

architecture
planning
interior design
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engineering

GREETINGS, SALAM SATU VERITAS and GONG XI FA CHAI to all our readers!!

In this month's e-news, we are delighted to feature one of our most talked about projects in recent months: the redevelopment of the core of Kampong Bharu in Kuala Lumpur, otherwise known as the Kampong Bharu City Center (KBCC), which is set to become the city's new landmark and economic hub.

We shall also feature other interesting happenings here at VERITAS such as the Little Red Packet giveaway 'Ang Pows' that was held in conjunction with the Chinese New Year celebrations.

We hope you will enjoy this month's VERITAS e-news! And please don't hesitate to contact us if you would like to know more about any of the stories featured here.

KAMPONG BHARU CITY CENTER MASTER PLAN



AFTER more than a century stuck in time, the Kampong Bharu neighborhood of Kuala Lumpur is set for dramatic changes that will see several ambitious projects arising in the Malay enclave over the next 10 to 20 years. The main intervention will be the Kampong Bharu City Centre (KBCC) which will become the focal point of the area. This development which encompasses some 16.2ha of land will involve 187 lots belonging to some 1,217 landowners.



In line with the continuing efforts to develop Kampong Bharu into a future city center district, Kampong Bharu Corp (KBC) had identified this 16.2 acre site as the iconic project and development catalyst within the overall Kampong Bharu neighborhood. This development aims to establish a large public place as a community centre for Kampong Bharu, incorporating the latest strategies of urban design with towers connected via a series of pedestrian walkways and pocket parks, and featuring a unique direct pedestrian link (the Saloma link) from Kampong Baru all the way into KLCC.



Twelve iconic buildings with four signature towers with a collective gross development value in the billions of Ringgit will be built here. Nearby, another ambitious project is a 70-storey tower with a Ferris wheel built on the rooftop by a visionary developer.

SALOMA LINK

The Saloma Link will be the main pedestrian bridge across Sungai Klang and AKLEH highway. This unique structure will connect Kampong Bharu City Center (KBCC) with its neighboring commercial district of the Kuala Lumpur City Center (KLCC). It will serve a link between the international scene of KLCC and the heritage neighborhood of KBCC.



PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

At present, work has already started in Kampong Bharu with several projects in the construction stage. Fifteen others are in the process of obtaining planning approvals. A notable project is the M101 Towers designed by VERITAS, comprising two blocks of 70-storey towers with a Ferris wheel right at the top. Others are the Safuan Residen, a 39-storey serviced apartment; Business Suite @ Arina, 21-storeys of business suites; Legasi Residen, a mixed development by UDA Holdings; and Safuan Suites and a 34-storey serviced apartment project by Safuan Group Bhd. The 115-year-old Kampong Bharu neighborhood will also be getting a major facelift in the form of pedestrian walkways and widened roads as well as mini parks throughout the township in the next few years.



On 18 October 2015, Malaysia's Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak officiated the groundbreaking for the "Kampung Baru City Center" and witnessed a presentation of the master plan by VERITAS Group President David Hashim. The project is expected to commence in mid 2016.

WHERE ARE WE FEATURED?

KG BARU DEVELOPMENT

Towering plans for Kampung Baru



VERITAS' project the "Kampung Bharu Development" was featured on the 12th February 2016 in the Star Metro section of the Star newspaper. It will be the latest economic hub of Kuala Lumpur. The focus of Kampong Bharu will be the Kampong Bharu City Centre (KBCC), where 12 iconic towers will rise, with four signature towers and about 17mil sq ft of space that includes a submerged mall below a landscaped park, a mosque, school, commercial and residential development and water body surrounded by recreational areas.

SO SOTEL HOTEL, RESIDENCES TO OPEN IN KLCC AREA IN 2020

Another exciting VERITAS' high-rise project; the Oxley Towers was featured in the Malaysian Insider online issue.



This Singapore-listed property developer Oxley Holdings Ltd (Oxley) has announced it will open its 207-room So Sofitel Hotel and a 590-key So Sofitel Residences in the heart of Kuala Lumpur City Centre (KLCC) area in 2020. The residences will be managed by AccorHotels and will be the hospitality group's first lifestyle branded residence in Asia.

H&R MAGAZINE - VERITAS DESIGN GROUP IDEAS FOR THE WORLD

VERITAS' projects were featured in the Feb - May 2016 issue of H&R Magazine of Hong Kong. This special issue of the magazine is an exclusive collection of selected hospitality and residential projects by VERITAS. This magazine is available at local and international bookstores.



For any inquires on this publication, please drop us an e-mail at arch@theveritasdesigngroup.com

M101



One of our exciting high-rise projects the "M101 Towers" was featured in the Star newspaper on the 19th February 2016. M101 Towers will be the first in the world sky ferries wheel-200m above ground, 78 storeys of mixed-development, and a luxury sky mall.

It will also feature Asia's 1st Planet Hollywood Hotel located 200m from the ground. The M101 Towers is expected to be under construction by the middle of 2016.

GLAM DEKO



VERITAS Design Group's Sinkeh Hotel was featured in the February-March 2016 issue of Glam Deko Magazine. The Sinkeh Hotel was named "Building of the Year" in the Star newspaper on the 19th February 2016. It also won the "Gold Award" under the "Alteration & Addition" category. It is a 19th century shop-house which has been converted into a trendy boutique hotel along Lebuh Melayau in George Town, Penang. The front part of this building retains the historical Straits Chinese architecture with its original shutters, weathered and time-worn. Book your stay at Sinkeh. <http://www.sinkeh.com/>

WHO'S THE STAFF OF THE MONTH? SARAH LIM (SL)



Our staff of the month for March is Sarah Lim Beng Chu, a graduate from the Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago in the USA. She has a Bachelor of Architecture and a minor in Construction Management. She is no stranger to the performing arts scene as she grew up with everything to do with the arts. Let's find out more about Sarah!!

KR: You interned with us in mid 2009 before you left to further your studies in America. How much has VERITAS changed since then?

SL: Although VERITAS has grown in numbers and size since my internship days, it is comforting to learn upon returning to VERITAS as an architect that our 'work hard, play hard' culture and welcoming, friendly, team-like rapport is still prevalent today. This really makes our day-to-day experiences at VERITAS more pleasant, fun and productive. The relocation and revamping of our model making room is another significant, positive change since my intern days at VERITAS.

KR: What made you decide to take up an architecture course? Does it have anything to do with your father being an architect himself?

SL: Having found engineering to be a little too dry, and also wanting an artistic outlet in my future career, architecture was appealing to me as it encompassed a good balance of both the sciences and the arts. Growing up with a parent who is a passionate architect and conservationist definitely played a pivotal role in my decision to pursue architecture. Spending time with my father on weekends attending architectural events, exhibitions, architectural heritage walk around Kuala Lumpur and even visiting furniture/product showrooms - all these little things did subconsciously influence my perception of architecture from a young age.

KR: What are your hobbies?

SL: I am passionate about the performing arts - music, theatre and especially dance. I have a background in western and traditional dance forms (baller, tap, modern, jazz, basic classical Indian & Balinese), and am currently venturing into social dancing (salsa, tango, and hopefully ballroom soon). Besides dance, I enjoy photography, travelling, meeting new people, experiencing and learning new things.

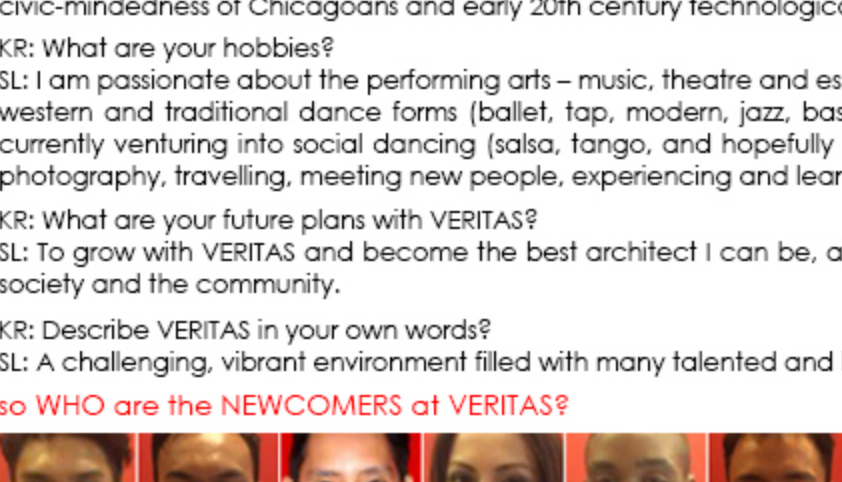
KR: What are your future plans with VERITAS?

SL: To grow with VERITAS and become the best architect I can be, and also strive to 'serve and contribute to society and the community.

KR: Describe VERITAS in your own words?

SL: A challenging, vibrant environment filled with many talented and beautiful people that are family to me.

so WHO are the NEWCOMERS at VERITAS?



Welcome on board new VERITASians:
Design Architect Adam Faiz Azizudin; Assistant Architects Mohd Azrul B Mohamed Nasir and Ahmad Safwan Bin Abdul Rahim; Interior Architect Zahra Salim Shirazi @ Emitsa from Iran and Interns Leon Kaindi Kioko from Kenya and Salahuddin B Mohd Noordin for VERITAS Architects Kuala Lumpur.

Assistant Architect Boey Ying Yan for VERITAS Architect Johor. Intern Nur Farhana Aboobaker for VERITAS Interiors.
Landscape Architect Muhammad Akmal Bin Mohamad Rohaini; Interns Farah Suhaidah Binti Repin@lsmal and Nur Amanlina Bt Kamarudin for VERITAS Landscape

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"I hated every minute of training, but I said, 'Don't quit. Suffer now and live the rest of your life as a champion.'"

-Muhammad Ali-

HAPPENINGS

LITTLE RED PACKET GIVEAWAY 'ANG POWS'



VERITAS held a special Chinese New Year Luncheon on the 18th of February 2016 to celebrate the year of the Monkey!! VERITASians were entertained with a splendid performance by our own colleagues and the dance was choreographed by VERITASian Chong Wei Li; who also demonstrated his skill in the martial art of Wushu. The celebration was followed by lunch and the VERITAS Group President David Hashim dressed in a 'God of Prosperity' costume presented 'Angpows' to everyone who attended the function.

METCONX BOOTCAMP - VERITAS ON 3 MONTHS CHALLENGE



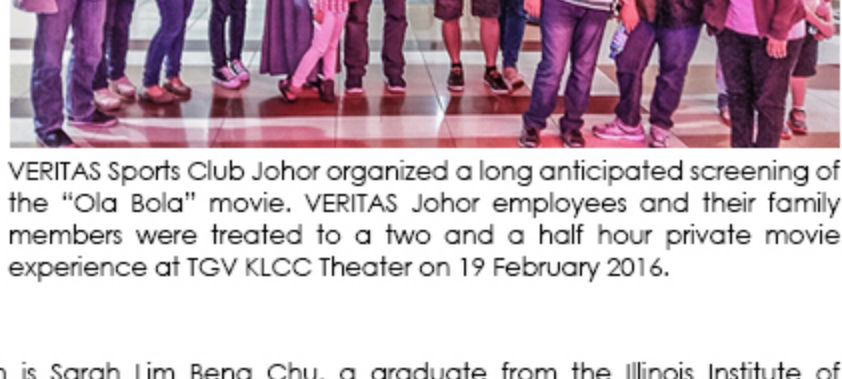
VERITAS Management organized a long-anticipated fitness/sporting event called "MetconX". The programme is based on combat sports fitness training, modified or adjusted for each individual and their respective fitness levels. This 3-month challenge is held every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday between January 15th to April 15th, 2016, and is well attended by about 36 VERITASians.

MAD FOR MOZART

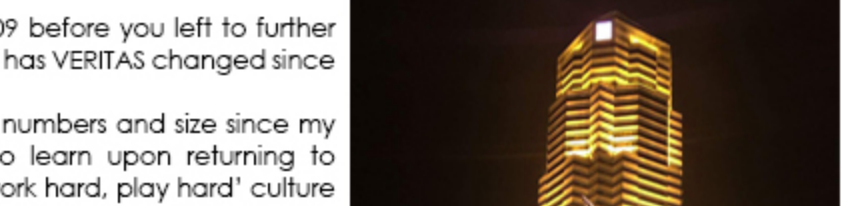


One of our VERITASians, Tan Ai Lin performed a musical string ensemble at the Kuala Lumpur Performing Art Center (KLPAAC) on the 20th & 21st of February 2016. She was part of the 30-person string ensemble which performed to an audience of 80 Mozart music lovers. VERITAS Principal Lillian Tay and 5 other VERITASians joined the Sunday AFTERNOON show to support Ai Lin. Well done Ai Lin!! We are so proud of you.

VSSC - MOVIE NIGHT - OLA BOLA



VERITAS Sports Club Johor organized a long anticipated screening of the "Ola Bola" movie. VERITAS Johor employees and their family members were treated to a two and a half hour private movie experience at TGV KLCC Theater on 19 February 2016.



KR: What made you decide to take up an architecture course? Does it have anything to do with your father being an architect himself?

SL: Having found engineering to be a little too dry, and also wanting an artistic outlet in my future career, architecture was appealing to me as it encompassed a good balance of both the sciences and the arts. Growing up with a parent who is a passionate architect and conservationist definitely played a pivotal role in my decision to pursue architecture. Spending time with my father on weekends attending architectural events, exhibitions, architectural heritage walk around Kuala Lumpur and even visiting furniture/product showrooms - all these little things did subconsciously influence my perception of architecture from a young age.

KR: You have been here for a year plus. What was your proudest moment with VERITAS?

SL: My proudest moment working with VERITAS would be witnessing our Sinkeh building being awarded the Building of the Year award at the Pertubuhan Arkitek Malaysia (PAM) Annual Dinner 2015. It still seems like yesterday when I was building the study models as an intern, and now years later returning to VERITAS as an architect, it is completed and acknowledged as an award-winning project. I could not be more thrilled!

SL: One of my favourite buildings would be the Wrigley Building, situated on the Magnificent Mile of North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, USA. Known as the gateway to the greater Chicago and "beacon of light", this iconic American skyscraper truly marries the old with the new through materials, classical European and Chicago 1880s commercial style influences, as well as encapsulating the dreams, hopes, civic-mindedness of Chicagoans and early 20th century technological advancement.

KR: What are your hobbies?

SL: I am passionate about the performing arts - music, theatre and especially dance. I have a background in western and traditional dance forms (baller, tap, modern, jazz, basic classical Indian & Balinese), and am currently venturing into social dancing (salsa, tango, and hopefully ballroom soon). Besides dance, I enjoy photography, travelling, meeting new people, experiencing and learning new things.

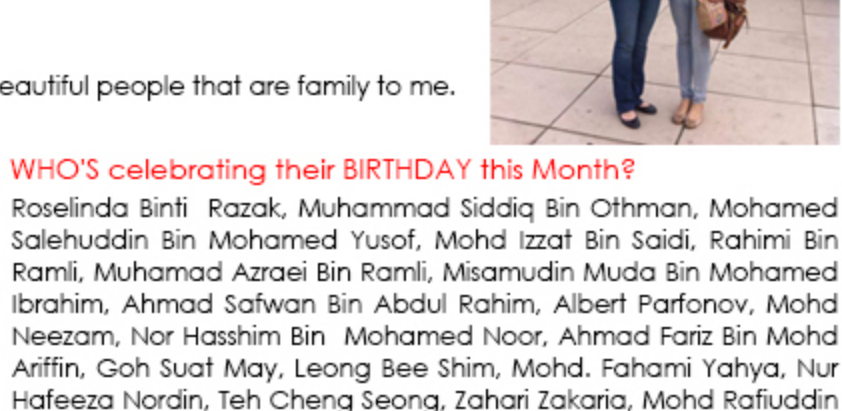
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WHO'S celebrating their BIRTHDAY this Month?



Congratulations to VERITAS Architects Kuala Lumpur Nur Aisyah Binti Mohd Rozi and her husband Muhammad Edwin Masripan on the arrival of their adorable baby girl Amira Muhammad Edwin born on 27th January 2016.

BUNDLE OF JOY



Congratulations to VERITAS Architects Kuala Lumpur Nur Aisyah Binti Mohd Rozi and her husband Muhammad Edwin Masripan on the arrival of their adorable baby girl Amira Muhammad Edwin born on 27th January 2016.