

# DO YOU KNOW

By ANNA VIVIENNE

## Traditions

We always speak of traditions and how it is an identifying factor of a race or ethnic group. That is quite right of course. However, it must be stressed that traditions are practices, customs, or stories that has been memorized and passed down from generation to generations.

This is especially true for the people here who did not have a writing system in the past. The stories thus preserved are also referred to as tradition, or as part of an oral tradition.

In Sabah, the people's traditions or folklores are being promoted as tourism products. Traditions however start to be adhered to as soon as tourists or guests from another culture enter our homes in villages where traditions are still strictly adhered to.

For example, taking off your shoes when entering the people's homes is traditional, as is saluting a visitor with a 'how are you?'. These traditions are, however, not very unique or exotic; just derived from common sense.

One of the best known traditional norms that are being promoted is the Harvest Festival. The celebrations that are held at the Kadazandusun Cultural Association (KDCA) Headquarters in Penampang are an echo of an ancient tradition where the essence of the Paddy is venerated and the spirits appeased.

The actual ceremony is very intense and profound but I believe it cannot be shared in its totality on stage.

Traditions are often presumed to be ancient, unalterable, and deeply important, however, traditions may be changed to suit the needs of the day, and the changes can become accepted as a part of the ancient tradition.

One example is head hunting or the taking of enemies' heads after a battle by ancient warriors. After the introduction of Western law in the State, head hunting slowly died off and no longer occurs today.

Tradition is a set of customs or practices by a people and accepted to belong to them in totality.



### JUNE EVENTS

#### KUDAT CULTURAL CARNIVAL

Date: 27th - 28th October 2007

Venue: Esplanade Sidek, Kudat

For more Information please contact:

Sabah Cultural Board

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Email:

Rusman.Abdullah@sabah.gov.my

my

or

Mackey.Apison@sabah.gov.my

#### KK ADVENTURE PARK CHALLENGE

Date: 30 June 2007

Organiser: KK Adventure Park

Contact Person: Rahmahwati

Andi Samsiar

Telephone: +60 88 750 959

Fax: +60 88 755959

Email Contact: wati@kkadventurepark.com

turepark.com

#### PESTA MENUGAL

Date: 30 June 2007

Organiser: Persatuan Petani dan Penternak Bumiputera Sabah (PETANAH)

Contact Person: Gaibin Ransoi

Telephone: +60 88 499157 /

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Contact:

### Weekly TAMU (Open Market) in Sabah

■ Tamus are held in almost every town/district in Sabah. Most local traders gather to buy, sell or barter their farm produce, handicrafts, traditional ware, musical instruments, etc.

#### SUNDAY 6am - 2pm

Kota Belud, Tuaran, Putatan, Papar, Babagon, Tambunan, Tenom, Membakut, Kota Marudu, Sikuati, Gaya Street Fair (Kota Kinabalu)

#### MONDAY 6am - 2pm

Tandek

#### TUESDAY 6am - 2pm

Kiulu

#### WEDNESDAY 6am - 2pm

Pinggán-pinggán, Tamparuli & Kudat

#### THURSDAY 6am - 2pm

Donggongan, Telipok, Tenghilan, Pekan Nabal, Sipitang, Tambunan, Keningau

#### FRIDAY 6am - 2pm

Donggongan, Sunsuron, Weston, Mesapoi, Kanibangan

#### SATURDAY 6am - 2pm

Kinarut, Beaufort, Sindumin, Matunggong, Pekan Pitas

### WHERE TO STAY

#### Winner Hotel

Phone: 60 088 243222

Fax: 60 088 217345

#### Hotel Deleeton

Phone: 60 088 252222

Fax: 60 088 267999

#### Kinabalu Daya Hotel

Phone: 60 088 240000

Fax: 60 088 263909

#### Berjaya Palace Hotel

Phone: 60 088 211911

Fax: 60 088 211600

#### Hotel Shangri-La

Phone: 60 088 212800

Fax: 60 088 212078

#### Likas Square Business Suites

Phone: 60 088 252233

Fax: 60 088 251122

#### Tang Dynasty Hotel

Phone: 60 088 263389 /

251155

Fax: 60 088 263989 / 265566

#### Beverly Hotel

Phone: 60 088 258998

Fax: 60 088 258778

#### Promenade Hotel

Phone: 60 088 265555

Fax: 60 088 246666 / 253980

#### Hyatt Regency Kinabalu

Phone: 60 088 221234

Fax: 60 088 225972

#### Le Meridien Kota Kinabalu

Phone: 60 088 322222

Fax: 60 088 322223

#### Nexus Resort Karambunai

Phone: 6 088 411222 / 411030

Fax: 6 088 411020 / 412028

#### Shangri-La Tanjung Aru Resort

Phone: 60 088 225800 / 41800

/ 293306 (Reserv)

Fax: 60 088 244871 / 217155

#### Sutera Harbour Resort -

Magellan Sutera

Phone: 6 088 318 888

Fax: 6 088 317 777

#### Sutera Harbour Resort -

Pacific Sutera

Phone: 6 088 318888

Fax: 6 088 317777

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