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AMIC Workshop on Book Publishing : Kuala Lumpur, Aug 13-17, 1991 : [welcome address]

Haji Jumaat Dato Haji Mohd Noor.

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**Welcome Address**

**By**

**Haji Jumaat Bin Dato Haji Mohd Noor**

WELCOME BY DATO' HAJI JUMAAT BIN DATO' HAJI  
MOHD. NOOR, DIRECTOR GENERAL DEWAN BAHASA DAN PUSTAKA  
ON THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF BOOK PUBLISHING WORKSHOP  
JOINTLY ORGANISED BY UNESCO, ASIAN MASS COMMUNICATION  
RESEARCH AND INFORMATION CENTRE AND THE DEWAN BAHASA  
DAN PUSTAKA

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The Honourable Dr. Fong Chan Onn, the Deputy Minister of Education Malaysia, Mr. Martin Hadlow, UNESCO Regional Communication Adviser, Mr. Vijay Menon, Secretary General Asian Mass Communication Research and Information Centre, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen.

First of all I wish to take the opportunity to thank Dr. Fong Chan Onn, the Deputy Education Minister for having consented to be present here this morning at the Official Opening of the Book Publishing Workshop jointly organised by UNESCO, the Mass Communication Research and Information Centre and the Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka and accordingly officiate the opening of the Workshop. This Workshop which will be held at the Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka for 5 days beginning today until the 17th. August 1991 is the first of its kind to be organised jointly by the three organisations. 25 participants will take part in this Workshop - 15 from the Asean countries and 10 from Malaysia. I welcome you all to this Workshop. Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka has made several programmes enabling you all to observe for yourselves the development of <sup>the</sup> book industry in this country.

Ladies and gentlemen,

This Workshop is made possible after several discussions and meetings between Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka and two prominent figures from UNESCO and the Mass Communication Research and Information Centre from Paris.

They have full trust in Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka in organising this Workshop as they have been following the development of the book industry in Malaysia especially that of the Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka. They acknowledge that Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka under the aegis of the Ministry of Education plays an important and significant role in the dissemination of knowledge through the publication of books, magazines, journals and other related books of reference. We in turn acknowledge their trust considering DBP has the expertise and facilities to organise this Workshop.

Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka has had the cooperation from UNESCO, the Afro-Asian Book Council, the Mass Communication Research and Information Centre by taking part in the activities organised by those organisations. They had high regard for the experience and expertise of Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka. They always seek the help of DBP in their activities that involve book publishing.

On the part of the Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka, its workers have always been given the opportunities to attend courses, seminars and forums that are organised by the said organisations. This type of knowledge and experience is very useful to the workers as with that kind of exposure, they will be able to upgrade their skill in publishing.

At the same time, Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka regularly invites experts from within and without the country to assist it in the in-house training.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka realises the importance of maintaining the quality of a book as DBP is always open to criticisms from all sectors. Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka is entrusted with the responsibility of ensuring that a book to be published must be of quality, physically or content wise. Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka is entrusted with the task of publishing books from the primary, secondary, upper secondary and higher learning.

Ladies and gentlemen,

To construct a good quality book in all aspects - editorial aspects and production aspects, the skill and expertise of the workers involved in the publication has to be upgraded. The Training Division of DBP has all the while arranged various training programmes for the upgrading of the skills and expertise of its workers involved in publishing, hoping that they will become skilled, efficient and professional workers. Besides organising in-house courses, the workers from time to time are sent overseas to attend courses, seminars, forums and book fairs.

Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka is in the proses of organising its programmes to equip its training division. Sophisticated facilities will be provided. Experts and professionals will be recruited. By having all the facilities and expertise, it is hoped that Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka will become a publishing training division or institute not only of Malaysia but also of South-East Asian Region.

Ladies and gentlemen,

The Book Publishing Workshop will be focussing on the production aspects - type composition and methods; casting off; filming, stripping, film correction and plate making; estimation of costs (vis-a-vis paper, printing and binding); printing techniques; principles of colour separation; binding and finishing methods, besides touching on the production personnel and functions and relationship between editorial and production. From the contents of the Workshop it can be observed therefore that the focuss will be on the pre-press aspects and binding. Soon, it is hoped that another Workshop focussing on the editorial aspects - acquisition of manuscripts, evaluation, editing, copyediting and proof reading will be considered.

Among the key personnel in this Workshop is Mr. Chandra Nair, a representative from UNESCO, Paris. Other personnel includes one from the printing Association, and the rest from Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka. I am confident that with the combined effort of the key personnel, this Workshop will achieve its desired goal.

Ladies and gentlemen,

While attending this Workshop, the participants, especially those from the Asean region will have the opportunity to observe for yourselves the development of the publishing industry in this country.

Arrangements have already been made to bring them to the Book Fair which

is being held at the Changkat Pavilion, Kuala Lumpur and visiting a few of the printing presses around Kuala Lumpur. Various other programmes have been arranged during their stay in Kuala Lumpur.

Lastly, I wish to take the opportunity to thank all parties involved in the preparation of this Workshop jointly organised by UNESCO, the Mass Communication Research and Information Centre and the Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka. Special thanks goes to Mr. Chandra Nair, a representative from UNESCO who has consented to be one of the key personnel in this Workshop. I hope the outcome of this Workshop will benefit us all.

Thank you.

12 August 1991.