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MENDAKI CLUB INVITES YOUNG MALAY/MUSLIMS FROM ALL BACKGROUNDS THROUGH ITS ORIENTATION DAY

On the 8th of September, 2018, MENDAKI Club's (MClub) Young Mind's Club (YMC), held its annual Orientation Day, to introduce the incoming batch of secondary one Malay/Muslim students to the club's vast array of enrichment activities, ranging from community activities all the way to career exposure workshops. More than 100 Malay/Muslim students had the opportunity to mingle with the current YMC members through a series of exciting games, while the parents had the opportunity to attend a panel discussion titled 'Preparing Your Child to be Future Ready' with Member of Parliament, Mr Saktiandi Supaat and Master Teacher for Character and Citizenship Development, Mr Osman Abdullah.

This year, the YMC expanded its outreach beyond the Express stream and invited students from other educational streams as well as Madrasahs. This is a move to help develop and expand our Malay/Muslim students' social capital. "Recently, we have been opening up our activities to Malay/Muslim youths of all backgrounds, gathering feedback and tuning our activities to ensure that they can benefit all student profiles. Especially with the evolving economic landscape, we feel that all Malay/Muslim secondary school students can benefit from our wide range of free enrichment activities, such as coding workshops, Photoshop workshops and Values-In-Action activities. We see the YMC as a good opportunity to expose our Malay/Muslim students to other students of different backgrounds as well as volunteers and professionals to build their social capital," says the Orientation Day

Project Director and MClub's YMC Executive Committee Member, Mr Masagos 'Umar Masagos Zulkifli.

In his sharing with parents, Mr Saktiandi Supaat elaborated on the benefits of social capital that the students can gain in YMC. "As a YMC member, your child will have the advantage of growing up with not only other liked-minded Malay/Muslim children, but also adult professionals who are invested in helping your children succeed. The knowledge, experiences and values that your child will learn as they grow up with YMC will truly be essential to their success in life. Maybe your child will get influenced by the diligence of a fellow student, realise the importance of studying and start to work as hard as him or her. Maybe your child will be inspired by the Abangs and Kakaks around them and strive to emulate their passion for the community."

The event itself was testament to the effects of the social capital that YMC has on its members as it was largely organised by secondary school students with the guidance of the MClub adult volunteers. The students were empowered to plan for the event and make decisions in areas such as event decoration, videography, gift bags, games, emceeing and logistics. Among all the students, Nur Zalifah Md Zaini, a Secondary 4 student from Tanjong Katong Girls School, stood out as a student organiser and was among 5 other students who were given the YMC Distinguished Contribution award. "YMC has given me so many opportunities to challenge myself. Through my journey in YMC, I have also learnt to develop strong teamwork and communication skills with YMC members as well as the adults. The program has also turned me into a more confident and resilient person who is also willing to contribute back to the community and take up more leadership positions. The adult mentors have been crucial to my development, as they would observe me during our activities and give me insightful feedback and advice, which has helped me to identify my mistakes and continuously improve myself."

YMC membership is still open to any interested Malay/Muslim student between Secondary 1 and 4. Sign up at <http://bit.ly/ymcdaftar>.

Media Contact

Masagos 'Umar Bin Masagos Zulkifli
MENDAKI Club Executive Committee Member
Telephone: 91145352 (M)
Email: umar.masagos13@alumni.imperial.ac.uk

Pictures



Panel discussion with MP Saktiandi and Mr Osman



Students and facilitators gathered at the end of the event for a joyous photo together



Mr Suhaimi Zainal Shah, an adult volunteer, presenting the Distinguished Contribution Award to Nur Zalifah Binte Zaini.



ABOUT MENDAKI CLUB

MENDAKI Club, or MClub, is a community of Malay/Muslim young professionals and students who are engaged in affairs concerning the community, Singapore and the world. We engage in strategic youth development initiatives and participate actively in discussions on current developments in the local and global arena. We also strive to build bridges within the Malay/Muslim community, and between our community and other communities, to promote mutual understanding and cooperation.

MClub was launched in 2000 by then-DPM Lee Hsien Loong and constantly seeks new and interested individuals to be part of its community. As a registered society and affiliated to the Malay/Muslim Self-Help Group Yayasan MENDAKI, the activities and programmes of MClub are largely organised and run by volunteers from a wide range of professions and backgrounds.

VISION

A dynamic and progressive young generation of Malay/Muslim Singaporeans with a strong commitment to society and plugged into the global community.

MISSION

Our mission is to engage young Malay/Muslim Singaporeans through Thought and Action. We do this by fostering a community of young Malay/Muslim professionals which:

- *Build bridges within the Malay/Muslim community, and between our community and other communities, to promote mutual understanding and cooperation*
- *Participate actively in discussions on current developments in the local and global arena.*
- *Engage in strategic youth development initiatives to act as positive agents of change in the community and nation*

ABOUT YOUNG MINDS CLUB

Young Mind's Club (YMC) aims at enabling its youths to become **confident individuals** and **competent leaders**, both willing and able to **contribute meaningfully** to society.

We hope to educate our members on the different socio-economic issues faced by our Muslim community. YMC hope to encourage active participation and contribution of its members towards helping the community at large.

YMC also aims to expose its members to a variety of professions and skills, to inspire them to think about their future. We hope to provide YMC members with a wealth of information to make well-informed choices throughout their educational journey.