

USIM'S Winning 'KERETA BERHIAS'



USIM's Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dato' Dr. Abdul Shukor Hj. Husin (third from right), launching USIM's Merdeka Celebration

Malaysia celebrated its 50th year of Independence on 31st August 2007. Various activities were carried out throughout the country from 17th August to 16th September 2007. The Islamic Science University of Malaysia (USIM) joined the celebrations to show our gratitude for having inherited a nation that is free to determine its own development.

At the Negeri Sembilan state level, on the night of 30th August 2007, USIM participated in the KERETA BERHIAS procession. On 31st August 2007, the University participated in the Independence Day Parade, held at the Majlis Perbandaran Seremban field.

USIM's KERETA BERHIAS, with the theme *Towards Enhancing Intellectual Excellence*, highlighted USIM's contributions through its various academic programs to human capital development. Thirty-eight lecturers and students of various nationalities participated in the parade. USIM was declared the champion and walked away with the grand prize of RM 10,000.

USIM carried out two programs under the Ministry of Higher Education's (MOHE) Independence Month celebrations. First, the University coordinated the preparation and publication of sermons for Friday prayers and *doas* relating to Independence. Friday Prayers' Sermons on four topics were read out over a period of four consecutive weeks after the launch of the Merdeka Month Celebrations. The four topics were *Islam, Patriotism and Independence, Together*

in Realising Independence, In Remembrance of Independence Fighters, and The Sweetness of Independence. The sermons and *doas* were printed in booklet forms and distributed by the MOHE to be delivered by imams in all public universities' mosques.

Second, USIM coordinated the publication of newspaper articles relating to various socioeconomic issues. Berita Harian published selected articles daily (except on Sundays) from 17th of August to 16th of September 2007. USIM plans to publish these and other articles as a book. A separate book, on the theme *Fifty Years of Islamic Higher Education*, is also being written.

USIM hosted the launch of *Larian Obor Kemerdekaan D'SIPMA 2007*, on 14th August 2007, at the Nilai Indoor Stadium (now under USIM's management). A torch was carried from USIM to the Higher Education Ministry's foyer in Putrajaya before continuing its journey to Universiti Utara Malaysia, the host of this prestigious sporting event.

USIM also hosted the last leg of *Larian Kemerdekaan Kementerian Pengajian Tinggi*, starting at USIM's Chancellery and ending at UTM in Shah Alam, on 30th August 2007. Prof. Dato' Dr. Abdul Shukor Hj. Husin, witnessed by senior university staff, flagged off the run. Various students from public and private university colleges, polytechnics as well as community colleges participated in the run.

The launch of the *Merdeka Month Celebrations* at Student Affairs level took place on the night of 17th August 2007, at the Nilam Court Residential College. Y. Bhg. Dato' Mohd Dahan Abd. Latif, member of the University's Board of Directors, officiated the launch. Students and staff showcased patriotic songs, and recited poems and *puanuns*.

The month long celebrations saw many other programs taking place, either on campus or at residential colleges. They included oratory, *nasyid* performances, essay writing competitions, fora, talks, and patriotic film shows. The countdown was organized by the Students' Representative Council and officiated by the Vice Chancellor. Students performed pantomime, and sang *nasyid* and patriotic songs. The appearance of the victorious KERETA BERHIAS, just after midnight on 31st August, enlivened the occasion.

Celebration of the Independence Month by the University was held in the morning of 3rd September, 2007. The event started off with a march-past of all contingents representing various departments, divisions and units, including students and uniformed units. This was followed by the hoisting of the *Jalur Gemilang*, a creative performance, and the singing of patriotic songs. Prof. Dato' Dr. Abdul Shukor Hj. Husin, Vice Chancellor of USIM, delivered a stirring

speech. Dato' VC reminded how fortunate Malaysians and USIM's staff are to live in this blessed and beautiful country. He spoke of the need to face the challenges ahead and to actualise the Independence that was hard fought for by our forefathers. There is a need to prepare the young generation so that it is able to mould the country in its second phase of Independence, to achieve Vision 2020 and develop long term plans for the next 50 years. He stressed USIM's central role in training human capital that is competent to spearhead the future development of the people and the country.



USIM's Kereta Berhias - The Champion

USIM IS A PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF
HIGHER LEARNING UNDER MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION



UNIVERSITI SAINS ISLAM MALAYSIA
جامعة العلوم الإسلامية الماليزية
ISLAMIC SCIENCE UNIVERSITY OF MALAYSIA

Centre for Strategic Development & Corporate Relations
Islamic Science University of Malaysia (USIM),
Bandar Baru Nilai, 71800 Nilai, Negeri Sembilan, Malaysia
Tel : 06-798 6002 / 8026 Fax : 06-798 8041

www.usim.edu.my