GREETINGS, HAPPY WESAK and **SALAM SATU VERITAS** to all our readers!!

In this month's e-news, we are delighted to present two of our exciting mixed-use development projects in Kuala Lumpur that are recently being featured quite intensely in major magazines, newspapers and online media: the **Oxley Towers** on Jalan Ampang and the **Star Residences** on Jalan Yap Kwan Seng.

We are also pleased to feature our recent company trip to **Siem Reap**, Cambodia, the **VSSC movie night** and other **interesting happenings** here at VERITAS.

We hope you 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.

Oxley TOWERS

Oxley Towers is an ensemble of 3 cascading towers bridged with sky decks - a future landmark on the Kuala Lumpur skyline. This 290,000m² project has a complex program comprising of 2 hotels, residences, offices, retail areas and reaches a height of almost 80 stories. The scale of this high-density development offers an opportunity to transform the civic realm and urban experience of the KLCC area.

The building complex is set back to form a forecourt and the resulting plaza gathers pedestrians into an **'urban corridor'** that calls to pass through the city blocks, creating a human scale at the street. The shape form an "indoor street" sheltered from the tropical weather and links pedestrians from the busy Jalan Ampang to the KLCC park and mosque. Keeping to **noblesse oblige**, a viewing deck with rooftop restaurants enables public access through the usually impervious urban islands of exclusive luxury developments.

The curtain wall facade embodies a distinctive diagonal grain - a recurring **leitmotif** in indigenous textiles and weaving traditions of Malaysia. Window panels and sun shading fins form a layered, textured facade reinforcing the diagonal pattern which continues to the interior experience. The asymmetrical composition of 3 tapering and inter-linked towers creates constantly changing perspectives of the building from different viewpoints.

STAR RESIDENCES

Located on Jalan Yap Kwan Seng, in the heart of Kuala Lumpur, the **Star Residences** represents a fresh new paradigm within the urban fabric of the neighbourhood. With components comprising of retail and service apartments, the Star Residences will compliment its urban context. The site planning places retail activities on the street edge with a grand "wok of fame" along the main road to boost the public urban landscape experience and environment. Nodes of landscaped courtyards are interspersed within the retail frontage to enhance the commercial activities and to provide restful retreats that link to various components of the development.

In response to the dense surrounding development, the tower blocks are arranged to maximise the best and unobstructed views from the units, whilst optimising distance between the towers for privacy and sense of openness. The tower blocks are designed to be as efficient as possible and correspond to the unique triangular shape of the site. Tower 2 and 3 layouts are angled to maximise the allowable setback and to optimise views to KLCC. The angular geometry is meticulously sculpted to create a slimmer look and to reduce the apparent massing of the tower blocks.

WHERE ARE WE FRATURED?

ARCHITECTURE MALAYSIA MAGAZINE

VERITAS' **Adopt-a-Park** programme was featured in the April 2016 issue of Architecture Malaysia Magazine. It focused on our first adopted pocket-park: a 300m median area in front of KLCC which includes the installation of walkways, railworks, garden lights, shady trees and ornamental shrubs. The Memorandum of Agreement (MAA) signing ceremony was officiated by Tan Sri Haji Ahmad Fuad bin Haji Ismail, the previous Mayor of Kuala Lumpur and David Mikami Hoshino, Group President of VERITAS.

This programme invites private companies to support the creation and maintenance of 'pocket parks' around the city by contributing to a special fund established under the control of Dewan Bandaraya Kuala Lumpur (DBKL).

BCI 2016 MAGAZINE

Two of our exciting VERITAS' high rise projects: the Oxley Towers and the Star Residences were featured in the current issue of BCI Magazine. The Oxley Towers by Singapore listed property developer Oxley Holdings Ltd will open its mixed 3.11 acre development will as a high rise mixed development comprising of 3 towers ranging from 29 to 79 storeys. The residences will be managed by AccorHotels. So **Sofitel** hotels and also **Jumeirah** Hotels respectively and will be the first lifestyle branded residences in Asia for both hotel groups.

BCI-ASIA TOP 10 ARCHITECTS 2016 AWARD

VERITAS makes it to the top ten again! We are proud to announce that VERITAS was chosen again by BCI Asia to be among the "Top Ten" architectural firms in Malaysia. This further confirms our status within the Southeast Asia design industry and we are looking forward to greater success in the coming years. David Hoshino, Group President of VERITAS received the award at a dinner which was held at the JW Marriott Kuala Lumpur on the 27th May 2016.

The BCI Asia top 10 Awards have become an institution for architectural communities of Southeast Asia, China, Hong Kong and Taiwan. Being a BCI Asia Top 10 business is a coveted prize among architectural firms, symbolising the extent of their contribution to the built environment.

VERITAS MANAGEMENT RETREAT

On 26th-27th May 2016, the Principals of VERITAS (including VERITAS Group CEO) and Associates held their 1st 2016 Management Retreat at the Cyber Lodge and Kota Cyberjaya. The purpose of the day-long retreat was to prepare a rigorous leadership strategy and plan for the 2nd half of 2016 and beyond. One decision that was made was to change the title of this biannual event to **'Leadership Retreat'** to emphasising the importance of leadership skills in the well-being of the company.

The new VERITAS SOCIAL SPORTS CLUB (VSSC) members

VERITAS SOCIAL SPORTS CLUB (ARCHITECTS KUALA LUMPUR) - Veritas Cross Fit Challenge

VERITAS SOCIAL SPORTS CLUB (ARCHITECTS KUALA LUMPUR) - Veritas Biking Convoy

VERITAS JOHOR SPORTS SOCIAL CLUB (VJSSC) - Squid Jigging Excursion

Royal Floria Putrajaya Competition

Congratulations to VERITAS Landscape Senior Architect Zainul Fadli Zaini for winning the **Gold Award** at the Royal Floria Garden Competition! Well done Zainul.

WHO'S celebrating their BIRTHDAY this Month?

Zamri Bin Shahriman, Thavir Pichai, Wong Yuet Lin, Nazila Hayati Mohd Yatim, Rostam Bin Ahmad, Noor Azina Binti Mohd Ismail, Siti Jamaah Bt Mansor, Zami Bin Kamidan, Muhammad Zulkifli Bin Md Ali, Syed Badrul Hisham, Muhammad Faris Bin Shamsudin, Vasanthan Junda Hamaz, Arunagam T Elapan, Shawal Binti Idris, Amiruddin Bin Osman, **Azril Amir Bin Jaafar**, Mohd Sanudin B Mat Said, Fasylam Binti Khalil, **David Mizan Hashim**, Mohd Alif Bin Abdullah, Mohd Yahya Bin Saru, **Eric Tham**, Mohd Rosan Abdul Hamid, Regina and Mohd Fazli Bin Abb Chan.

BUNDLE OF JOY

Congratulations to VERITAS Interiors Rashidah Binti Samad and her husband Muhammad Hanif Abdul Hamid on the arrival of their **adorable** baby girl **Nur Raidah** Bt Muhammad Hanif born on 12th May 2016.

Congratulations also to VERITAS Architects Dwiyang Mohd Kidul Hussein and his wife Kamariyah Ismail on the arrival of their **lovely** baby girl, **Amna Zahra** Binti Mohd Kidul born on 16th May 2016.

Congratulations to VERITAS Architects Pandang Ashajaya Bin Azmi and his wife Rosyia Binti Yahaya on the arrival of their **gorgeous** baby boy **Asyraaf Al-Haliy** Bin Ashajaya born on 20 April 2016.

Congratulations also to VERITAS Architects Saud Arabia Adnnaha Adnan and his wife Rosmaina Abd Kadir on the arrival of their **lovely** baby girl **Alynafeza** Adnnaha born on 31st March 2016.

It has been a productive month at VERITAS !! Best wishes to the proud parents.

QUOTE "Your vision will become clear only when you look into your heart. Who looks outside, dreams. Who looks inside, awakens."

- Carl Gustav Jung

OTHER HAPPENINGS

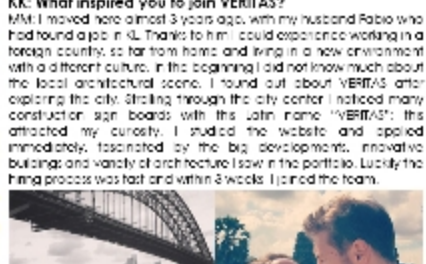
VERITAS STAFF RETREAT

From 6 to 9 May 2016, VERITASians embarked on our Annual Staff Retreat this year to **Siem Reap**, Cambodia. The trip began with a boat tour on Tonle Sap Lake, an unique aqua system and cultural area offering the opportunity to see a different side of the Siem Reap floating village culture.

Visit the temples. On the second day of our tour we visited the famous **Angkor Wat** temple followed by the South Gate at Angkor Thom, Bayon and Ta Prohm temples. Whether you're a hardcore shutterbug or you just want to see the temples at their best, a photography tour will ensure you don't miss the hidden highlights.

Eat bugs and shop at the Old Market. At Pasar Chaus, the Old Market, we got the feel of a real Cambodian bazaar. There were baskets of spices, multicolored arrays of fresh produce, crispy red tarantulas and a variety of meats ranging from octopus to chicken feet!!

Pub Street is Siem Reap's party hub. Some of us grabbed a few drinks while others a scoop of Siem Reap's best ice cream at the blue Pumpkin.



Find the perfect souvenir. We headed to Artisans d'Angkor. Prices are higher than you'd find elsewhere, but so is the quality, whether you're after classic Cambodian chessboard scenes, bas-relief carved sculptures, or geometrical spice pastels to keep you using the flavors of Cambodia back home.

Overall, it was an amazing trip where our VERITASians were given the opportunity to explore their perspectives. No doubt, the trip was an invaluable and fun experience for all.

VERITAS SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB (VSSC) - Movie Night X-Men: Apocalypse

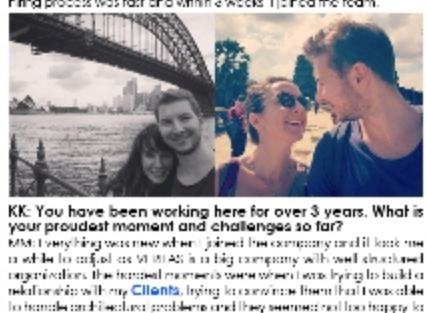
VERITAS Sports Club organised the long anticipated movie of the year: **"X-Men: Apocalypse"**. VERITASians and their family members were treated to a two-hour private movie experience at TGV KLCC Theatre on the 22nd of May 2016. We had the whole theatre to ourselves and partied throughout the show.

WHO's the STAFF OF THE MONTH? - Margherita Mosanghini

Margherita grew up in the small town of Lecce, in the North East of Italy close to the Slovenian border. She moved to Milan at the age of 18, the most exciting city in Italy and an important European hub for fashion, art, culture and night life! She graduated from the Politecnico di Milano with a Bachelor of Science (2006-2009) and Master of Architecture (2009-2011). After graduation, she worked for 2 years for two architectural and design companies in Milan. She has been with VERITAS since September 2013. Kaine Kee (**KK**) gets in-depth into about Margherita Mosanghini (**MM**)

KK: What inspired you to join VERITAS?

MM: I moved here almost 3 years ago, with my husband Fabio who had found a job in KL. Thanks to him, could experience working in a foreign country, so far from home and living in a new environment with a different culture. In the beginning I did not know much about the local architectural scene. I found out about VERITAS after exploring the city. Strolling through the city center I noticed many construction sign boards with the Latin name "VERITAS": this attracted my curiosity. I studied the website and applied immediately, fascinated by the big developments, innovative buildings and variety of architecture I saw in the portfolio. Luckily the hiring process was fast and within 3 weeks I joined the team.



KK: You have been working here for over 3 years. What is your proudest moment and challenges so far?

MM: Everything was new when I joined the company and it took me a while to adjust as VERITAS is a big company with well structured organizations. The toughest moments were when I was trying to build a relationship with my **Clients**, trying to convince them that I was able to handle architectural problems and they seemed not too happy to deal with me at first. On the every day is a new day to explore and to express my ideas. The proudest moment will be when I see my design going beyond BCI and ROYALIA requirements.

KK: What is different in the architectural scene between Italy and Malaysia?

MM: In Italy architecture companies are smaller than here, employees are in between 5-10 staff. Being a developed country, the main activities are focused on interior design, property renovation and refurbishment. Therefore there aren't many high rise building projects, but in **Malaysia** everything is booming. I am proud to be here to work on large, medium and small scale projects at VERITAS.

KK: What are your interests/ hobbies?

MM: Since we moved here, me and Fabio have been travelling a lot. This gives me a different perspective to life. You meet people from different cultures, with differing cuisines, art and design as well. When I am not travelling, I enjoy watching TV series such as Games of thrones, watching food and House of Cards with my pal and Musical. I enjoy running as well and I am planning to start my first full marathon soon!

KK: What are your future plans with VERITAS?

MM: I have learnt a lot during these 3 years and it has been a continuous learning process. I want to improve my technical abilities, and I know that VERITAS has a training department that will approve my future workshops.

KK: Describe VERITAS in your own few words?

MM: VERITAS is a place where you **play hard and work hard!**

So WHO are the NEWCOMERS at VERITAS?

Architects Atif ATF A Abdul Aziz and Hamilton Jayamanik Simon Swamij Assistant Architect Surayn Selvaraj Secretary to Principal Tilan Ray Kasturi Vannadhilakam and Receptionist Joanne Alex Nathan for VERITAS Architects Kuala Lumpur.

Substitute Engineer Wong Chin Loo & Kenny Wong for VERITAS Environment Sdn Bhd

Assistant Planner Ng J Ling for VERITAS Planning Sdn Bhd

Welcome on board new VERITASians!!

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