



KUCHING BRANCH

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

2022

ADVOCATES' ASSOCIATION OF SARAWAK

KUCHING BRANCH

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

PERIOD

(26th November , 2021 to 24th November, 2022)

It has been almost 23 months since this committee took office.

We had set up various Sub Committees to allow smooth flow of activities and programmes that the Association could participated and organised.

Sub-committees

Civil Procedure	: Desmond Sahathevan
Criminal Procedure	: Saifunnizam Sam
Continuing Legal Education & Etiquette Course	: Desmond Sahathevan, Sarbjit Singh Khaira & Colin Lai
Conveyancing & Corporate Affairs	: Emeric Teo & Louis Ng
Syariah Law	: Benny Zaidy, Dayangku Sa'adiah Binti Awang Hipni
Industrial Court & Labour Law	: Liew Tang Chieh
Dinners & Get Togethers	: Liew Tang Chieh & Dayangku Sa'adiah Binti Awang Hipni
Native Customary Rights	: Bartholomew Lopez
Website & IT	: Emeric Teo & Nicholas Wung

Bar Room & Secretariat	: Benny Zaidy & Saifunnizam Sam
YBGK & Human Rights	: Dayangku Sa'adiyah Binti Awang Hipni & Bartholomew Lopezo Lopez
Lawyers & Sports	: Alan Bong
Law Awareness Day	: Sarbjit Singh Khaira

Despite severally restricted by the pandemic the Kuching Branch has been able to participate and organize some activities for members. This report covers the activities of the Kuching Branch from 26.11.2021 to 24.11.2022 and also activities and programs in which we had represented our Kuching member.

The Activities and events that took place during the period under review are set out under the various headings appearing below.

OPENING OF LEGAL YEAR

1. OLY 2022 for Malaysian was held in Putra Jaya on 14th January 2022 in compliance with Covid 19 restrictions via Zoom. AAS Kuching Branch was represent by the Chairman via zoom
2. OLY 2022 for Sabah and Sarawak was held in Kota Kinabalu Sabah on 20.1.2022. in light of Covid restrictions only the members of the Central committee were invited to attend. AAS Kuching Branch Chairman was represented by Dayangku Saadiyah

CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

1. Advocacy Training was held via Zoom on 7th, 8th and 14th January 2022. It was organised by Mr Desmond and there were 24 participants.
We had trainers from Sabah Law Society and Malaysian Bar assisting our Sarawak trainers in conducting the training.
2. Advocacy Training was held via Zoom on 10th, 11th and 12th June 2022. It was organised by Mr Desmond and there were 8 Participants for advocacy training and 6 senior lawyers trained to be trainers for future training. We had trainers from Sabah Law Society and Malaysian Bar assisting our Sarawak trainers in conducting the trainings.
3. Advocacy Training course was held via Zoom on 14th, 15th and 20th October 2022. It was organised by Mr Desmond and there were 32 Participants
We had trainers from Sabah Law Society and Malaysian Bar assisting our Sarawak trainers in conducting the training.
4. Etiquette course was conducted on 21.5.2022 via zoom. It was participated by 90 participants. It was organised by Mr Desmond Sahathevan together with his subcommittee.
5. YBGK training was conducted on 16.7.2022 at UPC. Though the training was organised by Central committee, Puan Dayangku Saadiah Kuching branch had assisted in its organisation. The trainers were Mr Abdul Rahman Hazmi and Mr Simon Siah.
6. There was Informal Get Together held on 25th March 2022 at Perdu Café. The Topic was : An Introduction to Advocates Association of Sarawak by Mr Sarbjit Khaira
7. There was an Informal Get Together held 13th May 2022 at Noir Bar. The Topic was : The Industrial Relations (Amended) Act 2022 by Mr Arthur Lee Cheng Chuan and Hii Yew Heng

8. There was an informal get together held on 29th July 2022 at Noir Bar. The topic was - Civil Procedure – A Basic Overview by Mr Desmond Sahathevan and Mr Adrian Chew
9. There was also a talk jointly organised by AAS Kuching Branch and Pertubuhan Insuran Sarawak on 17th June 2022. The Topic was “The Common Misconception on Validity of Motor Insurance Policy “the Speakers were Sarbjit Singh Khaira and Liew Tang Chieh. It was attended by about 70 participants

DIALOGUES / MEETINGS

1. There was a meeting with CJSS on 30th March 2022 at High Court, Kuching. Most of AAS Committee members attended the meeting. Various issues were discussed
2. There was a reference Proceedings held for 3 departed Sarawakian Judges on 14th June 22 at High Court Kuching. Though it was organised by the central committee but Kuching Branch assisted in many aspects.
3. There was a Meeting with representative of Singapore Law, Mr Anil Changoroth who is the vice chair of their International Relations Committee on 8th, July 2022. All members of AAS Committee Members branch attended. We discussed about development of law in these two countries, how Singapore law society could work with AAS to organise trainings and Seminars for professional development.
4. Kuching Branch also participated in Judiciary’s program called “”Jelajah Kehakiman”. The event was held 24th & 25th September 2022 at Plaza Merdeka. Kuching where we had a booth to disseminate information about YBGK and the role of AAS in the legal profession. It was overseen by Mr Desmond and Alan Bong amongst others.
5. Kuching Branch through Puan Dayangku Saadiah also represented AAS for Majlis Perasmian Bangunan Suruhanjaya Syrikat Malaysia Sarawak on 12th November 2022 .
6. Kuching Branch committee through Mr Emeric and Mr Bartholomew, actively involved in giving feedback for the Website Rules and AI of sentencing.

7. Kuching branch through Mr Emeric and Mr Louis Ng also assisted numerous members in problems faced with Land & Survey department.

FACILITIES FOR LAWYERS

1. AAS Kuching branch has set up a Bar Room for the convenience and comfort of lawyers attending Samarahan Court. It was set up and Launched on 9th March 2022 together With Puan Iris, the Sessions Court Judge at Samarahan Court.
2. Kuching Branch is in the process of obtaining fans to be placed in open Court room, Kuching Courts for the comfort of the Lawyers attending courts. We have been made to understand that air conditioning system ifor the whole building has broken down and it would take a couple of months to reinstate as it involves major works.

SPORTS ACTIVITIES

1. AAS had received invitation from KL Bar Committee to participate in some invitational sports however only the Golf team took up the offer. A total of 12 Golfers (mainly from Kuching) represented AAS Sarawak for the trip to Kuala Lumpur from 15-17 September 2022.
2. All other Sports Activities could not be carried out due to the restrictions imposed by Covid-19.

APPRECIATION

I will not be seeking any re-election as Chairman of AAS Kuching Branch. It about time I take a back seat and allow other lawyers to head Kuching Branch. I am proud and thankful for being given the opportunity to be involved in AAS for more than 18 years in various capacities. I would also like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks and

appreciation to my fellow Kuching Branch Committee Members, namely Desmond Sahathevan, Benny Zaidy Bin Jalil, Liew Tang Chieh, Dayangku Sa'adiah, Bartholomew Lopez, Saifunnizam Bin Sam, Nicholas Wung, Emeric Teo, Alan Bong and all sub Committee members like Louis Ng and Colin Lai.

I also thank all members for their kind cooperation, commitment and support and would encourage more members to participate in AAS sub committees and support events organised by our Branch.

Thank You.

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SARBJIT SINGH KHAIRA

Branch Chairman

Dated: 24.11.2022