



## **BULAN BAHASA 2016: FACT SHEET**

### **1. About Bulan Bahasa**

Bulan Bahasa was first launched in 1988 by the Malay Language Council, Singapore, as an initiative to encourage the Malay community to embrace the Malay language and culture in their daily lives. From being a biennial event, Bulan Bahasa, since 2012, has become an annual event. The various activities of Bulan Bahasa have been created to promote and instill greater confidence in and mastery of the Malay language.

### **2. Themes of Bulan Bahasa 2016**

The Malay Language Month 2016 invites us to use the Malay Language as a means of obtaining and sharing knowledge (*Ilmu*), of communicating and preserving culture (*Budaya*), and of strengthening our social ties and relationships (*Mesra*).

The Malay language as “*Ilmu, Budaya, Mesra*” reflects its importance throughout all layers of society. When we use the Malay language, we are able to preserve knowledge and culture, as well as foster ties that matter. The Malay language will also be conserved through its continued use, allowing us to pass it on to the future generations.

### **3. Where and when will Bulan Bahasa 2016 be launched? What are some of the highlights?**

Bulan Bahasa 2016 will be launched on Saturday 3 September at the National Museum of Singapore, by Guest of Honour Mr Ng Chee Meng, Acting Minister for Education (Schools) and Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Transport.

The launch weekend will feature many programmes and performances by partners, museum tours by Rakan Bahasa (students and Friends of the Language), activities presented by participating schools, as well as *silat* demonstrations throughout the day. In the evening and at the lawn of the National Museum, there will be two concerts, “*Singa Maksima*” and “*Konsert Koprata dan Rausyanfikir*”.

Bulan Bahasa 2016 will also see the launch of a new series of notebooks, containing language tips and *syair* that the public can collect during selected Bulan Bahasa events throughout the month.

The series of Semarak activities for Bulan Bahasa 2016 will end on 15 October 2016.

### **4. How can the public get involved?**

The public is welcome to join in the fun and celebration during the Bulan Bahasa 2016 launch weekend at the National Museum of Singapore on 3 & 4 September 2016, where there will be lots of games, performances and activities all about the Malay language and culture.

The Malay Language Month will feature many programmes that will cater to a variety of age and interest groups that have been organized by partners. These include storytelling sessions by the National Book Development Council of Singapore, creative writing workshops by the National



Library Board, theatre productions by performing arts groups, as well as competitions by various MAECs (Malay Activity Executive Committee) across the island.