



Mah Meri Cultural Village | Kampong Orang Asli Sungai Bumbun | 42960 Pulau Carey , Kuala Langat | Selangor, Malaysia
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CONTENT



Founded in 2011 the Mah Meri Cultural Village is a unique venture between the government and the private sector. The Ministry of Tourism & Culture provide the facilities while the community operate and maintained the complex. The main aim is to provide employment near to their homes of the Mah Meri indigenous people at the same time ensures the continuity of their cultural practices, arts and rituals. It showcases their unique culture for everyone to experience.

In this booklet, we are pleased to list our activities and contributions towards the development of the Mah Meri community.



ANTI-CLOCKWISE

Main Gallery

Restaurant

Meeting room or mini theatre

Gallery corridor

Welcoming girls



A. About MMCV

Mah Meri Cultural Village was formed in May 2011 by the Ministry of Tourism & Culture, Malaysia. The main objective is to support the Mah Meri to showcase their culture without having to leave the village. The story of how the Cultural Learning Center at MMCV came to serve the community of Carey Island in the district of Kuala Langat, Selangor is a story of many people whose collective vision made it what it is today. It's the story of young men and women who wanted to bring their Mah Meri cultural heritage back to life. It's the story of community elders, community partners, who wanted to pass along their knowledge to the young, especially those in need of guidance. We owe much to all the educational partners, from anthropologists to community service organizations, government official, corporations, individuals and ministers who through sweat and determination helped make this vision a reality.




Management

Mah Meri Cultural Village is headed by Rashi Esa as Director, a long time activist and advocate of the orang asli cause. Since 1989 he has been organizing tour packages and marketing of crafts on behalf of the orang asli.

The cultural village can serve as a model of a partnership between the government, orang asli and the private sector.





Find out about the Sanggar or offering altar and the giant wooden sculptures, Make the masks from sand . Meet the shaman and learn about their religion.

The giant sculptures were erected from fallen tree trunks carved into human images they called Moyang. Moyangs are the protectors of the village. It is the Mah Meri way of protection against natural threats.



B. About the Mah Meri

Discovered by the British in the late nineteenth century while opening land for a plantation, Edward Valentine Carey used the services of the Mah Meri to clear the land for his plantation. Now famed for the spiritual mangrove sculpturing, leaf origami, rituals and practices. Their culture and religion predates most of our social system.

C. Packages & Workshops

**Most popular package
amongst tourists**

**A fallen down tree trunk is
transformed into a spirit of
the Mah Meri serve to ward
off future calamities.**



An Experience in Ancient Indigenous Culture

Experience a day of sea nomads ceremonial ritual, amazing re-enactment, powerful cultural performance, storytelling as we relive significant events and sacred rituals!

Share in our traditional ceremony of welcome before you are invited into the Cultural village nestled within the mighty palm oil island plantation. Amidst the sacred shrine with ritual offering to their ancestors, here you will witness the making of time honoured crafts of sculpturing Moyang from mangrove timber and watch the making of the ancient form of intricate palm leaf origami to appease the spirits. At the heart of the Village, enter our performance arena for a powerful and entertaining Cultural repertoire, witness the seven marital rituals and the ancient craft of oceanic healing.

Celebrate with the Mah Meri people, as you dine on a mouth watering feast, of exotic seafood, shellfish, island herbs and fruits.

An amazing 3.5 hour re-enactment, based on historical events, with real characters, authentic arts, crafts and powerful sea gypsy music, song & mask dance.

Other Packages

Since our inception in 2011 we are proud of the support we have been given by visitors, travel agents, guides for the different packages that we offer. The number of tourist is steadily increasing locally and abroad. Our approach to organizing tours is by way of participation of visitors rather than as a spectator .Visitor get to engage themselves in all the activities conducted. Our licensed tourist guides, are ready to assist from the moment they board the busses till the end of the program. Our sumptuous yet simple traditional cuisine is for everyone to discover.



**Student package is
our second most
popular**

**The cruise is coming
for forth season
since 2003**



The Royal Caribbean Cruises

- Voyager of the Seas
- Ovation of the Seas
- Quantum of the Seas



D. Community Support Programs

D.1 Annual Celebration of the Spirits

Every Mah Meri village celebrate a special day in honor of the spirits. We are helping to promote and develop packages for these rituals. Today we have managed to organize three destinations in different villages and hopefully in the coming years they will be able to organize the festivals on their own. It is our hope that very soon the Mah Meri celebration will be accepted as a one of the state level celebration which will benefit the community due to the influx of tourists and visitors.



Find Out

The Hari Moyang or spirit's day is a special day to the Mah Meri. They believe that on this day they are visited by the spirits from the other world. A truly unique experience to participate in a tribal 'new-year'. To see them embracing their love ones that have passed on. Offerings of food,, drinks and other utilities are prepare with special decorations of flowers made from palm leaves called the Bunga Moyang, or the flowers of the spirits.



D. 2 Malaysia Book of Records

The record was indeed an excellent opportunity for us to showcase the art of the orang Asli. Hopefully the demand for these craft will increase which will certainly benefit the orang Asli.



With the help of our partners we have set a National record for the leaf origami. The leaf origami is probably the oldest in the world preceding the Japanese paper origami, yet very much unknown. The record we hope will bring attention and promote this wonderful art of the Mah Meri people.

The Event

The Record : The most number of leaf origami on a giant cone.

Achievement : 8,888 pieces

Date : 17th November 2017

Venue : The Curve Petaling Jaya

Officiated by : HRH The Sultan of Perak

Made possible by : CIMB Bank

In Conjunction : 10th Year CIMB Foundation



D.3 Leaf Origami Center



One of our most significant contribution to the Mah Meri community is the Origami Center. This center was built in 2014 under the NBOS program in support of their dedication towards the art of leaf origami. Leaf origami to the Mah Meri is known as Bunga Moyang or Flowers of the Spirits in honor of the spirits. This art is mostly done by women starting at an early age to show their dedication towards their protector spirits. The Mah Meri leaf origami is probably the oldest in the world, earlier than the early Christians, French and Japanese folding technique. The center is fully managed and maintained by the community.

Workshop

- Traditional wedding
- There are over thirty designs dedicated towards the spirits used to decorate spirit houses and other sacred places.

D.4 Pantai Jengkok

How would you like to experience a day in a life of a Mah Meri, a sea gypsy. You will stay in a traditional seaside village without electricity and running water. Live in a hut with a Mah Meri family for 2 days, and experience their daily life looking for food, make shelter, entertain themselves and honor their gods. Enjoy their rich natural environment and culture while watching the enchanting sunset. In the morning, hear the sounds of the birds and primates and prepare your breakfast after you have harvest fish nets laid out during the night. Dig the sand for shellfish and other marine life. Before you leave contribute to the land by placing a sandbag or planting a mangrove to ease the coastal erosion threatening the



TRY IT OUT

Live for a week-end without phones, electricity & running

Stepping Out, Nat Geo programme hosted by Rashid Esa



D.5 Achievements

The UNESCO Seal of Excellence is not an award of one or two products but products that have pass the rigorous criteria and standard of quality of production. Twenty-two of our Orang Asli products that we produced have been awarded the SEAL and the demand has risen over the years.

ASEAN Community Based Tourism Standard 2017 – 2019



The ASEAN community Based Tourism Award for 2017-2019 is a result of our commitment to increase the level of Orang Asli employment and skills.

UNESCO Seal of Excellence



The UNESCO Seal of Excellence display in Bangkok
UNESCO Gallery in Carey Island.



E. Empowering Communities

Three Main Areas

Kelab Kebudayaan Mah Meri

Skills Training to Mah Meri youths

Library & resource center

Mangrove planting

Tari Kite



List of Partners 2018

- Kementerian Pelancongan
- JAKOA
- Boustead Cruise center
- Jabatan Muzium Malaysia
- Kraftangan Malaysia
- CIMB
- International Women Association KL
- Kementerian Pertahanan
- Great Heart Charity
- Istana Budaya
- BURSA KL
- Yayasan Budi, UIA
- INPEX Corporation
- PERKEP
- Sunway University
- Nobel International School
- Fairview International School
- MAHSA International School
- HELP International School
- International School KL
- Garden International School
- AMANITA PDRM
- UITM/UPM/UM/UTM/
UNISEL



F. Exhibitions & Performances



Participated

MATIC Exhibition 2014

ITB, Berlin 2016

DiGi 's Amazing Malaysians 2006

Malaysia Week, London 2006 & 2007

Rainforest Music Festival, Sarawak 2014 & 2016

World Music Forum Kuching 2014

CITRAWARNA 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017

Penang Georgetown Festival 2017

Tapestry Festival, Singapore 2017

Frankfurt Book Fair 2017

Art for All, Petronas Gallery 2018

G. Craft Retailing & Booking Center



Our contribution towards the sale of arts & crafts have become one of our major income earners providing jobs & help sustaining their traditional heritage.



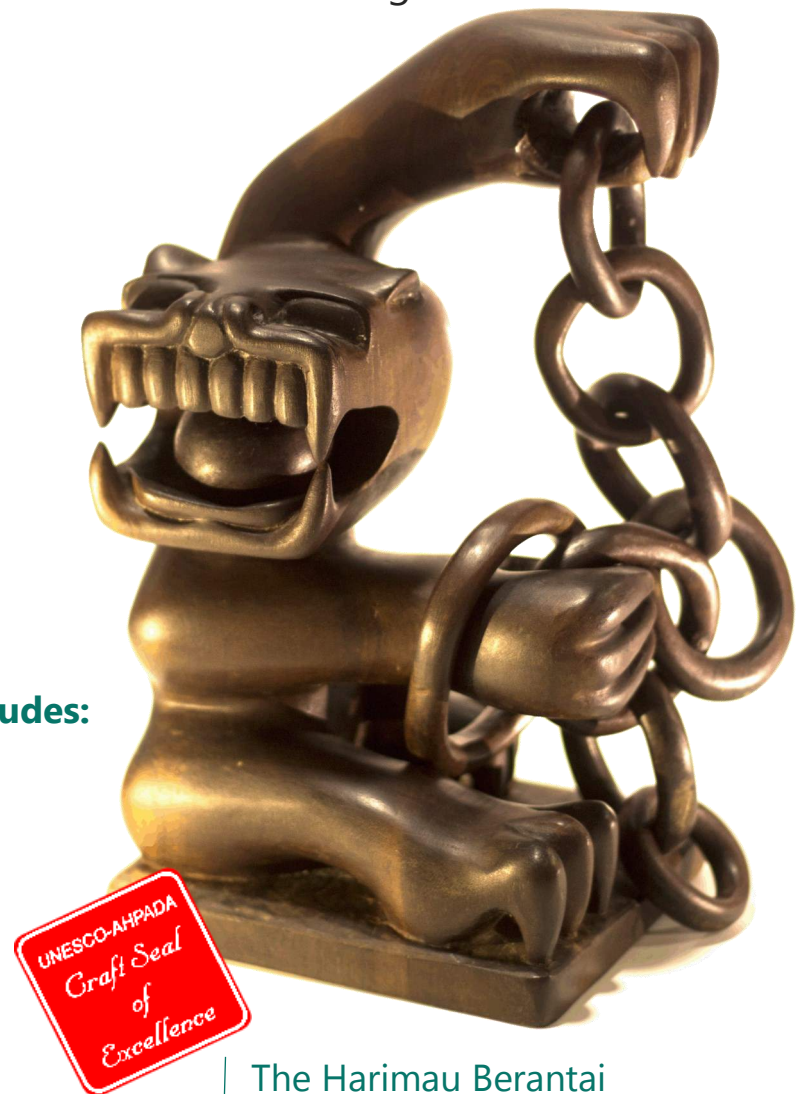
Our Outlets

Mah Meri Cultural Village
Pusat Sains Negara
Boustead Cruise Center
Travel Shop
Boustead Cruise Center
Mah Meri gallery



Our Valued Customer includes:

HRH Sultan of Perak
Vice President of Taiwan
CIMB Bank



| The Harimau Berantai

H. Publications & Media

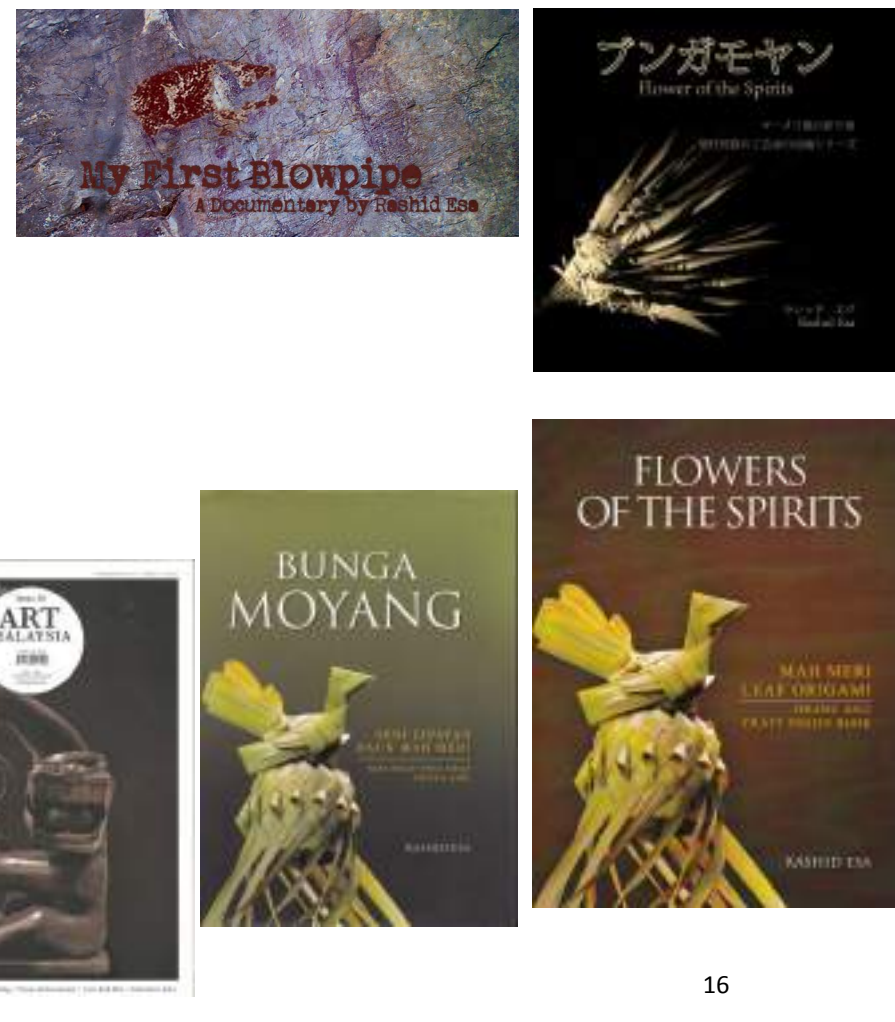
Videos & documentaries

- Mah Bertisek 2014
- My First Blowpipe 2015
- Palm Weavers of Carey Island 2016
- Nat Geo People - Stepping Out 2017 (Host)



Books & Articles

- Bunga Moyang 2006
- Flowers of the Spirits (English & Japanese) 2008
- Hidden Treasures 2008 (co-authored)
- Mah Meri Spoken Language 2015 (Booklet)
- Mah Meri Sculptures 2017 (Booklet)
- UNESCO Seal of Excellence Sculptures 2009 (Booklet)
- Art Malaysia (Article)



H. Mah Meri Sculptures & Masks Collection

Our priceless collection of Mah Meri Sculptures & Masks is the most comprehensive ranging from the early days of woodcarving, over a 100 years ago. The oldest known ceremonial mask is in our collection made in 1951. Examples of sculptures made for specific purposes like healing, safeguarding families and villages and ceremonies is kept in Carey Island for visitors and researchers to reference as well as an example for young Mah Meri sculptors to see.

Our Collection Includes

- UNESCO Seal of Excellence winning entries
- Sculptures by the legendary Pion Bumbong
- Old sculptures & masks dating before 1950
- Contemporary works
- Large sculptures
- Other Orang Asli artifacts
- A collection of blowpipes & utilities





ADDRESS

MAH MERI CULTURAL VILLAGE

Kampong Orang Asli Sungai
Bumbun, 42960 Carey Island,
Selangor

Mah Meri Traditional Village

Pantai Jengkok, 43950 Sg. Pelek ,
Selangor

DIRECTION

Google maps :

MAH MERI CULTURAL VILLAGE

WEBSITE

www.mmcv.org.my