



Aysraf and his team at the shop

# A new beginning with **Persona**

queen or permaisuri for a day, you may have to seek help and who else to turn to but to wedding planners.

One of the boutiques and bridal shops that cater to these functions is the Sri persona Raja Sehari, located on the second floor of KK Plaza.

This shop which is open from 10am onwards has 150 pairs of wedding gowns and Malay as well as contemporary dresses especially for this function.

The General Manager Aysraf Abdullah shares that the dresses of various hues and colours are collections that are unique to the shop, leased out to couples who wish to make their happy day a glittery affair.

"We also have our own makeup artist that will do a makeover for brides during that time," he says adding that the shop offers wedding packages ranging from just a pair of dresses to a whole set up.

"This includes our hantaran (gifts), the wedding dais, the decorations and backdrops among others," he shares.

Besides these services, the shop also offers photography and video support for their customers.

This bridal shop comes with another package; the Gambus performance. Gambus, a guitar-like musical instrument of the Bruneians, is usually played during such functions and Aysraf has decided to incorporate it into his wedding package offer.

"I believe that by incorporating the Gambus in the wedding package, I am not only promoting this traditional musical instrument but also ensure that the culture is perpetuated," he says.

He adds that his Gambus group is very well received by the people in his district, Papar, and believes that more can be done to promote this musical instrument in Sabah.

The Sri Persona Raja Sehari will be showcasing several wedding dresses at the Bridal Fashion Parade in Beverly Hotel here at 1pm.

The Gambus Irama Persona Kg Laut will also be making an appearance. So if you are at Beverly Hotel's vicinity, hop in and enjoy the fashion parade.



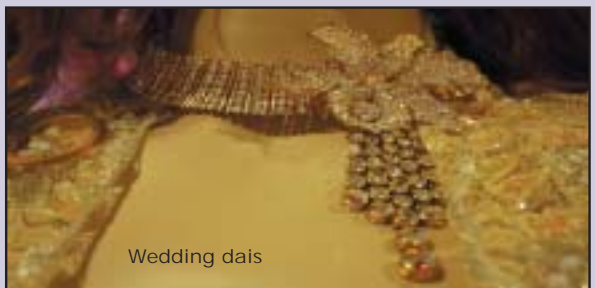
Aysraf



Necklace, earrings and crown



A pink collection

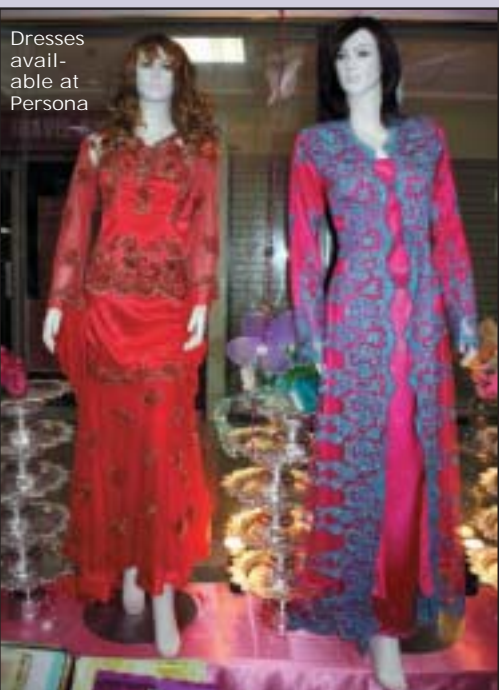


Wedding dais

A wedding, especially one that is held in style, is every woman's dream if not all men's. It is a once-in-a-lifetime occasion that should be memorable enough to last that length of time.

The most important part of the wedding is of course the dress. One wants to look like a million dollars at that time; a princess rescued from the tower by shining Prince Charming, or a 'puteri' rescued by a 'pendekar'.

To look like a princess or a puteri, perhaps a



Dresses available at Persona



CARLSON Hotels Worldwide, one of the world's largest privately-held hotel companies, has appointed Norwegian national Kjell Rognoy as General Manager of Radisson Plaza Hotel Tianjin, the premium extension of Radisson Hotels & Resorts®.

The 270-room property is strategically located in the new financial hub of Hedong District and is scheduled to open by mid 2009.

An industry veteran with almost three decades of hospitality experience, Rognoy has worked in Europe, the United States, Asia and the Middle East for several international hotel groups including Starwood, Marriott and Mandarin Oriental. He was previously general manager of The Regent Shanghai.

In other experience, Rognoy was general manager at the five-star Sheraton Jeddah Hotel in Saudi Arabia, followed by the JW Marriott Hotel in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. In addition, he assisted the owners of JW Marriott, YTL Hotels & Properties, with the opening of the 35-storey luxury Ritz-Carlton Residences and the Starhill Conference Centre. He was also deputy general manager at the Sheraton Kuwait Hotel where he led the property towards several international award wins, including 'Best Hotel in Kuwait' for three

consecutive years by business publication, Euro Magazine. During his tenure at the hotel, Rognoy was awarded the ITT Sheraton President's Award for his achievements.

Rognoy majored in Hotel and Restaurant Management with a diploma granted by the Government of Norway and also attended a Masters in Business Administration programme with the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, during his tenure with the Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group.

"Kjell has a strong international background and an excellent track-record for achieving results and ensuring positive change and development in his previous roles. His ability to take on challenges and constantly innovate will be a key strength as we continue to grow the Radisson Plaza brand in China, particularly during these times of global economic slowdown," said Jean-Marc Busato, managing director - Asia Pacific, Carlson Hotels Worldwide.

Carlson Hotels Worldwide currently has more than 20,000 rooms in operation and under development across Asia Pacific, and is pursuing a plan to double its regional portfolio over the four-year period of 2008 to 2012. Apart from the Radisson Plaza Hotel Tianjin, the group has another two Radisson hotels under development in China; the Radisson Hotel Luizhou which is scheduled to open next year and the Radisson Plaza Hotel Sanya Lu Hui Tou, which is scheduled to open in 2011.

Carlson Hotels Worldwide appointed Norwegian Kjell Rognoy as General Manager

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launching, exciting proposal for a new bridal and wedding venue. Those who are looking for something so today a new offering in their offerings. Besides a gambus performance, Sales Director is booking for an attractive offering in Australia. "I hope soon will be a success story for the age for the new venue."