

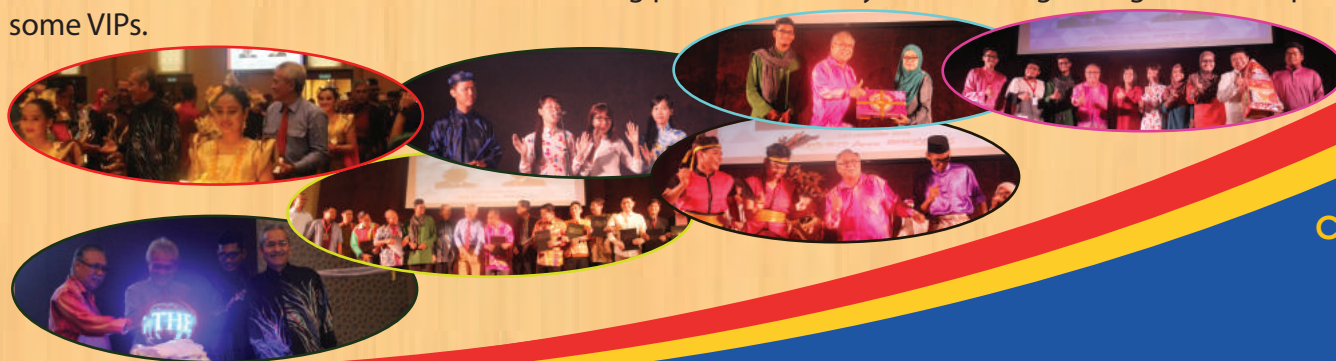
## Penang Tours & Closing Ceremony Preparation



On the last day, the participants were given an opportunity to watch and witness a Hindu traditional festival, Thaipusam and to visit some other areas around the Georgetown area. First, the secretariats and participants were divided into 4 groups and were given 30 minutes to enjoy the scenery at Chew Jetty, a Unesco World Heritage Site. Then, we walked around the Komtar area to witness the praying ceremony, not only by the Hindus but also the Chinese. The Hindus and Chinese would first burn some oil in a coconut husk and then pray to the Lord Muruga chettiar on the chariot together with some offerings on a metal plate. Then, coconuts were thrown onto the road as a symbol of hope. During this session, some Buddhist participants joined in by throwing coconuts. Not long after, the chariot arrived with the monks giving back the offerings to the devotees. Following this, we adjourned to another popular tourist side, Lebuh Armenian and were treated to some of Penang traditional arts and delicacies as well as took some beautiful photos before departing back for lunch around 12.30pm. Meanwhile, some of the secretariats from the Technical and Physical, Multimedia, Publicity, Event Management, and other departments departed to The Light Hotel around 11am for the preparation of the closing ceremony and dinner, while others stayed back in the Students' Representative Council (MPP) room to clean up.

## Closing Ceremony & The Launching of ASENet

Around 8.15 pm, all participants and secretariats arrived at the venue, The Light Hotel, Seberang Jaya and took their seats at the Grand Ballroom of this hotel. Outside the ballroom, there was a registration counter for the participants to retrieve their certificate of attendance as well as photo booths to take pictures. The VIPs, YM Tengku Tan Sri Dr. Mahaleel Tengku Arif, the USM Board of Governors and Honorary Professor Dato' Dr. Omar Osman, USM Vice Chancellor as well as other local and international delegates arrived around 15 minutes later and were treated to an opening performance by Adikarma USM. Then, there were speeches by Mr. Arivanandhan, the project director, followed by Dato Dr. Omar and lastly Tan Sri Dr. Mahaleel before the Launching of ASENet by Dato Dr. Omar and YM Tengku. The presentation of memorandum was handed to officers and VIPs of universities by YM Tengku and Dato Dr. Omar. There were a food showcase by the hotel staff and further performances by Adikarma USM while the VIPs, guests, participants and secretariats enjoyed the food. Following these performances, there were other performances by participants from each country and Professor Dato Dr. Adnan, the USM Vice-Chancellor before the prize-giving ceremony. Dr. Adnan himself presented the prizes to the winners of Kembara Minda Activity and Cash Flow Game. The dinner ended with closing performances by Adikarma again together with participants and some VIPs.



Edited by:  
Chan, Sohwah  
& Akmal  
Verified by:  
Munir