

Malaysia 2010

June is too nice a month in Ontario to want to travel to Borneo. However, June is the month of graduations at Yayasan Pintu, a Bible School for Dayak's in Indonesia.

Dayak's are the beautiful people from the interior of Borneo, now called Kalimantan, Indonesia. They are the grandchildren of men who liked to kill and eat their enemies. It will be an amazing thing to see them in cap and gown.

As I am writing this, we are 'decompressing' in Kuala Lumpur after flying the last 1 ½ days from Toronto through Dubai. It is a balmy 29C here compared to 45C in Dubai. It is an amazing thing to walk out of the Dubai airport after midnight and feel like you are stepping into a pizza oven.

John Brans, an old friend and co-worker from the Ontario Government, is my traveling companion on this trip. John volunteers in many capacities with Partners International.

I have attached a map of our flight schedule in South East Asia. As you can see, we have more than a few start and stops as we cover lots of territory in Indonesia. The next flight (cost: \$10 before taxes!) is a short hop, 1 hour flight to Singapore. After that, we jump from island to island, over a territory about the size of the United States, with water added.

We will be visiting several completely unique ethnic areas of Indonesia. The people of Indonesia vary from the sophisticated, western influenced businessmen of Jakarta to the bones-in-noses, tribal areas of Papua.

We will stop in Manado on the island of Celebes (Sulawesi); Ambon, the home of the Ambonese, sometimes called Moluccan people; Balinese Hindus, and, as mentioned the Dayak people of Borneo (Kalimantan).

Today (Sunday) we met with Christians in our Partner churches in Singapore and visited the headquarters of Partners International (CNEC-Singapore) in this amazing city. Millions of dollars now come from the Singapore churches, started among refugees a very few decades ago. The churches are



working in developing areas among tribal people in China and throughout Southeast Asia, in the same way they were helped in the 1950's.



This may be the most incredible building I have ever seen. Singapore, a city of refugees one generation ago, has some of the most amazing buildings in the world. 3 x 60 story buildings, the Marina Bay Sands, Singapore, joined on top by a boat-like structure, with an outdoor park and greenery on top!

Much of the rest of this trip will be focussed on daughter and granddaughter ministries that have sprung up in Indonesia. Each ministry is developing its own vision and methodology to reach places we can rarely go.

The next 10 days will be a blur of meeting these key leaders between flights to the spice islands of Indonesia.

Phil Dempster



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