Second Issue October 2004

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MEMBERS DO NOT FORGET THE LITTLE MATTER OF YOUR SUBSCRIPTIONS. THIS STANDS AT A REASONABLE \$15.00 PER ANNUM! PLEASE CHECK IN WITH HILMI OUR FRIENDLY TREASURER AT THE NEXT FUNCTION. HE WILL GLADLY ASSIST YOU WITH YOUR PAYMENTS.

Suara Melayu Langkawi

SLAMA Newsletter

PERSATUAN SRILANKA AUSTRALIA MELAYU



Sri Lankan Australian Malay Association

EDITORIAL

SLAMATH, SAUDARA, SAUDARI,

Well here we are again...another year comes to a close and the committee heaves a sigh of relief..."Phew! we did it.." they say, "Can we go another round?" they ask. The mind goes numb at the prospect.

Yes, members, the task of leading the team is a challenging one. It takes courage and diplomacy. And the present committee did it well. Each committee will do what they can in their own way, given their personal commitments.

It approaches time for a show of hands and a pledge of support. Who will lead us next year to keep the SLAMA banner flying?

I thank those who responded to my email appeal for newsletter articles. I want to especially thank junior members India Cuttilan and Haroun Dole for their contributions to the newsletter.

We have a policy that articles should be limited to one page, but this time we made an exception with the tribute to Dr. T.B. Jayah. The editorial committee was reluctant to condense the original article submitted by Capt. Anwar Dole too greatly.

I hope you have enjoyed reading the newsletters. I do not get much feedback from the membership on it so I will work on the premise that no news is good news.

Selamat Hari Raya Id-ul-Fitri, and enjoy the upcoming silly season.

SLAMATH

EDITOR

<u>DISCLAIMER:</u> Articles published in this newsletter represent the views of the individual writer alone. SLAMA shall not be liable for the accuracy, content, or the reliability of any articles published in this newsletter. None of the articles herein may be reproduced in any way without the permission of SLAMA.

RASOOL MOWLOOD

In accordance with our traditional repertoire of events for the year, Rasool Mowlood celebrations were held in May of this year.

The show of support for the Mowlood is gratifying in the present age of divisive thought on the validity of holding these recitals. The recital of the baiths in synchrony and harmony by the members is very moving. The togetherness this function brings amongst the membership is very obvious to see. Even those die-hard conservatives cannot deny the unity this function brings among the community.

Little Atisha Buckman delivered a speech on the Ayat-ul-Kursi. Despite her tender years, she articulated the prayer with confidence. An obvious credit to her parents. We need more of our young members to deliver religious items.

The meal that followed was at its usual high standard. One's appetite is never disappointed at a SLAMA function, and if one is lucky, one never leaves the function empty-handed - there is always heaps of left over food at the end.

WASALAAM

SLAMA NITE 2004

Saturday the 9th of October heralded the SLAMA NITE and its signature cultural show. The event provided a welcome break from the election mania taking over the country. For the brief period between 7:00 pm and 12:00 midnight that day, no one cared who won the elections!

The RedGum Function Centre was packed with an eager audience looking forward to the cultural performance and the distinct Malay food. Yes, the band added to the attraction.

The cultural show was a delight to watch. The little girls looked just adorable in their traditional Islamic dress ("baith" item) radiating modesty and spirituality like little beacons. The dances were well choreographed, the performances lithe, the costumes were eyecatching. The "Burung kaka" item, also by the little girls, was a charm-the costumes this time more "risque". The final item with the Dutch soldier scouting for "rebel" malay infantry brought the house down.

Music provided by "Serendib" took off to a flying start with baila after baila after baila – just what the crowd wanted! The shaking and twirling, the twisting and wriggling worked off the calories just consumed at the buffet. There was rarely a moment when the floor was not packed.

The two MCs for the night did well, especially Margaret who did such a good job of pacifying those guests who were at the tail-end of the buffet line. She made them all feel very important.

GOOD WORK COMMITTEE!

JUNNEL XP

In anticipation of a **Sinhalese Version of WINDOWS XP**, following are some proposed commands & messages:

File = Pile;

Save/ Save as = Beragannda / Mehema Beragannda

Save all = Okkoma Beragannda

Find/ Find Again = Hoyanda / Ayeth Hoyanda

Move = Aying Karanda

Mail = Thapal

Zoom in/ Zoom Out = Loku Karanda / Podi Karanda

Replace = Meka aran araka danda

Run / Execute = Duwanda / Maranda

Print = Achchu Gahanda

Print Preview = Achchu Gahanda isserella balanda

Cut / Copy = Kottanda / Pitapath Karanda

Paste = Alawanda;

Paste Special = vishesha alaweema

Delete = Nathi karanda

Scrollbar = Lissana polla

View / Send = Balanda / Yawanda

Shutdown = Oka wahala danda

Tools / Toolbar = Badu / Badu thabaruma

Spreadsheet = Redda Digaarinda

Compress = Mirikanda; Click = Obanda

Next / Previous = Eelangata / Kalin eka

Recycle Bin = Kunubakkiya

Click, hold and drag = Obala allagena adinda

Double click = Depaarak ebima

Do you want to Delete the selected item?

= Thorapu baduwa kunubakkiyata danda onada?

Restore = Kunu baldiyen aapahu ganda

Empty Recycle bin = Kunu baldiya Hiskaranna

Explorer = Rasthiyadu karaya

Access denied = Kohomawath be !

Unrecoverable error = Beranda bari ledak!

Illegal operation = Neethivirodi sathkamak!

Windows is shutting down = Junnel wahandai yanne!

There is a virus = Mala keliyai, wisabeejayak

Calendar of Events for 2004 Please keep these dates free! **EVENT** DATE **VENUE** 14 March 2004 Curtin Reserve, Winston Hills Picnic/Sports Day West Epping Community Hall **Rasool Mowlood Recital** 16 May 2004 Cnr Dent & Downing Street, Epping St Mary's Church Hall, Rydalmere **Malay Food Night** 14 August 2004 **SLAMA Social** 9 October 2004 **Eid-ul-Fitr Celebrations & AGM** 21 November 2004 West Epping Community Hal Cnr Dent & Downing Street, Epping

CHILDREN'S CORNER

DISAPPEARING CLOTHES

BY INDIA CUTTILAN

Before Angela went out shopping, she went outside to hang out the clothes that she had washed. Every piece of clothing had a peg on it. Then she went to the shops. On the way back, she saw her friend Bianca running to her. "Oh, Bianca, what's wrong?" Angela asked. "Angela, I was passing your house, and I saw someone inside!" Bianca yelled. The two ladies ran over to Angela's house.

When they got there, everything was still there. Nothing was missing. But when Angela and Bianca went outside, all of Angela's clothes and pegs were gone! Nothing was left, except one dark blue peg. Angela searched the entire garden, but nothing was there. Then she said 'bye' to Bianca, and went inside her bedroom. Inside her bedroom, was her mother!

Angela had forgotten that her mother was coming to stay with her. When Angela's mother arrived, she had seen the clothes hanging on the clothes line, and had decided to put them back in the cupboard. She had also taken off the pegs, and was about to take the last one off, when it started to rain, so she had to run inside, and left the last peg behind. So Angela's clothes were safe and sound, and Angela always had something to wear.

Delaying the daily prayer or not praying at all.

NOT PRAYING AT ALL

The prayer is the most important pillar of Islam after the Shahaadah [Kalima or testimony of faith].

Allah Says {Then, there has succeeded them a posterity who have given up the prayers. So they will be thrown in Hell, except those who repent}[19:59-60].

The Prophet (Sal) said: "The first thing a person will be held accountable for on the Day of Judgment is his prayers." [Tirmithi and others].

The Prophet (Sal) also said: "Between a man and disbelief is abandoning the obligatory prayer." [Muslim].

DELAYING THE PRAYER

Allah (Swt) says {So woe unto those performers of prayers (hypocrites), those who delay their prayer from their stated fixed times}[107:4-5].

Allah (Swt) also says {Verily, the prayer is enjoined on the believers at fixed hours}[4:103].

In the life of a true Muslim, studying at the university or working is not more important than prayers. He should not have as a priority anything above the obedience of Allah and His Prophet (Sal). On the Day of Judgement Allah may not ask you about your work or study, but He will ask you about your prayers

ALLAH KNOWS BEST!

RELIGION FOR YOUNG & OLD

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE QURAN.....

1. How many surahs are in the Holy Qur'an?

a) 30 b) 114 c) 109

d) 107

2. How many Verses are in the Holy Qur'an?

a) 1000

b) 5000

c) 6666

d) 9999

3. What is the biggest animal mentioned in the Holy Qur'an?

a) Dinosaur b) Elephant

c) Rhinoceros

d) Camel

4). Which surah has Allah's name repeated in every verse?

a) Rahman

b) Mujadila

c) Al Falaq

d) Nas

5. Which surah has the "Verse of the Throne" in it?

a) Rahman

b) Yasin

c) Al Bagara

d) Imran

6. How many chapters is the Qur'an usually divided into?

a) 30

b) 15

c) 7

d) 4

7. How many times is Bismillah Ar-Rahman nir-Rahim repeated in the Holy Qur'an?

a) 100

b) 113

c) 114

d) 115

8. How many chapters start with Bismillah Ar-Rahman nir-Rahim?

a) 114

b) 113

c) 100

d) 115

9. Which chapter of the Holy Qur'an is the only one that does not begin with Bismillah Ar-Rahman nir-Rahim?

a) Rahman

b) Zilzaal

c) Naml

d) Tauba

10. Which surah of the Holy Qur'an is the only one in which Bismillah Ar-Rahman nir-Rahim was revealed twice?

a) Nahl

b) Naml

c) Najm

d) Tauba

11. Which surah is the name of the tribe of the Prophet?

a) Imran b) Bani Israel c) Muhammad

d) Quraish

12. What is the longest chapter of the Holy Qur'an?

a) Aal-i-Imran

b) Nisa

c) Maidah

d) Al Bagara

13. What is the best 'drink' mentioned in the Holy Qur'an?

a) Milk

b) Date syrup

c) Honey

d) Olive oil

14. What is the best edible thing mentioned in the Qur'an?

a) Pomegranates and grapes b) Olives c) Dates d) Honey

15. What is the longest verse of the Holy Qur'an

a) Al Bagara, verse 282

b) Al Bagara, verse 280

c) Al Bagara, verse 180

d) Nisa, verse 9

16. What is the most disliked thing by Allah, though it is halal and mentioned in the Holy Qur'an?

a) Food of the People of the Book b) Alcoholic medicines

c) Divorce

d) Gambling

17. What is the only month mentioned in the Holy Qur'an?

b) Ramadhan a) Rajab

c) Muharram

18. Which surah was revealed twice?

a) Al Fatiha

b) Hamd

c) Ikhlas

d) Nas

19. What is the smallest animal mentioned in the Holy Qur'an?

a) Spider

b) Honey bee

c) Gnat

d) Amoeba

20. Which surah of the Qur'an is called the Mother of the Qur'an?

a) Al Fatiha

b) Ya Sin

c) Rahman

d) Ikhlas

21. Which surahs start with Al-Hamdulillah?

a) Al Fatiha and Anam

b) Kahf and Saba

c) Fatir

d) All 3

22. Which surah mentions 27 attributes of Allah?

a) Rahman

b) Waqiya

c) Hadid

a) Saba

23. Which surah condemns the backbiter?

a) Humaza

a) Rahman

b) Maoon

c) Lahab

c) Ya Sin

d) Tahreem

24. Which surah is called the heart of the Holy Qur'an? d) Al Fatiha b) Al Bagara

25. What is the best night mentioned in the Holy Qur'an?

a) Night of Isra b) Night of Qadar c) Night of 15th Shaban d) Night of Eid-ul-Fitr & Ala

d) All 3

ANSWERS:

23) a 24) c 25) b 13) 8 14) 9 15) 8 16) c 17) b 18) b 19) c 20) 8 21) q 22) c 1)p S)c 3)p 4)p 2)c 9)g 1)c 8)p 6)q 10)p 11)q 1S)q

LAILATHUL QADR OR THE NIGHT OF POWER

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN LIVING THE NIGHT OF POWER, THE FOLLOWING ARE SOME OF THE THINGS THAT YOU MIGHT LIKE TO DO.

- 1. TRY TO OBSERVE IT DURING THE LAST TEN DAYS OF RAMADAN, AT THE TIME OF SUNRISE. DURING THE DAYS AND THE NIGHTS.
- 2. ON THE NIGHTS, ONE MAY SPEND THE TIME COLLECTIVELY AND/OR INDIVIDUALLY OBSERVING THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:
 - a. Recitation of the Our'an.
 - b. Prayers Nafl after Taraweeh.
 - c. Remembrance of Allah or zikr
 - d. Supplication or Du'a for you and for others.
 - e. Pondering and contemplating into the universe, the creation of the Heavens and the Earth:
 - "...and they contemplate the (wonders of) creation in the heaven and the earth...."(3:191)
 - f. Reading books of Hadeeth so as to enjoy the sayings of Prophet Muhammad (Sal).
 - g. Reading Tafseer of Qur'an.

Anzac Day - Lest we forget

It is a spectacular event to witness the ANZAC DAY parade that is held annually on the 25th of April in Australia. Various RSL clubs in the country have a programme for the day beginning with the Dawn Commemoration Service, laying of wreaths to honour the dead comrades who sacrificed their lives in the Gallipoli war, fellowship lunch, and screening of films taken during the horrifying battle which took place resulting in the loss of thousands of innocent young Australians, New Zealanders and British personnel belonging to the Ceylon Planters Rifle Corps (C.P.R.C)

The Gallipoli war is best described by C.J. Dennis in his poem "ANZAC", a few verses of which are reproduced below:

"ANZAC and War's grim storm The scream of a passing shell Torn earth and a quiet form Pass comrade, all is well.

Nay, but his spirit lives be very sure Year follows year, and earthy things depart, But what he, dying, gave us shall endure, Now and forever in the Nation's heart Now and forever though the flesh be gone Still shall that spirit bid us "Carry on".

ANZAC! The trump of marching feet The toll of a passing bell Bowed heads along a city street Pass Soldier, all is well"

The parade goes on for over 2 ½ hours and is composed of veterans of the first and second world wars and the Vietnam war. In cases where veterans who are unable to march, they are conveyed in armed force vehicles, while some travel in their own vehicles and wheelchairs. Those veterans who have since passed away, are represented by their sons, grandsons and next of kin. The march past is colourful with British Commonwealth and Allied Troops keeping step to the Regimental marches played by their Brass Bands, Scottish Bag Pipes and Drum and Fife Bands. Martial Melodies such as "Colonel Bogey", "I am ninety five" etc., are haunting and brings back memories of bygone days.

Sri Lanka too is represented in this parade by members of the Ceylon Ex-Servicemen's Association, Australian Branch, Melbourne. According to the records, on the 25th of April 1983, a group of 32 ex-servicemen under the leadership of former Major Paddy Grozier took part in this parade for the first time in Australia. Although the number of veterans is fast diminishing, up to now the Association in Melbourne has found it possible to muster the required number of ex-Servicemen to participate in this event.

Sri Lankans wherever they are and the members of the plantation sector in Sri Lanka in particular, should be grateful to know that the British Planters of the former C.P.R.C. (now defunct) are remembered by a group of loyal and dedicated veterans who themselves had served in the defence force of Ceylon during the second world war in the various volunteer units during mobilisation.

The Ceylon Planters Rifle Corps (C.P.R.C.) became a volunteer unit of the Ceylon Defence Force contingent formed in 1900. The C.P.R.C. sent a contingent of 8 officers and 229 other ranks under the command of Major J. Hall Brown, to Egypt by sea in 1914 to defend the Suez Canal. On arrival the C.P.R.C. contingent was attached to the Australian New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC). In 1915, the troops of ANZAC, which included the C.P.R.C., were despatched to the ANZAC Cove and were positioned on the beach in the Gallipoli Peninsular. The C.P.R.C. was assigned for operational duties, initially as guards to ANZAC Headquarters and the Headquarters of the General Officer commanding ANZAC Troops, Lieut. General William Birdswood who remarked, "I have an excellent guard of Ceylon Planters who are such a nice lot of fellows."

At the end of the Gallipoli War, it is revealed that the C.P.R.C. had sustained overall losses of 80 killed and 99 wounded.

C.P.R.C. has a proud record of service in Ceylon. Most of its officers were seconded for active service during the Second World War and held senior ranks in the various units of the Ceylon Defence Force such as the Ceylonese Royal Artillery, The Ceylon Light Infantry and the Ceylon Garrison Artillery.

On the formation of the Ceylon Army when Ceylon gained independence in 1949, the C.P.R.C. was disbanded

CAPT T.A. DOLE (RETD), P.P.N.

News in Brief for 2004

VISITORS TO SYDNEY

MRS FAREED DOLE, mother of Razikin Dole arrived in November 2003 for a 6 month holiday.

MR & MRS CHONE BUCKMAN parents of Suthami Samusdeen were here on a 3 month holiday in March 2004

SHAZNEEN USMAN and husband arrived from Abu Dhabi for a brief holiday

VETERAN MEMBERS OF THE SRI LANKAN MALAY COMMUNITY

THE LATE Al Haj Dr T. B. Jayah, D. Litt; B.A. (Lond)

The late Dr T. B. Jayah is recognized as an outstanding personality who contributed immensely towards the welfare of the nation and the community in particular. He has been described as a visionary, a leader, a brilliant orator, a man of high principles and foresight.

Born on 1 January 1890, at Galagedera, Dr Jayah came under the tutelage of Tuan Mahmoor Omardeen, a Guru Melayu of the Malay Jumma Mosque, Kurunegala, who taught him to pray and recite the Holy Quran.

A product of St Thomas' College, Mt Lavinia, young Jayah proved to be a promising scholar. He passed the London Matriculation Examinations with honours and took up the profession of teaching. He joined the staff of Prince of Wales College, Moratuwa, and then, proceeded to Kandy Dharmarajah College, Kandy. While teaching he pursued higher studies and was successful at the B.A. London examination in 1911. He returned to Colombo and continued his teaching career at Ananda College, Maradana, where he taught History and Classics. It was at this time that he identified himself with the activities of the Ceylon Muslim League. Not long thereafter he received a clarion call from his colleagues to take charge of a Muslim Secondary School in Maradana, which at that time had only six teachers and 59 pupils. The situation was appalling but he took up the challenge. In his report he lamented thus: "Hardly any furniture worth the name and a building just enough for a primary school, and at night used by loafers and other undesirables". He appealed to the prosperous Muslim population for financial support and influence when he made a stirring speech. "The supreme need of the hour is education, not merely elementary education, not mere half hearted education, but an education that turns out heroes and heroines, teachers and reformers, thinkers and philosophers, an education that will make us a progressive, enlightened and powerful minority."

The response was spontaneous. A building fund was opened and with the increase of students seeking admission to the school, an expansion scheme started for construction of additional classrooms, an assembly hall and a playing field. **Zahira College** was now taking shape and it was not long under Dr Jayah's stewardship, the tottering elementary school was being transformed to a premier educational institution in the country. **He was appointed Principal of Zahira College Colombo in 1921.**

In as much as Dr Jayah's ambition was to educate the Muslims, his ultimate objective was to uplift and image of the Muslim community. He thought that if the Muslims are to survive in a multi-lingiual, multi-religious nation, it was only possible by projecting them to the wider political arena.

His prayers were answered when he was nominated to the Legislative Council in 1924, which was largely due to his agitation and representation to Government on behalf of the Muslim community. His term of office as a member of the Legislative Council lasted until 1931. In 1936, he was nominated to the State Council.

In and out of Parliament and at all public functions, Dr Jayah identified himself as a Malay by wearing the "Stangan" (Malay headgear.) He supported the motion moved in the Legislative council for the grant of short leave on Fridays for Muslim Government Servants to attend Jumma prayers.

In 1944, he spoke for three hours on the Soulbury Report and the White Paper submitted by the U.K. Government. The late Mr S.W.R.D. Bandaranayake, paying tribute to Dr Jayah said "The Honourable Nominated Member, Mr Jayah, has made a speech today that will have a great effect to bring about unity among people of this country, in bringing some sense of reality to this struggle, however it may shape, that we are going to undertake to obtain a satisfactory measure of freedom."

At the General Elections of 1947, he triumphed when he was elected Second Member of the Colombo Central Electorate and subsequently appointed the Minister of Labour and Social Services in the First Cabinet of Rt. Honourable D. S. Senanayake. After 27 years as Principal of Zahira College Colombo, he resigned this coveted position and handed over the reigns of Zahira to Mr A.M.A. Azeez, C.C.S. It was during Dr Jayah's stewardship that branches of Zahira were opened at Aluthgama, Gampola, Matale and Kompanavediya.

In 1950, he was appointed Ceylon's First High Commissioner in Pakistan, in which capacity he rose to fame and brought honour to his country, the Muslim population and the Malay community in particular. The University of Punjab conferred on him a Doctorate of Literature, which he richly deserved in appreciation of his contributions to education and religion. On his return to Ceylon after his tenure of office in Pakistan, he was once again appointed an M.P. in the short-lived Parliament in March 1960.

On 13 May 1960, on a visit to Mecca, to inspect and finalise the Ceylon House project, he fell seriously ill and passed away peacefully on 31 May 1960 in Medina and was buried in the Holy City of Mecca.

Dr Jayah was the President of the All Ceylon Malay Association (now Sri Lanka Malay Association) and the Colombo Malay Cricket Club from 1936 to 1939, and then in 1943 and finally in 1948.

T.B. JAYAH contd...

With the world today in a state of turmoil, we are reminded of the prophecy made by Dr Jayah reproduced below:

"The world today is poised like two eagles ready for strife. One sees on every side the dark clouds of war lowering and one looks in vain for even the streak of light that betoken the possibility of a peaceful day. Peace is on everybody's lips but war is in everybody's heart. All the clichés that adorn a junior schoolboy's essay book fall in showers from the lips of statesmen and politicians. Never in the history of mankind has there been so much talk of peace and so great a readiness for war. It is as if the darkness of night were trying to prevail in the broad light of day."

The year 2004 marks the 44th Death Anniversary of Dr T. B. Jayah. On 31 May 2004 prayers and public meetings were organized to commemorate his memory.

CAPT ANWAR DOLE [RETD] P.P.N.

DEAR SLAMA MEMBERS

We will be in the midst of Ramadan when this newsletter reaches you. For those members and their families who are fasting, I pray that it is trouble-free. I take this opportunity to also remind members that the time to pass on the baton to a new SLAMA committee has arrived

The Hari Raya festival and the SLAMA Annual General Meeting is scheduled to take place on Sunday the 21st of November 2001 at the West Epping Community Centre, between 11 and 5pm.

Please do come and participate in the festivities and the election of the new Committee. All suggestions are welcome.

Catering for the Hari Raya festival will be via member participation. If you are willing to bring along a curry, salad, fruits or dessert please let one of the following know.

Amin Buksh: 9686 1207 (aminbuksh@optusnet.com)

Zareena Jalill: 9692 0473

Shalina Sabar: 9863 2653 (shalinasabar@yahoo.com.au)

1A Mimosa Ave, Toongabbie NSW 2146

Hilmi Samsudeen: 9836 3093 (hilmi@bigpond.com.au)

If you have matters you wish to raise at the AGM, email any of the above members. If you have no email, please send a letter to the Secretary Shalina, at the address given above.

Wishing all members a happy Ramadan season

AMIN BUKSH

President

MY JOURNEY TO SRI LANKA

BY ZAREENA JALILL

I set off on my annual flight to Sri Lanka in August 2004. For me this is a pilgrimage to my motherland, the land of my youth and the land of my dreams.

So much water has sped under the bridge since I came over here, I often sit back and realize the veracity of the old adage, "Time and tide wait for no man". How symbolically significant! The old house I was born and grew up has changed from a sprawling old colonial bungalow with its lawns and palms, to a sedate looking building with even more sedate looking occupants! Time has taken its toll on the beautiful gravel estate roads now narrow with ruts and the wear and tear of time.

But the joy of meeting my kith and kin amply compensated for everything negative. I was meeting a cousin of mine after the lapse of many years, and the tears we shed came from the family bond, so special in the fast moving world of ours. I am grateful for sharing this moment.

With other siblings we captured the glory of our childhood and laughed about our misadventures, our fears, our whims and our growing up on the salubrious tea plains in the hills.

Kandy, my home town was peaceful and quiet. Very often I woke up to see monkeys swinging on the telephone wires, and eating ripe jak fruit off the trees.

I also spent time in the Bandarawela hills with my family. I eventually went to Colombo where I met Kartini Mohamed, an exceptionally well-read lady. Together we ran over what we should compile for the furtherance of the traditional Malay language, customs, traditional music and Malay songs. We agreed to work on establishing a new link and re-igniting the light to the rich culture of the brave and proud race of our forefathers. This was for the future generations to come and would be in the form of forgotten malay dittys.

Significantly, the 9th of Sept.2004 was also the date that the Kandy Malay Association held their cultural event. I had the pleasure of meeting the cultural committee and went for a few of their rehearsals that were very well accomplished under the able guidance of the committee.

Well, I am now back in the realms of my home, thankful for my safe journey and good health.

In this holy month of Ramazan, let me wish you all peace, good health and iman in your hearts.

ALHAMDULILLAH.

