

# VIMY 2007 contribution

Adams Emma Salon at Lot 3, Sinsuran Shopping complex at Kota Kinabalu is offering various hair care and beauty treatment to costumers. Spokesperson Adam Swarze, (pic) says they are offering discounts especially to tourists guides and their guests. According to him, it is his contribution to the government's effort to promote tourism in the State and Country as a whole.=



Nuvis Sabah located at Centre Point, is offering a Diploma in Beauty Care, Grooming and Bridal Makeup for interested members of the public. According to Razak Russell, (pix) beauty care lecturer with the centre, they want to instil awareness on the public about the importance of portraying a clean and healthy image. This is especially important for frontliners who had to face members of the public, including tourists every day



## 金の島

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\*Two Island one lagoon\*

\*Marine conservation park\*

\*25 minutes away from Sutera Jetty\*





Jannah Enterprise, at the Handicraft Centre in Kota Kinabalu is actively promoting brooches (pic) to tourists and customers. Spokesperson for centre, Jannah Isa says she has various and many types of multi coloured brooches that will look ideal on head scarves and baju kurung. She says brooches lend elegance on any attire and will look ideal on frontliners who have to greet their guests every day



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### FROM FRONT PAGE

dusun community's, the wedding ceremony may look similar, but if you look carefully there are some interesting quirks within ethnic groups. It take one ethnic group to recognise the differences, so tour guides who wish to relate the ceremony have to well versed and be a bit careful. Some people just lump all the ethnic groups under one 'traditional norm'.

One of the subtle difference personally experienced, was a wedding between a Dusun Liwan of Tambunan and a Dusun Tindal from Kota Belud.

The usual ceremony during the wedding in the Dusun community is the meeting of the elders, one group representing the groom and the other, the bride. They shall speak of the dowry that have already been presented and the 'belanja' or wedding expenses. They will negotiate related matters and then sign the papers stating that the elders (the Village Chief, his deputies, parents of the groom and bride...) have witnesses and approved the couple's matrimony.

But it was different with the wedding between Patrick Paulus of Kg Tombulion Kota Belud and Helna Christopher of Kg Monsok Tambunan. They adhered to a ceremony held in the olden days. It was a bit more colourful; unique and interesting especially for those who have only seen a church wedding and the gong beating afterwards.

The ceremony started with the groom's family members go up to the bride's home. They were greeted by elderly folks. One regal matriarch asked what they wanted.

One of the groom's representative said they have come to 'pick a flower in the garden of the host'. The lady than said if they were 'man' enough to try. When answered in the affirmative, the group representing the groom was ushered into the house.

The group actually stopped short.



On the floor four large bamboo containers were ready, fill to the brim with 'linutau' a portent and least tasty of the rice brew.

Four of the visitors had to drink the brew to the last dregs before the bride and her attendants could be 'taken' away by the group. There was a general ruckus as the onlookers cheered the four up. They cheered at every grimace as the four drank. When the last drop was gulped down, the door to the girls bedroom was opened. The bride was however still veiled with the 'sirung' a head dress. Her four attendants held the 'sirung' in place as they were 'grabbed' by the groom's group and taken away to the groom's place about three hundred metres away. As they

walked slowly towards the house, the group sang an ancient tune. The ancient words seem to be both mournful and hopeful; mournful that they have lost a daughter and hopeful that the daughter will live a full happy life with the husband.

The groom's group was however not over the 'ordeal'. For every 30 metres, they were urged to drink the rice brew 'tapai' from a small bamboo container. By the time they reach the groom's house, some were already tottering.

As soon as the bride came near the groom's house, the gong beating started in earnest. There were 'pangkis' or triumphant war cries. The groom went to the bride and made her sit with him on the dais. The bride's attendant then removed her 'sirung' unveiling her before her man.

I believe that this ceremony, although simple to some, is a great part of a dying culture. It should be preserved and the only vessel that can carry it through is tourism.

Kg Monsok for instance is a beautiful village where a river with clear water flows. The people are friendly and they still live like their forefathers do; cultivating paddy and catch crops. Besides their lifestyle, tourists may enjoy the sights of nature around them.

