

Berita RAKAN PENABUR

July - September 2013



A Quarterly Newsletter Linking Christian Bahasa Writers, Publishers, Bahasa Churches and Ministry Workers Around Malaysia

A few words

"This is why it is said, 'Wake up, O sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you'"
(Eph 5:14)

Asleep? What does it mean that a Christian is asleep?

A person who is sleeping is unaware of what is going on around him. He neither hears nor sees. He does not run or move. He does not speak. He's just like a dead man.

"A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest – and poverty will come on you like a bandit, and scarcity like an armed man"
(Proverbs 6:10,11)

Spiritual wealth and riches in Christ will be robbed from us while we slumber. Our right to practice our faith is now being challenged. Our children are taken and converted. Yet, many of us are still sleeping.

So, Church of Jesus Christ in Malaysia, arise from your slumber! Start walking in accordance to His will. And let us not fall asleep again.

May the Lord intervene in the issues that we are currently facing in this nation. Indeed we need divine intervention for such a time as this.

Berita Rakan Penabur is an electronic publication of news and information about Wawasan Penabur. Please direct all your emails and support to:

Wawasan Penabur Sdn. Bhd

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Bangkit dan Bersinar!

"Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, and His glory appears upon you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn."
(Isaiah 60:1-3. NIV)

A Call to Arise and Shine

The **Seminar Bangkit & Bersinar** (SBB) was the highlight of Wawasan Penabur's activities in the last quarter. We started with SBB @ Kota Kinabalu on 7th September (250 participants), moving on to SBB @ Petaling Jaya on 28th September (460 participants).

Jointly organized by the Pastors' Fellowship Kota Kinabalu (PFKK), Gerempong Kristen Jaku Iban (G-KRIS, Iban-Speaking Christian Fellowship), Scripture Union Peninsular Malaysia (SUPM) and Teachers' Christian Fellowship (TCF), SBB seeks to challenge the Bahasa-speaking churches in Malaysia to arise and shine in the midst of all the challenges. "Arise and shine" is actually a wake-up call for soldiers, whereby each morning they are expected to arise and shine their boots.



WAWASAN
PENABUR



The Need to Arise and Shine

Looking at the current situation, it is evident that the enemy is working hard through principalities (our enemy is not flesh and blood - Eph 6:12), seeking to rule our nation and to rule out every godly principle in this land. If the Church in Malaysia does not rise up and be who God is calling us to be, this nation will plunge into darkness.

Both the SBB in KK and PJ agreed on one thing: we have to pay serious attention to our next generation of leaders. Our children, from pre-school to tertiary, are the target of a very systematic Islamization effort that we may not even be aware of. The Bahasa-speaking children and youths are especially at risk. Whilst the Church cannot stop the encroachment, she can strategically plan for counter-measures.



Christian Kindergartens in the Interior

The majority of the Indigenous Christians in Sabah and Sarawak are in the rural areas. We do not have to reinvent the wheel if we want to begin the kindergartens in rural areas. There are already a number of churches and organizations that run Christian kindergartens in the interior, and we can partner them and channel our support to them. In the past, we lamented that the children in the interior had no choice but to go to KEMAS-run taska and tadika. We now have alternatives. In God's kingdom, denominational walls must come down. SBB has provided a good platform for churches and Christian organizations across denominations to work for a good purpose – the setting up of Christian kindergartens.



In Malaysia, kindergarten education is a non-formal and flexible programme for young children of ages 4 to 5. The duration is one to two years, depending on parents' requirements. In the interior

where people are generally poor, kindergarten classes conducted by MOE (Ministry of Education, Malaysia) and other government agencies such KEMAS provide under-privileged children from lower income families access to kindergarten education for free or at a minimal charge.

Whilst there is nothing evil about KEMAS-run kindergartens, the problem lies in the "grand design" of our national education curriculum, where the children (including non-Muslim children) are intentionally exposed to Islamic doctrine, faith and beliefs (akidah), worship (ibadah) and Islamic practices (muamalah) from pre-school. More than 90% of the KEMAS teachers (known as Pemaju Masyarakat or community mobilizers) are Muslims. They have full control in introducing Islamic teachings and values in the spiritual education of the children.

Table 1: KEMAS-run Taska & Tadika, 2012

	Taska	Tadika	No. of classes	No. of Pemaju Masyarakat
Sabah	630	26,281	1,061	1,089
Sarawak	695	21,399	1,166	1,098

Source: Jabatan Kemajuan Masyarakat (KEMAS) www.ruralink.gov.my

According to the 2010 Census, the percentage of Christians is 26.6% in Sabah and 42.6% in Sarawak. As such, there are at least 6,990 Sabahan and 9,116 Sarawakian Christian children in KEMAS kindergartens. The number could be even higher as most KEMAS kindergartens are located in Christian-dominant villages and long houses in the interior.



Table 2: Number of Government & Government-Aided Schools, 2012

	Pre-Schools		Primary Schools		Secondary Schools	
	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural
Sabah	55	788	112	958	62	152
Labuan	14	-	17	-	9	-
Sarawak	111	966	176	1088	65	119

Source: Perangkaan Pendidikan Malaysia 2012

Research shows that in a week, a Christian child spends 60% of his time at home, 38% in school, and only 2% in Sunday Schools. What they learn from school (or kindergarten) will shape their belief and value system even if it is in total contradiction to their professed faith! Hitler's public relations manager, Goebbels, once said, 'If you repeat a lie often enough, it becomes the truth.'

Christian Hostels in the Interior

The onslaught is particularly alarming among primary and secondary school children. Please refer to Berita Rakan Penabur Q3 2011 and Q1 and Q2 2013 issues. In the last few years, there are many reports on how Christian students are being converted to Islam, knowingly or unknowingly, willingly or unwillingly. And much of this is happening in boarding schools! It was reported that a boarding school warden in Papar, Sabah, confiscated the Alkitab from the Christian students and threw them into the trash bin, verbally insulting the Alkitab at the same time.

Table 3: Number of Students as of 30th June 2012

	Pre-schools	Primary Schools	Secondary schools	Technic & Vocational	Total
Sabah	23,594	271,108	207,754	3,886	506,342
Labuan	645	7,753	6,307	410	15,115
Sarawak	26,683	259,663	210,686	3,529	500,561

Source: Perangkaan Pendidikan Malaysia 2012

Using the 2010 Census, it is estimated that 134,687 Sabahan, 4,021 Labuan and 213,239 Sarawakian Christian students are being exposed to this Islamic onslaught. Setting up Christian hostels in the interior will safeguard a significant number of Christian pupils. This can only happen if urban churches start financing and supporting the initiative.



Christian Teachers

Teaching is one of God's higher callings for His children (James 3:1). Therefore, a Christian teacher should teach the truth with confidence and not allow Satan's lies to be sown in his classroom; less tender, young souls are led astray.

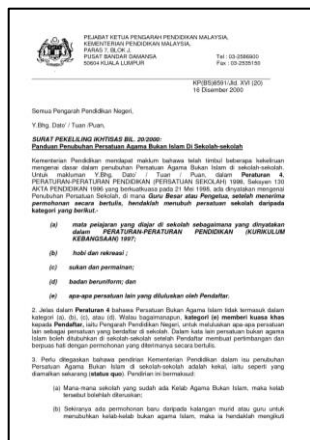
However, many of our Bahasa-speaking Christian teachers are facing intimidation. For example, a courageous Christian teacher in SMK Beluran, Sandakan, was transferred to the interior over night because he confronted an ustaz who was constantly insulting Christianity in his Moral Studies Classes. These Christian teachers also encounter opposition when they attempt to initiate a CF in their school.

Table 4: Number of Teachers in Government & Government-Aided Schools, 2012

	Pre-Schools	Primary Schools	Secondary Schools	Total
Sabah	923	24,383	15,135	40,441
Labuan	23	690	599	1,312
Sarawak	1,151	24,455	15,465	41,071

Source: Perangkaan Pendidikan Malaysia 2012

From the 2010 Census, it is estimated that there are 10,659 Sabahan, 349 Labuan dan 17,496 Sarawakian Christian teachers in East Malaysia.



Given the small window of opportunity for starting a CF in schools (as per MOE circular dated 18 March 2011), churches and parents play a vital role alongside these teachers and students in ensuring our children and youths are given the opportunity to experience a life-transforming CF in school.

A survey among Christian families uncovered that if the mother is the only one who is

earnest in her spiritual walk with the Lord, there is a 30% possibility of her children following her footsteps. If the father, the head of the family, is the only one serious about his spiritual life, there is a 70% possibility of his children being committed in their spiritual walk. But if both the parents are committed in their faith, then there is a 100% possibility that their children will indeed walk with the Lord.



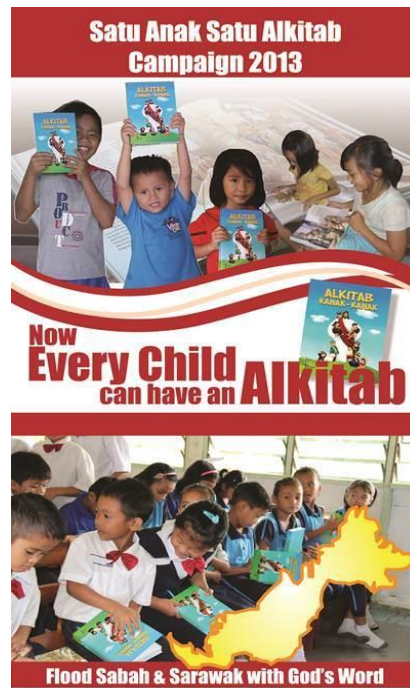
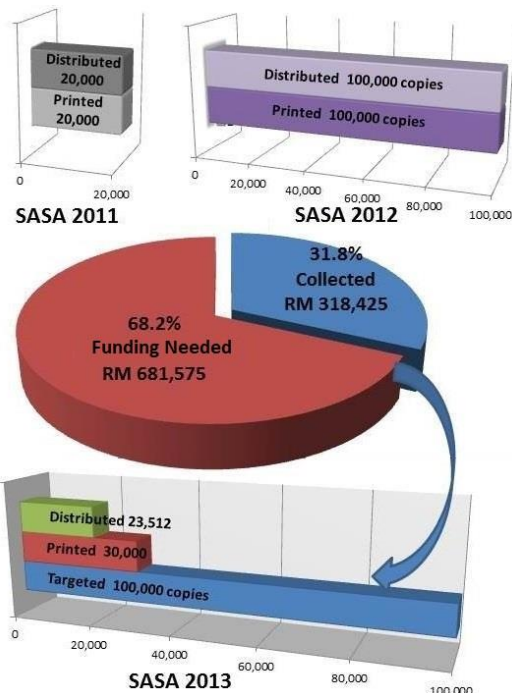
Today there is a speed race for the souls of our indigenous Christian children and youths. On the day we had our SBB@PJ, there was a symposium in KL where there was a call that indigenous people who have

embraced Islam should become "Malay". In May 2011, it was reported in local papers that there was an alleged move by the Education Ministry to transfer 80,000 teachers from Peninsular Malaysia to Sarawak as part of an insidious plan to convert the locals.

Remember: if we are not interested in our children and youths, others ARE!

Satu Anak Satu Alkitab 2013

Satu Anak Satu Alkitab (SASA) 2013 Campaign was launched in a simple Thanksgiving Dinner on 25th July 2013. A total of 120,000 copies of Alkitab Kanak-Kanak have been printed and distributed since SASA 2011 and SASA 2012. Many children in Sabah and Sarawak still have no access to Alkitab Kanak-Kanak.



For **SASA 2013** (covers the period of July 2013 – June 2014), we target to print and distribute another 100,000 copies. With the tagline, **"Now Every Child Can Have An Alkitab"**, you too can be a part of the campaign.

Please direct all your support to:
May Bank Account No: 5623 6663 2813

WP News in Pictures



Wawasan Penabur's Thanksgiving Dinner
25th July & 1st August 2013



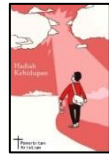
Fellowship Dinner with
SIB Sabah, 6th Sept 2013



Sharing SASA 2013 in
various churches



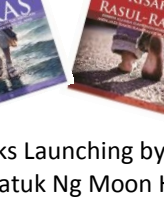
SBB@Kota Kinabalu, 7th September 2013



Books Launching by Bishop Datuk Dr Thomas Tsen,
President of CCM and CCS



SBB@Petaling Jaya, 28 September 2013



Books Launching by
Bishop Datuk Ng Moon Hing

Penan Cultural Dance



Praying for
the Bahasa-speaking
Churches

Events & Announcements



**Launching of
"Satu Anak Satu Alkitab for Sarawak"**
@Gereja BEM Pelita, Miri
17 November 2013, 7.30 pm



**Writing Workshop with
Dr Miriam Adeney**
@New Creation Family Centre, Miri
18-21 November 2013



**WP's New Staff
Steffisley Mosingki**

Steffisley joined WP in August as an Editor. He is a Rungus hails from Pitas Sabah, and had just completed his B.Th from Malaysia Bible Seminary.

Who are we



Board of Advisers

- Rev Wong Fong Yang
- Rev Danil Raut
- Lim Heng Seng
- Rev Datuk Jerry Dusing

Board of Directors (Penabur)

- Chow Chee Yan
- Roshan Thiran
- Alfred R. Tais
- Randy Singkee

Wawasan Penabur Staff

- Randy Singkee
- Jouslly Buaya
- Steffisley Mosingki

How Can We Work Together?

There are many ways for us to partner together in God's ministry of sowing, growing and spreading the best resources to the Bahasa-speaking Church.

- ☐ **Help raise awareness and funds.** I believe this ministry has long-term potential. I desire to play an active role in engaging hearts and minds, so that others will also commit to strengthening the BM Church – through energy, funds and prayer.
- ☐ **Get involved in writing/translation projects.** I would like to join and contribute to a network of Christian writers, translators and publishers focused on developing BM resources.
- ☐ **Sponsoring and support** Wawasan Penabur's "Satu Anak Satu Alkitab 2013 Campaign" for Orang Asli, Sabah and Sarawak. I believe my giving will bless the Bahasa-speaking Christians in this nation.
- ☐ **Pray intentionally.** "Unless the LORD builds the house, we labor in vain". I would like to pray for the Bahasa-speaking churches, and keep the Wawasan Penabur team accountable to the Lord through faithful intercession and action.

☐ **I / My Organisation/Company would want to contribute to Wawasan Penabur Sdn. Bhd.**

Here is my/our gift _____ for Wawasan Penabur.

Name : _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

Contact Number(s): _____ (hse) _____ (off)
 _____ (mobile) _____ (fax)

Our bank account:

- (1) Public Bank, Kelana Jaya branch. Account No: 3127674507
- (2) CIMB Bank, Damansara Utama branch. Account No: 1250 000 7114 058
- (3) May Bank, USJ 10 branch. Account No: 5623 6663 2813