radio Malaysia Kuala Lumpur (formerly Radio Malaysia Ibukota) this successful programme called DBKL & Anda is still on-going and is aired on Tuesdays between 2.00p.m-3.00p.m.

Now, City Hall has decided to launch an English Language Newsletter to reach out to the English educated public, tourists, hoteliers, diplomatic missions and the multinational corporate sector.

Through this channel, it is hoped that City Hall will reach a larger audience with news on development, tourism and our networking with other cities.

Readers are invited to send in their views and opinions to improve this maiden newsletter.

Wishing all our Hindu readers Happy Deepavali and our Muslim readers 'Selamat Berpuasa'.

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How wonderfully true is the saying : 'No man is an island'. As such, human beings cannot, and will not, live alone. They have to live in communities, tribes, groups etc. Similarly, a city cannot exist by itself; it has to live among a community of cities or nations. More so in a society that is increasingly becoming borderless and globalised. Advancement in transport and communication technology has brought us closer together and we interact almost instantaneously today. Indeed we exist in a global village.

Kuala Lumpur City Hall has realized this truism quite some time ago and has initiated many approaches, including bilateral and multilateral cooperation among cities, to exchange views, ideas and to network with one another for the mutual benefit of all parties.

Formal and informal structures, networks and institutions have been initiated and built to enhance cooperation between cities for mutual benefit and development in various sectors particularly in the areas of culture, tourism, trade and commerce.

One of the earliest efforts in cooperation started in 1956 with the establishment of Eastern Regional Organization for Planning and Housing (EAROPH), a non-governmental organization. Members of the organization who came from various disciplines met regularly, conducted international technical exchange programmes, conferences, seminars, technical training programmes, urban and rural development studies, and carried out funding projects. Kuala Lumpur City Hall has benefited in many ways through its membership in this organization which has a secretariat in Kuala Lumpur.

Kuala Lumpur City Hall has jointly helped to organize the 11th EAROPH Congress in 1980, the 13th EAROPH Congress in 1992 and participated in the 18th EAROPH Congress this year. City Hall has also hosted the 2nd Mayors Caucus and will profile the use of Information Communication Technology in Community based Development in line with Good Urban Governance.

Kuala Lumpur City Hall is also a member of City Net - The Regional Network of Local Authorities for the Management of Human Settlements - which was established as a non-profit international association when the Nagoya Declaration was accepted and implemented in July 1987. City Net started with 12 members. Today, it has 112 members representing 19 countries. Its membership derives from Local Authorities and NGOs from the Asia Pacific region. City Net promotes cooperation in technical areas, strengthen administration and management of city organizations and creates partnerships between Local Authorities and NGO's at local level.

Another area of cooperation is the Eco-Partnership - Human Resources for Eco-Partnership Building in Local Government. It had its origin in 'The World Conference in

International Cities and Citizens for Cultivating an Eco-Society which was held in Tokyo in May 1998. A declaration was issued 'to promote eco-society in cities with the theme 'clean street, clean air and clean water'. Kuala Lumpur hosted the third meeting, 'Eco Partnership for Capacity Building towards Sustainable Development', in November 1999 which was attended by 120 participants from 11 cities in Asia and Africa. Kuala Lumpur cooperated with other cities in aspects pertaining to waste management, development and management of public housing and landscaping.



*Datuk Mohamad Shaid, Mayor of Kuala Lumpur during the MOU Eco-Partnership signing ceremony.*

Asian Network Major Cities 21 (ANMC 21) started with the initiatives of the Tokyo Metropolitan Government. The formation of ANMC 21 was signed by advocate cities or founding cities, namely, Tokyo, Kuala Lumpur, New Delhi and Seoul. The objective of this network is to formulate cooperation between major cities in Asia. Seventeen projects have been identified for implementation with Kuala Lumpur as the lead city for training. As such, Kuala Lumpur has established the Asian Institute of Urban Development Management (AIUDM) and to date, it has conducted two of the three programmes planned for the year 2002.

With encouragement from the Federal Government, the twin city programme was initiated in February 1984 between Kuala Lumpur and Ankara. A Business Partner City tie-up was signed between Kuala Lumpur and Osaka in 1989. This was followed by a Memorandum of Understanding between Kuala Lumpur and Casablanca in 1992 and a year later, Kuala Lumpur signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Esfahan.

Kuala Lumpur City Hall is also a member of the International Union of Local Authorities (IULA) a worldwide organization of local governments, which was founded in Brussels in 1913 and headquartered in the Hague, Netherlands.

Kuala Lumpur City Hall is also a member of the Organization of Islamic Capitals and Cities (OICC). The OICC provides an avenue for Islamic Cities to network and exchange new ideas on City management and administration.

Recently, at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) held in Johannesburg, South Africa in early September 2002, Kuala Lumpur was selected to be the Regional Training Centre on Basic Environmental Services. The Centre will provide advanced training specializing in Basic Environmental Services for cities in the Asia Pacific Region besides carrying out research activities and enhancing knowledge through creating a Centre of Excellence.

Kuala Lumpur City Hall has taken steps to increase and enhance bilateral and multilateral cooperation in business and commerce besides promoting Kuala Lumpur as a preferred tourist destination. Kuala Lumpur's affiliation in all the above bodies and agencies provides an excellent opportunity to further the city's cause and objectives.

The above are some of the main collaborative and cooperative efforts undertaken between the main cities in the world. The friendship is blossoming and has improved City to City cooperation over the years.