

<u>Press Release: India Culture Week celebrations held in Malang – more than 1000 plus Indonesians join in the opening ceremony – to showcase Indian Films, Indian Islamic Heritage Photo-Exhibit – Visit India Tourism Seminar and Indian Food Festival & Yoga Cultural Performances.</u>

Embassy of India Jakarta in association with Regional Government of Malang jointly hosted the India Culture Week celebrations in Malang from 21 April 2018 onwards. As part of the India Culture Week, host of festivities were organized including a high-profile *Visit India Tourism Seminar, an Indian Food Festival, Indian Film Festival, 4th International Day of Yoga Curtain Raiser, photo exhibitions on Islamic Monuments in India and India-Indonesia Friendship celebrating key moments in India Indonesia diplomatic history and inauguration of India Corner at Muhammadiyah University Malang. Brief details of the events held in Malang are as below:*

Grand Indian Cultural Evening at Simpang Balapan (central city square), Malang on 21 April 2018

2. A grand cultural event was held at **the Simpang Balapan** (**central city square**) in Malang with Gala Indian Music and Dance performances, apart from performances by artists from Malang on 21 April 2018. The cultural event was attended **by more than 1000 local residents** and art lovers of Malang. Artists from Jawaharlal Nehru Indian Cultural Center (JNICC) put together a gala musical dance performance on Indian songs and dance, which was not only jointly inaugurated but also participated **by the Regent Secretary of Malang Drs. Wasto SH, MH and Ambassador of India to Indonesia H.E. Mr Pradeep Kumar Rawat.** Raffle prizes were also given to lucky winners, which included free return air ticket from Jakarta-Delhi-Jakarta and 6 nights full hospitality by India Tourism, one return air ticket from Bali-Mumbai-Bali, Golden Triangle visit (Delhi-Agra-Jaipur) for two including transport and stay by Girnar Travels, two complimentary lunch vouchers by Hotel Tugu Malang during the Indian Food Festival, among others. The event evoked enthusiastic response among the participants.



Photo Exhibition on India Indonesia Friendship at Town Hall, Malang 21 – 28 April 2018

3. A Photo Exhibition on India-Indonesia Friendship was hosted at the Town Hall, Malang from 21 – 28 April 2018. The exhibition was inaugurated by H.E. Mr. Pradeep Kumar Rawat, Ambassador of India and Drs. Wasto SH, MH the Regent Secretary of Malang in the evening of 21 April 2018. The exhibition, which showcases 31 historical photos, brings on display the warm relations between leaders of India and Indonesia, establishment of diplomatic relations, visit of President Soekarno to India in 1950 when he was Guest of Honour in India's first Republic Day and photos of leaders of India and Indonesia interacting with each other during the course of past six and a half decades, including the visit of President Joko Widodo to India. The photo exhibition provided the youth of Malang city, a quick insight into the rich history of India-Indonesia relations. The inauguration of the photo exhibition was followed by a Press conference which was addressed by Ambassador of India and Regent Secretary of Malang.



Visit India Tourism Seminar (Hotel Tugu, Malang, 22 April 2018)

4. Ambassador of India to Indonesia H.E. Mr. Pradeep Kumar Rawat and the Head of the Tourism Department of Malang inaugurated the Visit India Tourism Seminar at Hotel Tugu on 22 April 2018. Ambassador highlighted the scope of enhancing cooperation in tourism sector between India and Malang which had great potential. The Seminar was attended by representatives of leading tour and travel companies and airlines from Indonesia and India, including India Tourism Office in Sydney, Air India, Jet Airways, Garuda Airlines, Jay Palki Baba Tours & Travel, India, Hridayala Narayan Hospital, Girnar Tours, P.S. Travels Jakarta. Representatives from India Tourism and other travel agents made presentations on tourism opportunities in India including Golden Triangle, Taj Mahal circuit while Hridalaya Narayan Hospital representative made a presentation on medical tourism. Air India and Jet Airways representatives

also shared their connectivity options for travel to India. The Visit India Tourism Seminar was attended by more than 100 participants including travel agents and local media representatives.



Indian Food Festival (Hotel Tugu, Malang, 22 April to 6 May 2018)

5. Ambassador of India to Indonesia H.E. Mr Pradeep Kumar Rawat inaugurated the Indian Food Festival at Hotel Tugu, Malang on 22 April 2018. An Indian chef along with the chefs from Hotel Tugu prepared the Indian delicacies. The Indian Food Festival was attended by more than 100 food lovers, who also witnessed live Indian musical performance. The Indian Food Festival would remain open to general public till 6 May 2018 at Hotel Tugu Malang.



Indian Film Festival (Muhammadiyah University Malang – 22 – 28 April 2018)

6. The week long Indian Film Festival **showcasing Indian Bollywood blockbusters** was jointly inaugurated by H.E. Pradeep Kumar Rawat, Ambassador of India and the Rector of Muhammadiyah University Malang. Speaking at the inaugural, the Rector said that everyone loves Bollywood movies and he himself was a great fan of Bollywood. Ambassador highlighted the universal appeal of Bollywood movies as it is a great connect and cuts across language barriers with their touching themes. The Festival began with screening of 'English Vinglish'. About 300 fans of Indian movies from Malang watched the inaugural show of the festival. The festival will continue for a week till 28 April 2018 and some of India's latest Bollywood hits like Tanu Weds Manu; Love Aaj Kal; Barfi; Hum Aapke Hain Kaun and Rock On will be screened in the festival. The movies have been dubbed in Bahasa Indonesia.



 $\frac{Photo\ Exhibition\ on\ Islamic\ Monuments\ in\ India\ (Muhammadiyah\ University\ Malang-22-28)}{April\ 2018)}$

7. A Photo Exhibition on **Islamic Monuments in India** was put on display at the Muhammadiyah University Malang from 22 – 28 April 2018. The exhibition was jointly inaugurated by H.E. Mr. Pradeep Kumar Rawat, Ambassador of India and the Rector of UMM on 22 April 2018. The exhibition, showcases historical Islamic monuments in India from ancient millennia to contemporary times. The photo exhibition provided the viewers of Malang city, a quick journey into the rich Islamic heritage of India.



 $\frac{4^{th}\ International\ Day\ of\ Yoga\ Curtain\ Raiser\ Event\ at\ UMM\ (Muhammadiyah\ University\ Malang-22\ April\ 2018)}{22\ April\ 2018)}$

8. A Curtain Raiser event to celebrate the 4th International Day of Yoga, was also organized at the Muhammadiyah University Malang in the early morning of 22nd April. More than 500 students and faculty members participated in the 4th IDY curtain raiser and actively followed the IDY protocol postures that were conducted by Indian Yoga Teachers from JNICC.



Inauguration of India Corner at UMM (Muhammadiyah University Malang – 22 April 2018)

9. Ambassador of India to Indonesia H.E. Mr. Pradeep Kumar Rawat and the Rector of UMM also inaugurated an **India Corner** at the University. The India Corner is a special section created by the University, which showcases Indian books, Indian Literature and news about Indian arts, culture and tourism. Ambassador in his remarks hoped that the opening of India corner, would facilitate better appreciation among students of UMM about India and the opportunities it offers. The Rector of UMM thanked Ambassador for opening India Corner at UMM. He said that it was in line with UMM's policy to give maximum exposure to its students as they had Corners of other countries as well and the opening of India Corner would definitely benefit its students.



10. The week long celebrations were extensively covered by local media and attracted footfall of more than several thousand Malang citizens' overs the weekend. It is expected that with this series of events showcased under India Culture Week, a better appreciation of Indian art, culture and tourism would be fostered amongst the local people of Malang.

Malang (Indonesia) 23 April 2018

Enclosed: Select pictures of India Culture Week Celebrations in Malang