

**Press Conference for
George Town World Heritage Incorporated 10th Anniversary Celebration**
Wednesday, 4 March 2020 | 12:30 PM
Bilik Gerakan, Level 28, KOMTAR, George Town, Penang

FACT SHEET

1. This year marks the 10th anniversary for George Town World Heritage Incorporated (GTWHI).
2. GTWHI was established on 21 April 2010 as the state heritage agency to manage, safeguard and promote the George Town UNESCO World Heritage Site.
3. Today's PC is to announce the following initiatives and invite the public to participate in making our city a sustainable, cultural place.

Initiative 1: GTWHI Heritage Recognition and Awards 2020

- Objectives:
 - i. Inaugural effort by the Site Manager (GTWHI) to identify, promote and facilitate the upscaling of best practices in cultural heritage.
 - ii. To recognise and honour individuals and groups with outstanding contributions to the Outstanding Universal Value of the George Town World Heritage Site.
 - iii. To update the database of George Town's tangible and intangible cultural heritage.

The Awards consist of **4 categories**:

Category 1:

Conservation, Enhancement and Adaptation Award

Anugerah Konservasi, Kemajuan dan Adaptasi

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- For outstanding projects on conservation or repurposing of built heritage.
- For projects that complement and utilise the existing heritage fabric.
- For new developments which are sympathetic to the traditional uses of a site and its structures and which enhance or maintain its heritage value.
- Any project completed within the George Town World Heritage Site from 2008 to 2019.
- Prize is given to project owner.

Category 2:

Cultural Heritage Events and Activities Award

Anugerah Program dan Aktiviti Warisan Budaya

文化遺產活動獎

- For outstanding cultural heritage related events or activities that have been organised continuously for the past 5 years (2015-2019).
- For cultural heritage related events or activities with the purpose of promoting education, interpretation and community engagement in heritage.
- The heritage related event or activity must take place, processed through, or based at George Town World Heritage Site.
- Prize is given to the main organiser.

Category 3:

Lifetime Achievement Award

Anugerah Pencapaian Sepanjang Hayat

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- For individuals who have long-term commitments and special merit in the field of conservation, protection, mastery of skills, know-how, and practices.
- For individuals who have displayed outstanding efforts, skills and dedication to transmit the skills and knowledge of cultural heritage.
- Malaysian citizens or permanent residents, aged 60 years and above, with contributions to Penang's cultural heritage.

Category 4:

Cultural Continuity Recognition

Pengiktirafan Kesenambungan Budaya

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- Any dedicated individuals, organisations, businesses or services that have been established for at least 25 years and have demonstrated excellence in continuing the traditions of George Town cultural heritage values.
- Platinum: 100 years and above
- Gold: 50-99 years
- Silver: 25-49 years
- Malaysian citizens or permanent residents.
- The nominee can be from or beyond the George Town World Heritage Site, but they must have demonstrated active activities in the past 25 years at least.

Method

- Everyone can nominate (self-nominate or nominate others).
- Nominees can be from or beyond the World Heritage Site.
- The nomination form can be downloaded for FREE at <http://gtwhi.com.my/heritage-recognition-awards-2020/>.
- Printed copies are also available at the GTWHI office.
- Can be nominated in more than one category.
- Submit the complete set of documents either by:
 - a. Email to info@gtwhi.com.my.
 - b. Deliver the documents by mail/hand to the GTWHI office.

Timeline

- Nomination: 15 Feb 2020 to 15 April 2020 (5pm)
- Announcement by 7 June 2020.
- Awards ceremony in July 2020 (in conjunction with the 12th edition of the George Town UNESCO World Heritage Site celebration).

Review and Selection Process

The nominations will be reviewed by the Jury Panel:

- **Ms Moe Chiba (Programme Specialist and Head of Unit Culture, UNESCO Office Jakarta)**

Moe Chiba was appointed since January 2018 to coordinate the Culture Sector of UNESCO Jakarta, covering Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Timor Leste, after her assignment in UNESCO New Delhi office for South Asia between 2006 and 2017. Led by the vision of mainstreaming culture in development agenda, some of her main areas of work in India include heritage-based urban development, culture for rural livelihood and participation of persons with disabilities in cultural life. Moving to Jakarta, she continues her passion for culture-based development, and coordinates projects such as disaster risk reduction of heritage, promotion of creative industries around heritage sites, and cultural landscape management.

- **Professor Emeritus Datin Paduka Siti Zuraina Abdul Majid (Former Director-General, National Heritage Department)**

Prof. Zuirana is Malaysia's first female archaeologist and has greatly influenced Malaysia's development in archaeology and heritage since the 1970s, from the discovery of Malaysia's oldest prehistoric man, the Perak Man in 1990 to setting up the Centre for Archaeological Research Malaysia in Universiti Sains Malaysia in 1994, and more. She also established the National Heritage Department in 2006 and played an important role in the inscription of Melaka and George Town as well as Lenggong Valley as World Heritage Sites. Her expertise is in anthropology, heritage, and the preparation of the Nomination Dossier.

- **Dr Rohit Jigyasu (Project Manager, The International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property, ICCROM)**

Dr Rohit Jigyasu is a conservation architect and risk management professional who has been a consultant to several national and international organisations. He has taught in academic institutions such as the Institute of Disaster Mitigation for Urban Cultural Heritage in Ritsumeikan University, Japan. He is currently Vice President of The International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) and has served as the President of ICOMOS-India and ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Risk Preparedness (ICORP). Dr Rohit specialises in urban conservation, heritage management, risk assessment and disaster risk management.

- **Dr Paritta Chalernpow Koanantakool (Former Director, The Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn Anthropology Centre)**

Dr Paritta is a retired anthropologist who received her PhD in Social Anthropology from Cambridge University, UK. She is a UNESCO-accredited Intangible Cultural Heritage facilitator and has conducted capacity building workshops for communities in Bhutan, Lao P.D.R., Myanmar, Thailand, China, Cambodia, and Malaysia since 2012. Her research interests include traditional performance, art and crafts, anthropology of museums, cultural identity, cultural heritage, biography, and ethnography and practical knowledge.

- **Dr Ang Ming Chee (General Manager, George Town World Heritage Incorporated)**

Born and raised in the inner city of George Town, Dr Ang holds a PhD in Political Science from National University of Singapore and a Masters Degree in International Studies from Uppsala University in Sweden. She is a UNESCO-accredited Intangible Cultural Heritage facilitator. Working towards innovative ideas and holistic management of the George Town UNESCO World Heritage Site for the benefit of the local people, Dr Ang incorporated built conservation with elements of disaster risk reduction and intangible cultural heritage safeguarding to create a sustainable heritage city for the people who live in, work in and use George Town. She is also active in leading projects, programmes and panels namely as Executive Producer for George Town Heritage Celebrations, Chairperson for the Sia Boey Archaeological Advisory Panel, Chairperson for Penang's Public Arts Review Panel, Deputy Chairperson for the City Council of Penang Island's Technical Review Panel, and Committee Member for the Guar Kepah Archaeological Advisory Panel.

Prize

Each award or recognition recipient will be presented with a plaque and certificate. They will also be given the priority in GTWHI's cultural promotional activities.

Initiative 2: Cultural Heritage Book Giveaway to Educational Institutions in Malaysia

- 100 book sets, each consisting of 6 titles valued at RM723 will be given out as donation to schools, colleges and universities in Malaysia.
- The book titles are:
 1. Epitaph: The Northam Road Protestant Cemetery (Volumes 1 and 2)
 2. George Town: Our Stories
 3. George Town's Historic Commercial and Civic Precincts
 4. Little India of George Town
 5. Penang's Living Legacy - Heritage Traders of George Town
 6. POTEHI - Glove Puppet Theatre of Penang (Boxset)

Objectives

- i. To promote and educate students on cultural heritage.
- ii. To instil appreciation among the younger generation of our shared cultural heritage and the importance of safeguarding efforts.
- iii. To create awareness of the intangible cultural heritage of Penang.

Method

- All schools, colleges, universities in Malaysia can apply.
- One school, one set. Schools which have already received the book sets in 2018 are not eligible for this giveaway.
- From 1 March 2020 to 30 November 2020.
- Application: www.gtwhi.com.my/book-giveaway-2020.
- Enquiries: info@gtwhi.com.my
- Schools will be notified via email to collect the books at GTWHI office or pay for postage if they are unable to collect the books.

Media Kit:

