

**WORSHIP PLACE & RELIGIOUS CENTRE
VISITATION & TOUR**

Other than 6 Interfaith Dialogues that we did during the week, we also visited some worship places and religious centers to have exposure. Those places that we visited mostly we hardly find in Indonesia. During the week, we visited:

1. Sri Khrisna Temple (Hinduism)
2. Kwan Yin Tempe (Buddhism)
3. Catholic Centre (Catholic)
4. Church of the True Light Church (Chinese Church)
5. Abdul Gafoor Mosque (Islam)
6. Majelis Ugama Islam Singapore (Islam)
7. St Andrew's Cathedral (Anglican)
8. Jacob Ballas Centre & Synagogue (Judaism)
9. Harmony Centre (Islam)

At Sri Khrisna Temple, St Andrew's Cathedral, Jacob Ballas Centre and Synagogue, and Harmony Centre we also met the leaders and having a tour on the site to know more about the history, the teaching, and also practices.

SRI KHRISNA TEMPLE
SINGAPORE



CATHOLIC CENTRE
SINGAPORE

CHURCH OF THE TRUE LIGHT
SINGAPORE



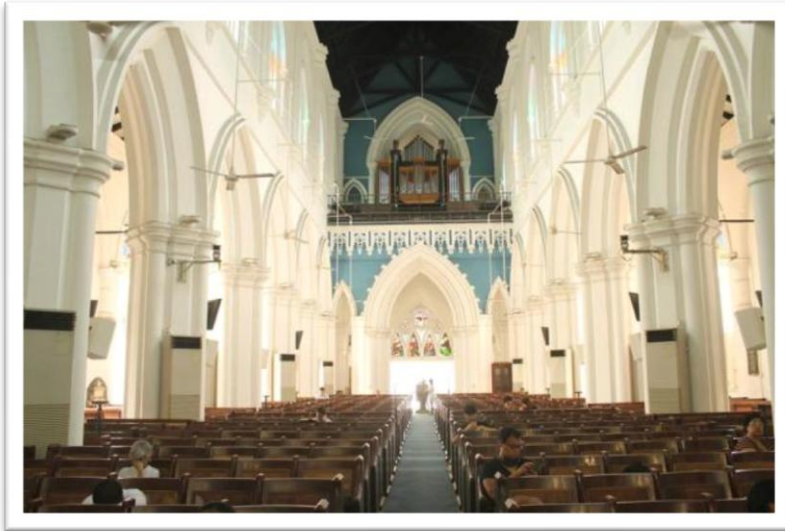
MASJID ABDUL GAFOOR
SINGAPORE

*KUAN YIN TEMPLE
SINGAPORE*



*MAJILIS UGAMA ISLAM
SINGAPORE*

Visitation and Tour at St. Andrew's Cathedral Singapore



We visited St. Andrew Cathedral on 5 February 2015. We were welcomed by one the church staff and also assisted on a guided tour of the church, to know more about the church and Christianity.



First of all she told the history of this Cathedral. The first cathedral was designed in the Palladian style, by an architect who contributed in many of the important buildings of early Singapore. The existing cathedral was the third building. In 1870, St. Andrew's Church became the Cathedral of the Diocese

of Labuan and Sarawak.

We also went into the sanctuary to learn more about the building, the symbols & icons, and also the tradition as well as the church teaching, for instance the lectern with an eagle in it, the old pipe organ, the sacraments, baptism pool, etc. It was very interesting and eye opening.



Visitation and Dialogue at Jacob Ballas Centre & Maghain Aboth Synagogue Singapore



On Friday, 6 February morning, we visited Jacob Ballas Centre and Maghain Aboth Synagogue. We were welcomed by Rabbi Mordekhai Abergel and invited us to come into the synagogue.

Rabbi Mordekhai started by introducing himself as a diaspora Jews who was born in France and grew up in Belgium and how he came to Singapore also the Jews history in Singapore. He also shared how he has been involved in interfaith relations among other religions in Singapore. It showed how Jews in Singapore relate to other communities.

After the explanation, we had question and answer time. We were all very excited because for most of us this was the first time we came into a synagogue and had dialogue with a rabbi.

One interesting moment was when the rabbi was asked about how Jews do prayer. Jews prayed three times a day with some requirements fulfilled before the prayer like: clean clothes, properly dressed, the right body posture, no intervention and talk during the prayer for about 40 minutes and does singing the verses with melody. Each sign in the Tanakh has a specific melody which enables us to read it the right way. If it's not done the right way, then he should stop the singing and repeat again. So every prayer must be prepared carefully then sat down, read carefully words by words according to the melody and tunes. It showed how serious the Jews when they worship God.

Rabbi Mordekhai recited for us one verse from the Deuteronomy (Shema) beautifully. We are surprised that in Judaism there is a tradition to recite the Holy book with tone like Muslims do in their tradition of the Quran. The Tanakh can only be opened and read each week during the worship.

Rabbi also told us that the challenge today for Judaism as well as in another religion has is about the lifestyle, bad news, TV, video games, and modern globalization. We have to take special role to overcome the problem. We have to protect our children and youth generation from bad things. We cannot stand alone, we have to invite and join all groups of goodwill in togetherness, strengthen each other to make peace and a better world. As Abrahamic religions, we are supposed to be people who live in peace and harmony.

We still had many things to ask, but the time was limited. This was a very precious moment for us where we could learn more about the Jews and Judaism directly from a rabbi. Hope to have more chances again to visit.



Visitation and Tour at HARMONY CENTRE Singapore



After our Muslim ambassadors having Jumah Prayer at Majlis Ugama Islam Singapore (MUIS) on Friday 6 February, we were heading to Harmony Centre Singapore. As Harmony Centre is part of MUIS, we were welcomed very warmly by three leaders of MUIS: Zainul Abidin Bin Ibrahim (Director of Strategic Engagement), Bohari Bin Jaon (Senior Director of Policy & Corporate

Services), and Muhammad Fazalee Bin Ja'afar (Assistant Head of Harmony Centre). They opened and shared about the history of MUIS, Harmony Centre and Islam in Singapore. Muslims in Singapore have taken seriously their identity as inclusive and peaceful Islam. They have been very much involved in bringing harmony among the religious groups in Singapore.

After the introduction and explanation, there was a question and answer time. After that we had a tour in the



centre that is like a museum of the development of Islam globally and also locally. Though Singapore is only a small country, but we can learn a lot from Singapore.

HARMONY IN ACTION & CAMPAIGN

Third activity that we had during the week is the WIHW and harmony campaign to the people. Though WIHW has been being celebrated since 2011, but frankly speaking majority of people in Indonesia, Singapore and Malaysia are not aware of WIHW. Therefore we make this opportunity to spread the awareness of WIHW and mobilize people to get involved in very simple way. We had this campaign in Kuala Lumpur and also in Singapore:

1. At Petaling Street Kuala Lumpur
2. At Batu caves Kuala Lumpur during the Thaipusam Day celebration
3. On the KTM train from Batu Caves to KL Sentral
4. At Singapore Management University (SMU) Singapore
5. At CitiMall MRT Station Singapore

We did the campaign by taking picture with some posters with harmony quotes like: "Harmony in Diversity, I Love It!", "We are different, But We Live in Harmony" , "I'm a Muslim, I Love Hindus", "I'm a Christian, I Love Buddhists", "I'm a Buddhist, I Love Muslims", "I'm a Hindu, I Love Christians", "Love of God, Love of the Neighbour". We also distributed WIHW stickers and bookmarks. In some parts, we also did an interview of their opinions about WIHW and religious harmony.

Sticker



Poster

Bookmark



**2. At Batu Caves, Kuala Lumpur
on Thaipusam Day Celebration
3 Feb 2015**



WORLD INTERFAITH HARMONY WEEK 2015



Love of God, Love of the Neighbour

This Campaign at Batu Caves had the largest coverage by the media in Kuala Lumpur:

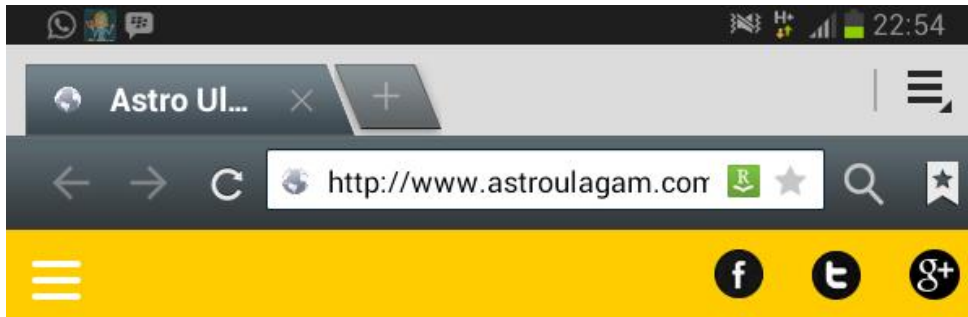
1. Andreas Jonathan (YIPC) was interviewed by **TV3 Malaysia**



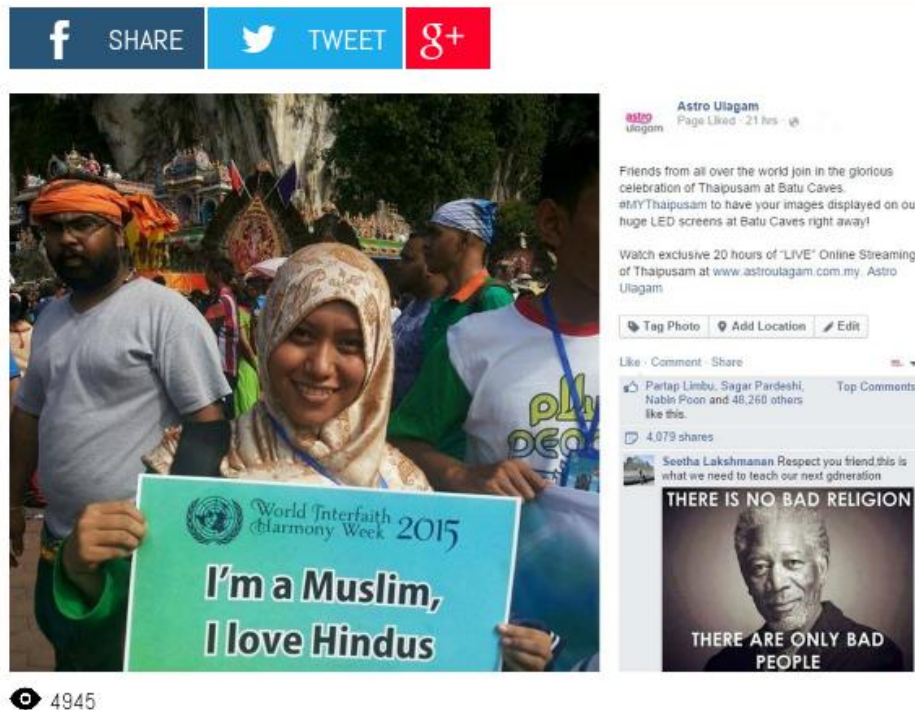
2. It was in the Headline News of **Malay Mail** 4 February 2015



3. It became Astro Ulagam's most liked FB post of all time!
In one day after it posted, it had 48,000 likes and shared more than 4,000.
On 5 Mar 2015, it has been 76,399 likes and 7,797 shared.



Astro Ulagam's most liked FB post of all time!



4945

It is the photo that will go down in Astro Ulagam history as the most liked and shared of our Facebook posts.

At time of writing it has garnered a whopping 48,000 likes; been shared more than 4,000 times and received more than 1,000 comments.

It's a simple picture really. A young girl wearing a headscarf carries a placard with the words, "I'm a Muslim, I love Hindus".

A simple line, but one that spoke volumes.

We didn't get to speak to her but she was accompanied by other representatives of different races and religions (Muslims, Christians, Hindus, Buddhists) all carrying similar signs. This was an initiative by the Young Interfaith Peacemaker Community Indonesia, and was held at the Sri Subramaniam Swamy Temple in Batu Caves, Kuala Lumpur, untry. It was indeed heart-



**3. On KTM Train from Batu Caves to KL Sentral
3 February 2015**



4. At Singapore Management University (SMU)
4 Feb 2015



**5. At Citihall MRT Station Singapore
5 Feb 2015**



WORLD INTERFAITH HARMONY WEEK 2015



Love of God, Love of the Neighbour