

**REPORT OF
LIBRARIANS ASSOCIATION OF MALAYSIA (PPM)
IQRA' MISSION TO ACEH, NORTH SUMATERA,
INDONESIA, 2-5 AUGUST, 2005**

Prepared by Librarians Association of Malaysia (PPM) Iqra' Mission team:

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In response to a request from The Indonesian Library Association (IPI) for assistance in rebuilding library and information services in the coastal province of Aceh, North Sumatera, Indonesia which was devastated by earthquake and tsunami, The Librarians' Association of Malaysia (PPM) at its general meeting on 9 April 2005, approved a fact-finding mission to Aceh.

The objectives of the mission are to :-

- (i) establish contact with librarians in Aceh
- (ii) obtain information on assistance required for rebuilding;
- (iii) establish how best assistance can be delivered.

A four - member team led by Dato' Zawiyah Baba undertook the mission , named the PPM Iqra' (Arabic meaning Read) Mission from 2 – 5 August 2005. Others in the team were Mr.Hasbullah Atan, Coordinator, Mdm.Rohani Rustam, Liaison and En.Abdul Hamid Abdul Rahman, Cameraman/Photographer.

Visits were made to the central library, Badan Perpustakaan Daerah (BPD, the Provincial Library Authority), and the library of the Grand Mosque Baiturrahman. A meeting, comprising of briefing, discussion and interviews was held at BPD. Those interviewed were Drs Kamaruddin H.Hussin, the Head of BPD, Ibu Yusnidar, Senior Librarian, Drs. Fauzi, Representative of the Indonesian Library Association (IPI).

The team also visited reading and literacy projects run by voluntary organizations such as Phi Beta Learning Centre, Yayasan Anak Bangsa, (Foundation for Indigenous Sons), Children Media Centre and Forum Lingkaran Pena (Pen Circle Forum). These programmes were established before tsunami. Interviews were held with our main contact, Mr.Saiful Mahdi and representatives from each voluntary organization. The activities are heBanda Aceh, as well as the government-built barracks, which serves as temporary housing for tsunami victims.

Based on the interviews, observation and discussion, the following are assistance urgently required by libraries in Aceh:-

- (i) Books for library collections and literacy projects
- (ii) Tracing and providing copies of old materials about Aceh in libraries
- (iii) Mobile libraries preferably the size L-300 Vehicles
- (iv) Library furniture
- (v) Human resource development especially training

- (vi) Computers and integrated library system
- (vii) Funding for literacy project and campaign

The main recommendations of the Mission Team are :-

- (i) PPM coordinate external assistance for libraries in Aceh
- (ii) National Library of Malaysia coordinate the following
 - (i) Tracing of materials about Aceh
 - (ii) Provide training in conservation of materials
 - (iii) Include participants from Aceh in training programmes under the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme
 - (iv) Provide template for application of integrated library system in Aceh libraries
- (iii) The library community to acknowledge the leadership, tenacity and tremendous efforts of Ibu Yusnidar and staff of BPD to restoring the physical condition as well as the administration of the library and its surroundings in the aftermath of the tsunami.

The PPM Iqra' Mission was successfully undertaken and its objectives achieved. The report will be submitted to higher authorities in Malaysia and to IFLA as well as other international organisations to facilitate consideration for and inclusion of library services in post-tsunami plans for rebuilding of Aceh. It is hoped that libraries, library associations as well as librarians can also contribute in any way possible to improve the lives of the people of Aceh through its libraries.

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27 October 2005

REPORT OF LIBRARIANS ASSOCIATION OF MALAYSIA (PPM) IQRA' MISSION TO ACEH, NORTH SUMATERA, INDONESIA, 2-5 AUGUST, 2005

INTRODUCTION

A report on the state of library services in Aceh post tsunami and request for assistance from Mr. Dady Rachmananta, President, Indonesian Library Association (IPI) and Director-General, National Library of Indonesia was received by Dato' Zawiyah Baba, President of the Librarians' Association (PPM) in March 2005. PPM Council noted that libraries in Malaysia had earlier contributed to funds collected by Malaysian newspapers and government agencies for victims of tsunami in Aceh. PPM needed a clearer picture of the situation in Aceh, the kind of assistance needed and how best PPM and the international library community can provide and deliver the assistance needed. The Annual General Meeting of the Librarians' Association of Malaysia (PPM) held at Istana Hotel, Kuala Lumpur on 9 April 2005, approved a resolution to send a fact-finding mission to Banda Aceh for the purpose stated below.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of the fact-finding mission was to

- 2.1 Establish contact with library and other relevant agencies in Aceh,
- 2.1 View the rebuilding and development of library and information services following the devastation of the earthquake followed by the 26th December 2004 tsunami,
- 2.3 Explore the type and form of assistance most urgently needed and the most effective way of delivering this assistance,
- 2.4 Submit a report of the mission to PPM Council

The report of the mission will be submitted to PPM Council for onward transmission to higher authorities in Malaysia as well as the international library community in particular, the Congress of Southeast Asian Librarians (CONSAL) and the world body, the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) for information, consideration and appropriate action.

3. IQRA' MISSION

The fact-finding mission was thus named the PPM Iqra' Mission. Iqra' is Arabic for read, the first word revealed in the holy Quran. Iqra' appropriately symbolizes the aim of the mission, which is to help revive reading and learning activities in the worst hit areas of the Indian ocean tsunami.

4. MEMBERS OF THE MISSION

The members of the PPM Iqra' Mission comprised of the following :-

- 4.1 Dato' Zawiyah Baba (Head of Mission)
Immediate Past President and Chairman
External Aid Committee
Librarians Association of Malaysia (PPM)
- 4.2 Mr. Hasbullah Atan (Coordinator)
Council Member
Librarians Association of Malaysia (PPM)
- 4.3 Mdm Rohani Rustam (Liaison)
Life-member and Past President
Librarians Association of Malaysia (PPM)
- 4.4 Mr. Abdul Hamid Bin Abdul Rahman
Cameraman/ Photographer
Courtesy of Pesona Pictures Sdn. Bhd .

5. ESTABLISHING CONTACT

5.1 Ibu Yusnidar

The first task of the mission was to establish direct contact with counterparts in Aceh. The first contact was Ibu Yusnidar , the Acting Head of the Provincial Library Services, Banda Aceh, Naggroe Aceh Darussalam (NAD). The name and contact telephone of Ibu Yusnidar was obtained from the January 2005 report submitted by Mr.Dady Rachmananta. Contact with Ibu Yusnidar can only be made through her mobile phone as the tsunami destroyed computers and telecommunication lines in most parts of Banda Aceh. Contact was made through the Malaysian language which is similar to the Indonesia language spoken by Ibu Yusnidar.

5.2 Mr. Saiful Mahdi

The second important contact was with Mr.Saiful Mahdi, a Ph.D student from Cornell University, Ithaca, USA. Saiful was contacted through a Malaysian student involved with the Aceh Relief Fund (ARF) at Cornell University which supported Saiful's return to Aceh to search for his family members a week after the tsunami. Saiful published his daily and weekly online journal in Aceh up to February 2005. Saiful appointed as Programme Coordinator for UNIFEM, the United Nations Development Fund for Women in Aceh at the end of January 2005 for a 6 month period. We were fortunate that his contract was extended to September 2006. Communication with Saiful was much easier as he was on the email and is action oriented.

Ibu Yusnidar and Saiful turned out to be all that we hoped for in our local contacts and more. They coordinated our visits well and provided us with all the assistance we needed. They also accompanied us throughout the day on the respective days of the visits and provided interesting and useful information as we went along.

The team also made contact with Malaysians who had been on regular visits to Aceh and who gave invaluable information and advice on accommodation, transportation and general situation and living conditions in Aceh. The information they provided were crucial to the decision to undertake the mission. The Malaysian contacts are :-

- (i) Datuk Dr. Baba Md Deni
Medical practitioner from Malacca
Mercy Malaysia
- (ii) Datuk Yap Nyim Keong
Executive Secretary
Asian Football Confederation (AFC)
- (iii) Mr. Windsor John
FIFA Development Office
Kuala Lumpur

The team was also assisted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Malaysia, Southeast Asia and Pacific Division with regard to political, safety and health conditions in Aceh and who made contact with the Malaysian Consulate in Medan on our behalf.

6. WEBSITES ON ACEH AND TSUNAMI

Apart from establishing contacts, the team also surfed the internet for the numerous websites on Aceh since the tsunami. The National Library of Malaysia had also compiled a bibliography on the tsunami which was very useful. Some recent websites were located based on urls provided by friends and associates.

7. VISIT PROGRAMME AND BUDGET

From the information gathered, and the contacts made, the team was able to draw up a tentative four-day programme for the Iqra' Mission in Aceh and obtained a quotation for a package, inclusive of airfares, accommodation and transfers. Our contacts will make arrangements for transportation. A budget was prepared for the mission covering air-fare, accommodation, transportation, supplies for tsunami victims and miscellaneous items. The PPM Council gave their support and blessing for the mission. However, as PPM is a non-profit organization whose only source of funding is from membership fees and fund-raising, it had to obtain sponsorship to defray the cost of sending the four-man team Iqra' Mission to Aceh .

8. SPONSORSHIP

PPM was fortunate that the cost of the mission was willingly borne mainly by Pesona Pictures Sdn Bhd., a well-known film company in Kuala Lumpur and supported by a Yuha Associates, a book supply contractor. Pesona Pictures also provided the services of a cameraman and photographer to accompany the Iqra' Mission team and record the visit. A complete camera equipment and supply of tapes for the cameraman was also loaned by Pesona Pictures.

In addition to the above, an IT company, Alam Teknokrat Sdn Bhd. (SKALI) also donated a brand new Compaq laptop to be presented as a gift to the Provincial Library Services of Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam (NAD). Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka, the Language and Literary Agency gave 8 English-Malay Dictionaries and children's books to be presented to libraries in Aceh. The event-management company Friends donated 100 specially designed T-shirts for children in Aceh. A friendly anonymous donor also contributed 100 quality sets of exercise books and pencil cases and stationery sets, also to be presented for children in Aceh. Yet another anonymous donor contributed 30 T-shirts for volunteers of literacy projects associated with Phi Beta Learning Centre.

The above boxed gifts not surprisingly exceeded the baggage allowed for our four-man team. However, special consideration was given by Malaysian Airlines on humanitarian grounds for the excess luggage.

9. MEETING WITH MALAYSIA CONSUL GENERAL IN MEDAN

The team made a stopover in Medan on 2 August 2005 to meet with the Malaysian Consul General for a briefing on the most up to date political, economic and social conditions in Aceh. We also enquired about the supply of books and customs and other regulations regarding bringing in of stationery, clothing and other aid supplies into Aceh. A very fruitful discussion on these matters was held with the Consul-General of Malaysia, Mr. Yusof Abu Bakar on 2nd August 2005. The team also visited the Gramedia Bookshop in Medan to view the range of books available in Medan's biggest bookshop chain.\

10. ACCOMODATION IN ACEH

The team flew into Banda Aceh on the morning of 3rd August 2005 on Garuda Airlines. There was a slight hassle with the excess luggage but had to make do with the concession made by the Airlines. Upon arrival, we checked into the three star Sulthan Hotel, one of the very few hotels available in Banda Aceh. It is quite centrally located and is of reasonable standard. The hotel is frequently used by international development and aid agencies personnel and usually operates on full occupancy. It is amazing at breakfast time to see the range of nationalities converged in Banda Aceh.

11. SITUATION OF LIBRARIES IN ACEH, JANUARY 2005

The team had the benefit of a report and vcd on the condition of libraries in Aceh from a visit conducted by a 4 man team from the National Library of Indonesia led by Mr. Dady Rachmananta on 27 – 30 January 2005. The report described the physical condition and the damage suffered by prominent libraries in Aceh including the Badan Perpustakaan Daerah (BPD), the central library of the Provincial Library Services, Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam (NAD), mobile libraries, public libraries, school libraries, special libraries such as the Library and Museum of Al-Hasymy Educational Foundation, the Library of the Grand Mosque Baiturrahman Library and the Aceh Documentation and Information Centre (PDIA).

The above visit reported on the total destruction of public libraries in Meulaboh and Sigli, two of 8 public libraries in Aceh. These were also the areas worst-hit by tsunami. It is estimated that 90% of the inhabitants in these areas perished. No information was obtained about the other six public libraries in Aceh. The almost total destruction of the PDIA, a foremost library with valuable collections of rare books and manuscript is a great loss to the Aceh Heritage. The National Library of Indonesia team which went in January managed to salvage three rare books and

a sheet of the genealogy of the Muslim kings of Aceh. These were taken back to Jakarta for restoration.

Based on the above report, the team was able to assess the progress and development of the libraries which survived the tsunami, namely the central library of the BPD and the Grand Mosque Library more than seven months after the tsunami.

11.1 BPD Central Library

The Central Library has been totally cleared of debris and is undergoing final stages of repair to the childrens' library in the adjoining building. There are still some cracks and signs of damage which will be soon be repaired. The building however is poorly furnished compared to its imposing exterior. Many areas have yet to be equipped with furniture for example, the seminar cum training room, the reading rooms and the childrens' library. The reference area which has just been opened is equipped with temporary furniture. There are about 2000 books on the shelves. The Warintek (Information technology section) is bare and needs to be furnished from scratch. The children's library will also need to be completely furnished and provided with book and collection.

Two mobile libraries have just been received from the National Library of Indonesia to replace the ones damaged beyond repair by the tsunami and are not yet operational. The rebuilding of the central library is being funded by Sampoerna, the Indonesian cigarette company. We were informed that an earlier pledge by a German company was not implemented due to technical reasons. The library however, still needs assistance in other aspects of its rebuilding which is discussed below.

11.2 Baiturrahman Grand Mosque Library

According to the earlier report the building was flooded quite deep and all the books in the library's collection which was on the ground floor were swept away. The structure of the mosque were not badly damaged but was filled with debris and corpses in its compound and surroundings. The mosque became operational two weeks after the tsunami due to the concerted effort of the Aceh government and local population in clearing and cleaning the mosque and its compound. It is now almost back to normal and showed little sign of the calamity which occurred only seven months ago. The mosque library however, located at the back of the mosque with a separate entrance, was reopened recently. The library has at present about 1200 books in its collection. The books have been

donated and the library badly needs to increase the size of the collection as it is very well used especially by mahasiswa or university students. The location of the mosque in the centre of town also makes the library highly accessible. It complements the services of the Central Library in the absence of other public library outlets in the city. There is a need for academic books and journals and books in Bahasa Indonesia, Bahasa Malaysia and English are welcomed. The Children's area of the library was expected to be opened before the end of the year with support from Exxon-Mobil. However, the mosque needs to reaffirm the pledge made by Exxon-Mobil before the tsunami.

As time was limited, we were not able to visit school libraries. But from the earlier report by the National Library of Indonesia team, it was noted that major school libraries in Banda Aceh survived the tsunami with the library collection intact.

11.3 Literacy and reading projects

An interesting development in Aceh is the literacy and reading promotion initiatives undertaken by young volunteers. The volunteers comprise mainly of school teachers, university students and writers. Since the public library system is inadequate, the growth of these literacy programmes help to fill the gap and to meet the needs of children in rural areas. Some of these projects are well organized and have good leadership, including the Phi-Beta Learning Centre, Yayasan Anak Bangsa, Forum Linkar Pena and Children Media Centre. As the projects are voluntary they depend on contributions in cash and kind for their activities.

12. VISITS AND INTERVIEWS

The team had a hectic schedule of visits and interviews from 3 – 4 August in Aceh. We had very good cooperation with the interviews although conditions were not always ideal. The interviews were recorded during visits to various libraries and literacy project centres with the following persons in Banda Aceh and outskirts :-

12.1 **Wednesday, 3rd August 2005**

- (i) Drs. Kamaruddin H. Husein
Head, Provincial Library Services
Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam
- (ii) Ibu Yusnidar
Senior Librarian, Provincial Library Services

Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam

- (iii) Drs. Fauzi Mahmud
Representative
Indonesian Library Association (IPI)
Aceh Branch
- (iv) Dra. Meutia A. Djalil
Honorary Secretary
Indonesian Library Association (IPI)
Aceh Branch
c/o UPT Library,
Syiah Kuala University Library
Darussalam – Banda Aceh.

12.2 Thursday, 4th August, 2005

- (v) Mr. Saiful Mahdi
Programme Coordinator
United Nations Development for Women Fund (UNIFEM)
Project Office in Aceh
- (vi) Mr Muhyiddin
Coordinator, Phi-Beta Learning Centre
Banda Aceh
- (vii) Cik Fauziah Usman
Librarian,
Kompleks Masjid Raya (Grand Mosque) Library
Baiturrahman
Banda Aceh
- (vii) Mr. Abu Bakar Ishak
Ketua Lingkungan (Community Head)
Lingkungan Al-Mukaramah
Punge Jurung
Banda aceh
- (viii) Hermantono
Childrens Media Centre
Banda Aceh
- (ix) Edy Sopyan
Coordinator
Yayasan Anak Bangsa Aceh

Daerah Pendampingan Lambrado,
Aceh besar, NAD

- (x) Cut Intan Mutia
Coordinator
Forum Lingkaran Pena (The Pen Circle Forum)
- (xi) Faizal Riza
Information on rare books and manuscripts at
Pesantren Tanoh Abee
Sulimuem,
Aceh Besar, NAD

13. REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

13.1 **Central Library and Headquarters** **Badan Perpustakaan Provinsi Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam** **Jalan T.Nyak Arief (Lamgugob)** **Banda Aceh**

In interviews with Drs.Kamaruddin H. Husein, the new Head of BPD appointed by the Governor in March 2005 and Ibu Yusnidar, the Library's development plan over the next few years and the assistance required for its implementation was outlined :-

13.1.1 Books for the library's collection

Books are badly needed to replace books destroyed by the tsunami. Hardly any were saved as they were located on the ground floor, except for books received under legal deposit which were on the first floor. Books required are preferably in Bahasa Indonesia and English. Reference books in Bahasa Malaysia are also to supplement the lack of books in the Indonesian language. Books in all subjects are needed for the central library. University libraries in Aceh also lack books in academic subjects and contributions of books in Bahasa Malaysia are welcome.

13.1.2 Tracing of materials on Aceh

The bulk of Aceh documentary heritage in the form of rare books and materials were kept in PDIA were destroyed in the tsunami. There is a need to trace old materials about Aceh in order to rebuild its documented history. Here assistance from other libraries in Indonesia, Brunei, Malaysia, Australia, Netherlands, United Kingdom and the United States in tracing books about Aceh, especially old books and manuscripts. Contributions of facsimile and microfilm copies of these materials would be very welcome.

13.1.3 Vehicles for mobile libraries

Vehicles are needed to operate a rural library service in Aceh. Two newly built mobile libraries donated by the National Library of Indonesia were wrecked in the tsunami and replacements are urgently needed to operate the mobile library service or the Perpustakaan Keliling. The Central Library received two new mini mobile libraries from the National Library of Indonesia about two weeks ago and is now planning the route of the Libraries/ services . However, more mobile libraries are needed to provides services to outlying areas in the province. Drs. Kamaruddin requested for L-300 models (12 passenger van) which is bigger than the mini vans and can carry a bigger book stock. The estimated price of the vehicle before renovation into mobile library is about RM 100,000.00 – 150,000.00. With air-conditioning the price will increase to RM 200,000.00.

13.1.4 Library furniture

Drs. Kamaruddin also emphasized the need for library furniture and equipment for the library, which are needed in the adult section as well as in the newly renovated Children's library. The tsunami wiped out the entire first floor of the library, including books, shelving and furniture. At present, the furniture provided are very basic and do not meet minimum standards for library furniture. Most parts of the library are still bare, including the seminar cum training room and office space. The whole library needs to be refurbished after repairs are completed in order to restore its functionality and ambience.

13.1.5 Funds for rebuilding of district libraries

Funds are needed to rebuild district libraries destroyed in the tsunami, including Meulabuh and Sigli as well as other districts in Aceh Besar. Many areas of Aceh are underserved in respect of library facilities and information services. Funds to meet operating costs of existing libraries are also needed to library services running.

13.1.6 Human resource development

Human resource development and capacity building is now an important and urgent aspect of the rebuilding process. The staff strength of the Aceh provincial library services is badly depleted as it lost some 23 out of 77 of its personnel, including the Head of the service and professional staff. There is a need to recruit and train new staff as well as provide continuing education for existing personnel, including in management and leadership. Morale of the staff need to be restored after the destruction and trauma of the tsunami by a caring, sensitive and positive human resource development programme. There is a need to attract and motivate younger members to the profession as previously there is a tendency for retired or loder people to work in libraries in Aceh.

13.1.6 Computerised integrated library system

Computerised integrated library system of the library along with its telecommunication facilities was also destroyed in the tsunami. The computers and servers on the first floor, although saved from the tsunami were looted from the library. There is a need to rebuild the Local Area Network, create an integrated library system and restore digital library services. The library had installed the WINISIS library software from UNESCO and had implemented the cataloguing and circulation module. At present the library does not have a fixed line as the telecommunication facilities has not yet been restored in many parts of Banda Aceh. So there is no telephone , facsimile or internet facilities in the library. Much needs to be done in order to get the library back into the 21st century in terms of communication facilities.

13.2 Assistance needed by other libraries.

Other libraries visited expressed the urgent need for books to build up the existing collection. There is clearly a dearth of reading materials which to a large extent need to be met by Indonesian books but can be supplemented by books in Bahasa Malaysia and English. This is especially true of the Baiturrahman Grand Mosque Library. The Librarians who were present at BPD also expressed the need for academic books and journals in Bahasa Malaysia and English for University libraries, namely the Syiah Kuala University Library and the Al-Raniri University Library.

13.3 Phi Beta Learning Centre and literacy projects.

There is a crying need for books and reading materials to support the reading and literacy programmes initiated by Phi Beta Learning Centre. The Centre provide loans of books for 10 days at a time and have devised a novel way of involving parents in the reading programmes. The Centre also collects books as part of its activities and provide tuition classes for youth. Reading badges or buttons with the word read are very useful in helping to spread the literacy message.

13.4 Other literacy projects

There are various groups conducting literacy projects in Aceh , especially in resettlement areas for tsunami victims, such as the Yayasan Anak Bangsa, the Forum Lingkar Pena and the Children Media Centre.. Apart from books, writing and drawing materials are also badly needed to sustain the literacy programmes and activities for the tsunami victims and also those in the rural areas. These needs are simple but urgently needed in order to ensure that activities can be carried out regularly by volunteers. The development of literacy and stimulation of the minds of children and youth cannot remain stagnant while waiting for the process of rebuilding of Aceh itself.

The team received two project proposals from the *Forum Lingkar Pena (FLP) NAD* or the Pen Circle Forum NAD. The Forum is an organization initiated by young writers in 1997 and have now about 30 branches in Aceh and in other parts of Indonesia. It began out of concern by a group of University Indonesia Arts Faculty alumnus about the generally dismal interest in reading and writing among Indonesians. The Aceh chapter of FLP started in 2000 and they now have 100 members. They operate from a garage belonging to one of their members, conducting reading activities story-telling, reading sessions and writing workshops. FLP Aceh Branch

submitted two project proposals, including estimated cost of each project for sponsorship :-

(a) *Rumah Cahaya* : BaCa dan Hasilkan KarYa 2005

Rumah Cahaya or House of Enlightenment : Read and Write 2005 which will undertake reading activities, story-telling, special writing classes and seminars. The project involves purchase of a building which apart from rooms for the above activities will provide space for a Secretariat, Guest room, Prayer room, bathroom and is estimated at Rp. 555,375,000.00

(b) **Kampayne Aceh Bangkit Aceh Membaca**

The above campaign which means *Aceh Rises and Aceh Read Campaign*. The campaign is aimed at raising awareness on the importance of reading and writing. The campaign targets tsunami survivors living in shelters around Aceh in order to stimulate their minds and reduce the trauma of the tsunami from prolonging. FLP will mobilize all its surviving members as part of the revival and rebuilding of Aceh following the devastation of the earthquake and tsunami. The cost of campaign publicity materials is estimated at Rp 211,990.

14. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 14.1 PPM undertake the task of mobilizing support and establishing a network for promoting and channeling assistance for the rebuilding of library and information services in Aceh;
- 14.2 Draw attention of relevant authorities in Malaysia to ensure that the rebuilding of library facilities is given urgent consideration and priority in the provision for and rebuilding of infrastructure and services in Aceh.
- 14.3 Draw attention of international community through the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) to the urgent need for rebuilding of library and information services in Aceh.
- 14.4 Mobilise support from the corporate sector and NGOs in Malaysia in order to obtain funds for provision of books and reading materials and vehicles to support library and literacy programmes and activities in Aceh;

- 14.5 Ensure that the leadership and tenacity and tremendous effort shown by the remaining staff of BPD especially Ibu Yusnidar, who was Acting Head in the early days and months of the tsunami, in creating a temporary office and clearing of debris and inside and around the building as well cleaning the building for reuse, be acknowledged and appreciated.
- 14.6 Propose that the National Library of Malaysia lead in providing assistance to the Provincial Library Services of Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam in the following areas :-
- (i) Tracing of documented materials on Aceh, including manuscripts and rare books,
 - (ii) Training through practical attachment in the preservation of its rare books and materials
 - (iii) Include library personnel from Aceh in Leadership training workshop for of top management, Programme of Visits and Attachment middle-management and Basic Course for Library Assistants under the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP).
 - (iv) Provide integrated library system template developed by National Library of Malaysia based on Unesco's WINISIS for small libraries in Aceh and conduct training workshop in its usage.

15. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The members of the Iqra' Mission team and the Librarians Association of Malaysia (PPM) is grateful to the following for financial and support in kind, information and advice which ensured the success of the mission :-

- 15.1 Pesona Pictures Sdn Berhad
- 15.2 Yuha Associates
- 15.3 Alam Teknokrat Sdn. Bhd. (SKALI)
- 15.4 Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka (Language and Literature Agency)
- 15,5 Friends Advertising
- 15.6 Datuk Dr. Baba Md. Deni, Mercy Malaysia

- 15.7 Datuk Yap Nyim Keong, Asian Football Confederation
- 15.8 Mr. Windsor John, FIFA Development Office, Kuala Lumpur
- 15.9 Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Southeast Asia and Pacific Division
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- 15.10 Malaysia Airlines, KLIA
- 15.11 Mr. Yusof Abu Bakar, Consul General Malaysia, Medan
- 15.12 Garuda Airways, Medan
- 15.13 Drs Kamaruddin H. Husein, Head BPD, NAD
- 15.14 Ibu Yusnidar, BPD NAD
- 15.15 Mr. Saiful Mahdi, Phi Beta Learning Centre, Banda Aceh

16. CONCLUSION

As requested by our Indonesian counterparts, The Annual General Meeting of the Librarians' Association of Malaysia (PPM) approved a mission to Aceh to establish contact with library counterparts, to find out the nature of assistance urgently required and how best to deliver this assistance. The Iqra' mission was successfully undertaken from 2 – 5 August 2005 by the PPM team documented. The digital video tapes of the mission will be edited for a video presentation of the visit. The report is submitted for the attention and consideration of the PPM Council and onward transmission to relevant agencies and authorities for attention and assistance in whatever form.

Report prepared by PPM Iqra' Mission team:

Dato' Zawiyah Baba, Head of Mission
Mr. Hasbullah Atan, Coordinator
Mdm Rohani Rustam, Liaison
Mr. Abdul Hamid Abdul Rahman, Cameraman

