

Monsopiad Cultural Village's Map



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|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 House of Skull | 13 'Pagahavatan' |
| 2 MCV Information Board | 14 Moyog River |
| 3 Main Entrance | 15 Performance Stage |
| 4 Entrance Gong | 16 'Gintutun Do Mohoing' |
| 5 Administration Office | 17 'Hamin Pobuvatan' |
| 6 'Hamin Bakaang' | 18 'Husap' |
| 7 'Tangkob' | 19 'Danau' |
| 8 'Kotos' | 20 Traditional Games/Sport |
| 9 Riverside Cafe | 21 Handicraft Hut |
| 10 Suspension Bridge | 22 Sumpit Hut |
| 11 Jetty | 23 'Hamin Tinandai' |
| 12 Warrior Boat | 24 Future Development |

Daily Program

The Village is open **Daily** from **9.00am** to **6.00pm**

Guided Tour: **10.00am**, **12.00pm**, **3.00pm** and **5.00pm**

Cultural Show : **11.00am**, **2.00pm** and **4.00pm**

We also organize/cater:

- *Traditional Lunch/Dinner and Hi-tea packages with Cultural Show*
- *Cultural and Musical performance for hire*
- *Traditional Kadazan Wedding*

HOUSE OF SKULLS

Visit the legendary house that displays the 42 skulls of Monsopiad's victims and a thigh bone of the giant Gantang and gain an insight into the past pagan era of the Kadazan people. Don't miss this opportunity to view this unique rustic village, the only one of its kind set amidst serene hills in the outskirts of Kota Kinabalu.



MONSOPIAD CULTURAL VILLAGE SDN. BHD.

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Monsopiad Cultural Village

MONSOPIAD CULTURAL VILLAGE



**Kampung Kuai Kandazon Penampang,
Sabah, Malaysia**

***Commitment towards the
preservation of the Kadazan tradition
and culture***

"You have not seen Sabah if you have not visited the Monsopiad Cultural

Mr. Roger Crowhurst, International Adventure Journalist (Best Foreign Journalist Award, Sarawak, Malaysia 1998 & 1999) on his visit to the village on 20th June 1999.

Introduction

The Monsopiad Cultural Village founded in 1996, in memory of the great Kadazan warrior and head-hunter Monsopiad. The traditional village is a historical site, and the only Kadazan Cultural Village in Sabah. It was built on the very land where Monsopiad lived and roamed some three centuries ago. Take a step back into the past, to the days of head hunting and spirit worship, to the days when the Bobohizan, the female high priestess of the Kadazan ruled the villages and took care of the health and spiritual well-being of their people. The village has been built entirely with traditional materials, the way the Kadazan have until recently erected their houses. It offers many an interesting insight into the daily life of the biggest ethnic entity in Sabah, the Kadazan. Traditional dances and music are being performed on a regular basis—Monsopiad Cultural Village is a living museum. More than being a museum, the concept of the Monsopiad Cultural Village is to document, revive and keep alive the culture and traditions, as well as the believes of the Kadazan community.

The village aims at becoming a centre of research and dissemination of information for the cultural, historical and natural heritage of the Kadazan and its objectives are to record the wisdom of the Bobohizan and to write down the old stories and legends, document and keep alive traditional craft and teach and perform the traditional music and dances.

Through informal educational ways, the village aims at assisting in creating a cultured and knowledgeable society, and instilling pride amongst the many ethnic entities in Sabah. The Kadazan culture has a long history and is now amongst the countless colourful and exciting traditional heritages that make the charm of Malaysia and lure every year thousands of international tourists.

Project at the Monsopiad Cultural Village

The village is run by the direct descendants of Monsopiad. Some humble research on traditional music and dances as well as handicrafts has been done. However it is of utmost urgency that the age-old wisdom of the few remaining bobohizan be collected, written down and translated, and eventually analyzed. Equally the old legends and traditions, the rites and ceremonies have to be reassembled and documented for future generations. You can help to assure continuous studies, as well as the regular maintenance and running of the cultural village. At Monsopiad Cultural Village every visitor contributes directly to the conservation of one of Malaysia's ever so rich cultural heritages. Your patronage and support is very much needed and appreciated.

Monsopiad Cultural Village Sdn Bhd Mission

More than being a living museum, the Monsopiad Cultural Village aims at studying, conserving, keeping alive and sharing the rich cultural and ancient traditional heritage of the Kadazan in Sabah. Traditional activities such as the beads making and weaving mats are performed and taught on a regular basis.

The Last Headhunter

Monsopiad was a famous headhunter some three hundred years ago; his direct descendants keep and look after his hunting trophies. And the Bobohizan, the Kadazan ritual specialists, perform ancient ceremonies on a regular basis to maintain harmony between human beings, nature, and spiritual world.

The Bobohizan

The Bobohizan are the ritual specialists of the Kadazan community of Sabah. Treasuring an age-old mystical wisdom. They have acquired medial powers and herbal knowledge in years of apprenticeship with an experienced Bohungkitas, a high priestess. The Bobohizan looked after the well being of their people as their spiritual leaders, and medical specialists. They maintained harmony between human beings, nature and spiritual world.

The Skulls

Three hundred years ago, a warrior named Monsopiad defended his village. So great was his power, that no enemy could match him. Throughout his life, Monsopiad took 42 skulls as a proof of his prowess. The skulls are now being looked after by his direct descendants, who adhere faithfully to the old customs and traditions, testimony of an old and proud culture.

Tapai (Rice-wine)

The Kadazan virtually like all the ethnic entities in Borneo have found ways to ferment rice, their staple food. An integral aspect of their cultures, tapai, which is too many international travelers synonym to rice-wine, is a must at celebrations, especially during the harvest festival in Sabah in May. Often, rice-wine is tasted through a straw from the jar in which it was left to ferment!

Cross-Cultural Experiences

The Monsopiad Cultural Village is open to groups for dinner & show in the evening as well. Local and international visitors can taste the delicious traditional local foods and drinks and also try their hunting skills with the indigenous blow-pipe or perform the breathtakingly fast head-hunters dance, the Anggalang/Magunatip.