

For Six Month Period Ending APR 30, 2008
(Insert date)

I - REGISTRANT

1. (a) Name of Registrant (b) Registration No.
MALAYSIA TOURISM PROMOTION BOARD 2510

(c) Business Address(es) of Registrant
818 WEST SEVENTH ST., SUITE 970
LOS ANGELES, CA 90017

2. Has there been a change in the information previously furnished in connection with the following:

(a) If an individual:
(1) Residence address(es) Yes No
(2) Citizenship Yes No
(3) Occupation Yes No

(b) If an organization:
(1) Name Yes No
(2) Ownership or control Yes No
(3) Branch offices Yes No

(c) Explain fully all changes, if any, indicated in items (a) and (b) above.
Not applicable

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IF THE REGISTRANT IS AN INDIVIDUAL, OMIT RESPONSE TO ITEMS 3, 4 AND 5(a).

3. If you have previously filed Exhibit C¹, state whether any changes therein have occurred during this 6 month reporting period.
Yes No

If yes, have you filed an amendment to the Exhibit C? Yes No Not applicable

If no, please attach the required amendment.
Not applicable

4. (a) Have any persons ceased acting as partners, officers, directors or similar officials of the registrant during this 6 month reporting period? Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name Position Date connection ended

Not applicable

(b) Have any persons become partners, officers, directors or similar officials during this 6 month reporting period?

Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name Residence address Citizenship Position Date assumed

Not applicable

5. (a) Has any person named in item 4(b) rendered services directly in furtherance of the interests of any foreign principal?

Yes No

If yes, identify each such person and describe his service.

Not applicable

(b) Have any employees or individuals, who have filed a short form registration statement, terminated their employment or connection with the registrant during this 6 month reporting period? Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name Position or connection Date terminated

Not applicable

(c) During this 6 month reporting period, has the registrant hired as employees or in any other capacity, any persons who rendered or will render services to the registrant directly in furtherance of the interests of any foreign principal(s) in other than a clerical or secretarial, or in a related or similar capacity? Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name Residence address Citizenship Position Date assumed

Not applicable

6. Have short form registration statements been filed by all of the persons named in Items 5(a) and 5(c) of the supplemental statement?

Yes No

If no, list names of persons who have not filed the required statement.

II - FOREIGN PRINCIPAL

7. Has your connection with any foreign principal ended during this 6 month reporting period?

Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name of foreign principal

Date of termination

Not applicable

8. Have you acquired any new foreign principal² during this 6 month reporting period?

Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name and address of foreign principal

Date acquired

Not applicable

9. In addition to those named in Items 7 and 8, if any, list foreign principals² whom you continued to represent during the 6 month reporting period.

Malaysia Tourism Promotion Board, which comes under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Tourism Government of Malaysia.

10. EXHIBITS A AND B

(a) Have you filed for each of the newly acquired foreign principals in Item 8 the following:

| | | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Exhibit A ³ | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Exhibit B ⁴ | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | Not applicable |

If no, please attach the required exhibit.

(b) Have there been any changes in the Exhibits A and B previously filed for any foreign principal whom you represented during the 6 month period? Yes No

Not applicable

If yes, have you filed an amendment to these exhibits? Yes No

If no, please attach the required amendment.

² The term "foreign principal" includes, in addition to those defined in Section 1(b) of the Act, an individual organization any of whose activities are directly or indirectly supervised, directed, controlled, financed, or subsidized in whole or in major part by a foreign government, foreign political party, foreign organization or foreign individual. (See Rule 100(a) (9).) A registrant who represents more than one foreign principal is required to list in the statements he files under the Act only those principals for whom he is not entitled to claim exemption under Section 3 of the Act. (See Rule 208.)

³ The Exhibit A, which is filed on Form NSD-3 (Formerly CRM-157), sets forth the information required to be disclosed concerning each foreign principal.

⁴ The Exhibit B, which is filed on Form NSD-4 (Formerly CRM-155), sets forth the information concerning the agreement or understanding between the registrant and the foreign principal.

III - ACTIVITIES

11. During this 6 month reporting period, have you engaged in any activities for or rendered any services to any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, and 9 of this statement? Yes No

If yes, identify each such foreign principal and describe in full detail your activities and services:

Foreign principal is as stated above in item 9 i.e., the Malaysia Tourism Promotion Board, Ministry of Tourism, Government of Malaysia.

Our activities and services are in the way of promoting tourism to Malaysia by way of advertisement, dissemination of brochures, pamphlets and through Trade Shows/Expositions. (Please see Appendix A).

12. During this 6 month reporting period, have you on behalf of any foreign principal engaged in political activity⁵ as defined below? Yes No

If yes, identify each such foreign principal and describe in full detail all such political activity, indicating, among other things, the relations, interests and policies sought to be influenced and the means employed to achieve this purpose. If the registrant arranged, sponsored or delivered speeches, lectures or radio and TV broadcasts, give details as to dates and places of delivery, names of speakers and subject matter.

Not applicable

13. In addition to the above described activities, if any, have you engaged in activity on your own behalf which benefits any or all of your foreign principals? Yes No

If yes, describe fully.

Not applicable

⁵ The term "political activities" means any activity that the person engaging in believes will, or that the person intends to, in any way influence any agency or official of the Government of the United States or any section of the public within the United States with reference to formulating, adopting or changing the domestic or foreign policies of the United States or with reference to the political or public interests, policies, or relations of a government of a foreign country or a foreign political party.

IV - FINANCIAL INFORMATION

14. (a) RECEIPTS - MONIES

During this 6 month reporting period, have you received from any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement, or from any other source, for or in the interests of any such foreign principal, any contributions, income or money either as compensation or otherwise? Yes [X] No []

If no, explain why.

If yes, set forth below in the required detail and separately for each foreign principal an account of such monies⁶.

Date From whom Purpose Amount

Please refer to Appendix B

Total

(b) RECEIPTS - FUND RAISING CAMPAIGN

During this 6 month reporting period, have you received, as part of a fund raising campaign⁷, any money on behalf of any foreign principal named in items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement? Yes [] No []

If yes, have you filed an Exhibit D⁸ to your registration? Yes [] No [X]

If yes, indicate the date the Exhibit D was filed. Date _____

(c) RECEIPTS - THINGS OF VALUE

During this 6 month reporting period, have you received any thing of value⁹ other than money from any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement, or from any other source, for or in the interests of any such foreign principal? Yes [] No [X]

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name of foreign principal Date received Description of thing of value Purpose

Not applicable

6, 7 A registrant is required to file an Exhibit D if he collects or receives contributions, loans, money, or other things of value for a foreign principal, as part of a fund raising campaign. (See Rule 201(e).)

8 An Exhibit D, for which no printed form is provided, sets forth an account of money collected or received as a result of a fund raising campaign and transmitted for a foreign principal.

9 Things of value include but are not limited to gifts, interest free loans, expense free travel, favored stock purchases, exclusive rights, favored treatment over competitors, "kickbacks," and the like.

15. (a) **DISBURSEMENTS - MONIES**

During this 6 month reporting period, have you

(1) disbursed or expended monies in connection with activity on behalf of any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement? Yes No

(2) transmitted monies to any such foreign principal? Yes No

If no, explain in full detail why there were no disbursements made on behalf of any foreign principal.

If yes, set forth below in the required detail and separately for each foreign principal an account of such monies, including monies transmitted, if any, to each foreign principal.

| Date | To whom | Purpose | Amount |
|------|---------|---------|--------|
|------|---------|---------|--------|

Please refer to enclosed Appendix C

Total

(b) DISBURSEMENTS – THINGS OF VALUE

During this 6 month reporting period, have you disposed of anything of value¹⁰ other than money in furtherance of or in connection with activities on behalf of any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement?

Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

| Date disposed | Name of person to whom given | On behalf of what foreign principal | Description of thing of value | Purpose |
|---------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------|
|---------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------|

Not applicable

(c) DISBURSEMENTS – POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

During this 6 month reporting period, have you from your own funds and on your own behalf either directly or through any other person, made any contributions of money or other things of value¹¹ in connection with an election to any political office, or in connection with any primary election, convention, or caucus held to select candidates for political office?

Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

| Date | Amount or thing of value | Name of political organization | Name of candidate |
|------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|
|------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|

Not applicable

^{10, 11} Things of value include but are not limited to gifts, interest free loans, expense free travel, favored stock purchases, exclusive rights, favored treatment over competitors, "kickbacks" and the like.

V - INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

16. During this 6 month reporting period, did you prepare, disseminate or cause to be disseminated any informational materials¹²?

Yes No

IF YES, RESPOND TO THE REMAINING ITEMS IN SECTION V.

17. Identify each such foreign principal.

Our information materials were distributed to trade and consumers who attended the Travel Shows/Presentation as listed on Appendix A3.

18. During this 6 month reporting period, has any foreign principal established a budget or allocated a specified sum of money to finance your activities in preparing or disseminating informational materials? Yes No

If yes, identify each such foreign principal, specify amount, and indicate for what period of time.

Expenses to disseminate our information materials is derived from our Head Office, Malaysia Tourism Promotion Board.

19. During this 6 month reporting period, did your activities in preparing, disseminating or causing the dissemination of informational materials include the use of any of the following:

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Radio or TV broadcasts | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Magazine or newspaper articles | <input type="checkbox"/> Motion picture films | <input type="checkbox"/> Letters or telegrams |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Advertising campaigns | <input type="checkbox"/> Press releases | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pamphlets or other publications | <input type="checkbox"/> Lectures or speeches |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Internet | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____ | | |

20. During this 6 month reporting period, did you disseminate or cause to be disseminated informational materials among any of the following groups:

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public officials | <input type="checkbox"/> Newspapers | <input type="checkbox"/> Libraries |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Legislators | <input type="checkbox"/> Editors | <input type="checkbox"/> Educational institutions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Government agencies | <input type="checkbox"/> Civic groups or associations | <input type="checkbox"/> Nationality groups |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____ | Distributed at the Trade Shows/Presentation as listed in Appendix A3 | |

21. What language was used in the informational materials:

- English Other (specify) _____

22. Did you file with the Registration Unit, U.S. Department of Justice a copy of each item of such informational materials disseminated or caused to be disseminated during this 6 month reporting period? Yes No

23. Did you label each item of such informational materials with the statement required by Section 4(b) of the Act?

Yes No

¹² The term informational materials includes any oral, visual, graphic, written, or pictorial information or matter of any kind, including that published by means of advertising, books, periodicals, newspapers, lectures, broadcasts, motion pictures, or any means or instrumentality of interstate or foreign commerce or otherwise. Informational materials disseminated by an agent of a foreign principal as part of an activity in itself exempt from registration, or an activity which by itself would not require registration, need not be filed pursuant to Section 4(b) of the Act.

VI - EXECUTION

In accordance with 28 U.S.C. §1746, the undersigned swear(s) or affirm(s) under penalty of perjury that he/she has (they have) read the information set forth in this registration statement and the attached exhibits and that he/she is (they are) familiar with the contents thereof and that such contents are in their entirety true and accurate to the best of his/her (their) knowledge and belief, except that the undersigned make(s) no representation as to the truth or accuracy of the information contained in the attached Short Form Registration Statement(s), if any, insofar as such information is not within his/her (their) personal knowledge.

(Date of signature)

(Type or print name under each signature¹³)

05/15/08



Mohamed Amin Yahya
Vice President
Western USA/Latin America
Malaysia Tourism Promotion Board

¹³ This statement shall be signed by the individual agent, if the registrant is an individual, or by a majority of those partners, officers, directors or persons performing similar functions, if the registrant is an organization, except that the organization can, by power of attorney, authorize one or more individuals to execute this statement on its behalf.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FARA REGISTRATION UNIT
NATIONAL SECURITY DIVISION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20530

NOTICE

Please answer the following questions and return this sheet in triplicate with your Supplemental Statement:

1. Is your answer to Item 16 of Section V (Informational Materials – page 8 of Form NSD-2, formerly Form CRM-154 Supplemental Statement):

YES _____ X _____ or NO _____

(If your answer to question 1 is "yes" do not answer question 2 of this form.)

2. Do you disseminate any material in connection with your registration:

YES _____ X _____ or NO _____

(If your answer to question 2 is "yes" please forward for our review copies of all material including: films, film catalogs, posters, brochures, press releases, etc. which you have disseminated during the past six months.)



Signature

05/19/08

Date

MOHAMED AMIN YAHYA

Please type or print name of
Signatory on the line above

VICE PRESIDENT WESTERN USA/LATIN AMERICAS

Title



U.S. Department of Justice
National Security Division

Washington, DC 20530

THIS FORM IS TO BE AN OFFICIAL ATTACHMENT TO YOUR CURRENT SUPPLEMENTAL
STATEMENT - PLEASE EXECUTE IN TRIPPLICATE

SHORT-FORM REGISTRATION INFORMATION SHEET

SECTION A

The Department records list active short-form registration statements for the following persons of your organization filed on the date indicated by each name. If a person is not still functioning in the same capacity directly on behalf of the foreign principal, please show the date of termination.

Short Form List for Registrant: Malaysia Tourism Promotion Board

| Last Name | First Name and Other Names | Registration Date | Termination Date | Role |
|-----------|----------------------------|-------------------|------------------|------|
| Yahya | Mohamed Amin | 09/06/2006 | | |

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U.S. Department of Justice

National Security Division

Washington, DC 20530

SECTION B

In addition to those persons listed in Section A, list below all current employees rendering services directly on behalf of the foreign principals(s) who have not filed short-form registration statements. (Do not list clerks, secretaries, typists or employees in a similar or related capacity). If there is some question as to whether an employee has an obligation to file a short-form, please address a letter to the Registration Unit describing the activities and connection with the foreign principal.

| Name | Function | Date Hired |
|---------------|------------------------|----------------|
| NORAZMI OMAR | DEPUTY DIRECTOR | JULY 01, 2007 |
| ROBINDER KAUR | SENIOR DEPUTY DIRECTOR | MARCH 01, 2008 |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

Signature:  Date: 05/15/08
Title: VICE PRESIDENT
WESTERN USA/LATIN AMERICA

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APPENDIX A(1)

**Advertising Insertion on Malaysia
From May 2007 – October 2007**

| No. | Published Date | Publication |
|-------------|-----------------------|--|
| Newspaper : | | |
| 1. | 11/23, 11/16, 11/30 | India West c/o A Touch of Class 4917 Genesta Ave Encino, CA 91316 |
| 2 | 11/09, 11/16,11/23 | Thang Mo Magazine c/o Deluxe Holidays 15351 Brookhurst St., Ste 108, Westminster, CA 92683 |
| Magazine : | | |
| 1. | Oct-Nov 2007 | Sport Diver c/o Travel Masters 1001 W. Anderson Lane Austin, TX 78757 |
| 2. | March 08 April 08 | Southland Golf c/o ITC Golf Tours 2428 Lewis Ave Signal Hill, CA 90755-3452 |
| 3. | February 08 | Budget Travel c/o Ssyang Holidays 220 Montgomeray St, Ste 469 San Francisco, CA 90501 |
| 4. | February 08 | United Hemisphere c/o Saeshe, Inc 1055 W. 7 th St., #2150 Los Angeles, CA 90017 |

Magazine/Internet :

1. February 2008

Shermans Travel.com
c/o Saeshe, Inc
1055 W. 7th St
#2150
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Public Relations Agency :

1. Saeshe, Inc
1055 W. 7th ST
#2150
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Appendix A(2)

LIST OF TRADE SHOWS/PRESENTATIONS
NOVEMBER 2007 THRU APRIL 2008

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>TRADE SHOW/PRESENTATION</u> | <u>ORGANIZER</u> |
|-----------------|--|--------------------------|
| <u>2007</u> | | |
| November 04 | Executive Travel Showcase Lincoln, NE | Executive Travel |
| November 27 -30 | Travel Media Showcase Tuscon, AZ | Media |
| November 28 | PRIME 2007 Honolulu, HI | PRIME |
| <u>2008</u> | | |
| January 12-13 | 6 th Annual Bay Area Travel Show Santa Clara, CA | Travel Industry Shows |
| January 25-26 | 12 th Annual Morris Murdock Travel Show Salt Lake City, UT | Morris Murdock Travel |
| January 26-27 | The Travel Show Seattle, WA | Travel International Inc |
| January 26-27 | Texas Dive Show Houston, TX | Dive Show |
| February 6 | Travel Trade with PATA San Diego San Diego, CA | PATA |
| February 8-10 | Denver Golf Expo Denver, CO | Denver Golf Expo |
| February 8-10 | Portland Golf Show Portland, OR | Varsity Communications |

| | | |
|--------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| February 9-10 | Los Angeles Times Travel Long Beach, CA | Unicomm |
| February 12 | Travel Expos with Goway Scottsdale, AZ | Goway Travel |
| February 13 | Travel Expos with Goway Dallas, TX | Goway Travel |
| February 23-24 | Arizona Travel Show Glendale, AZ | Travel Industry Show |
| February 29– March 25 | Southern California Golf Show Long Beach, CA | Varsity Communication |
| March 4 | Travel Expos with Goway Carlsbad, CA | Goway Travel |
| March 5 | Travel Expos with Goway Newport Beach | Goway Travel |
| March 14-16 | Northern California Golf Show San Mateo, CA | Varsity Communication |
| March 29-30 | Greater Houston Travel Show Houston, TX | Houston Travel Show |
| April 10-12 | AFCI Locations Trade Show Santa Monica, CA | AFCI Locations |
| April 29-30 | San Diego Homebase Travel Agent Show San Diego, CA | Homebase Travel Agent |

APPENDIX B

| DATE | FROM WHOM | PURPOSE | AMOUNT |
|-------------|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| 12/31/2007 | Malaysia Tourism Promotion Board, Ministry of Tourism | Impress Account Recoupement, For Payment of salaries, Office, Maintenance, and Promotional Activities | \$34,982.00 |
| 1/9/2008 | " | " | \$187,030.07 |
| 1/18/2008 | " | " | \$75,180.00 |
| 2/4/2008 | " | " | \$150,826.70 |
| 2/28/2008 | " | " | \$16,250.38 |
| 3/7/2008 | " | " | \$21,600.00 |
| 3/18/2008 | " | " | \$360,908.00 |
| 3/31/2008 | " | " | \$77,259.72 |
| 4/21/2008 | " | " | \$3,686.00 |
| | | TOTAL RECEIVED | <u><u>\$927,722.87</u></u> |

**DISTRIBUTION OF BROCHURES
MALAYSIA TOURISM PROMOTION BOARD
LOS ANGELES**

Malaysia Travel Manual

A handbook which includes a general introduction to Malaysia and specific selling points on cities, islands, beaches and hill resorts, convention facilities, entertainment, shopping, food, water, and health.

Malaysia – Travel Guide

A brochure giving an introduction to Malaysia's holiday regions.

Kuala Lumpur

A brochure on attractions/places of interest in Kuala Lumpur, the Federal Capital with information.

Penang

A brochure on Penang, with information on accommodation, activities and places of interest.

Malacca

A brochure on the historical city, Malacca with information on accommodation, activities and places of interest.

Selangor

A brochure on the state of Selangor with information on its history, government, accommodation, activities and places of interest.

Perak

A brochure on the state of Perak with information on accommodation, activities and places of interest.

Terengganu

A brochure on the state of Terengganu with information on accommodation, activities and places of interest.

Johor

A brochure on the state of Johor with information on accommodation, activities and places of interest.

Sabah

A brochure on the state of Sabah with information on accommodation, activities and places of interest.

Sarawak

A brochure on the state of Sarawak with information on accommodation, activities and places of interest.

Events & Festival 2008

Colorful flyer showcasing Malaysian events and festivals for 2007.

Golfing

A colored brochure with information on golf courses in Malaysia showing that Malaysia is a unique golfing destination.

Putrajaya

A brochure with information on the new Federal Government Administrative center.

Adventure With Nature

A color illustrated brochure on the adventure and ecotourism destinations in Malaysia.

APPENDIX C

| <u>Nov-07</u> | <u>Amount (US \$)</u> |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1 Salaries & Wages | \$20,693.00 |
| 2 Office Rent, Supplies, Administration | \$28,026.67 |
| 3 Vice President & Deputy Director's Housing, Travel, Hospitality, Promotional Projects Expenses | \$139,599.59 |
| TOTAL DISBURSED | <u><u>\$188,319.26</u></u> |
| | |
| <u>Dec-07</u> | |
| 1 Salaries & Wages | \$21,293.00 |
| 2 Office Rent, Supplies, Administration | \$32,578.33 |
| 3 Vice President & Deputy Director's Housing, Travel, Hospitality, Promotional Projects Expenses | \$153,695.26 |
| TOTAL DISBURSED | <u><u>\$207,566.59</u></u> |
| | |
| <u>January-08</u> | |
| 1 Salaries & Wages | \$20,793.00 |
| 2 Office Rent, Supplies, Administration | \$20,707.25 |
| 3 Vice President & Deputy Director's Housing, Travel, Hospitality, Promotional Projects Expenses | \$32,750.31 |
| TOTAL DISBURSED | <u><u>\$74,250.56</u></u> |

February-08

| | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| 1 Salaries & Wages | \$20,820.00 |
| 2 Office Rent, Supplies, Administration | \$28,419.57 |
| 3 Vice President & Deputy Director's Housing, Travel, Hospitality, Promotional Projects Expenses | \$39,752.44 |
| TOTAL DISBURSED | <u><u>\$88,992.01</u></u> |

March-08

| | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| 1 Salaries & Wages | \$23,085.74 |
| 2 Office Rent, Supplies, Administration | \$28,827.92 |
| 3 Vice President & Deputy Director's Housing, Travel, Hospitality, Promotional Projects Expenses | \$47,084.66 |
| TOTAL DISBURSED | <u><u>\$98,998.32</u></u> |

April-08

| | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1 Salaries & Wages | \$33,749.10 |
| 2 Office Rent, Supplies, Administration | \$31,192.97 |
| 3 Vice President & Deputy Director's Housing, Travel, Hospitality, Promotional Projects Expenses | \$271,671.48 |
| TOTAL DISBURSED | <u><u>\$336,613.55</u></u> |

| | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| TOTAL DIISBURSED FROM NOVEMBER 2007 - APRIL 2008 | <u><u>\$994,740.29</u></u> |
|---|-----------------------------------|

Diwali Celebrated At White House

By a Staff Reporter

WASHINGTON — Diwali was celebrated by over 200 people at the White House for the fifth year in a row at the Indian Treaty Room Nov. 7 with an invocation by P. Jayaraman, a scholar and poet of Hindi and Tamil and the founder of Bhartiya Vidya Bhavan in New York.

The lighting of the ceremony was performed by Jayaraman, Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson, Under Secretary Nicholas Burns and community representatives Piyush C. Agrawal and Ashay Desai.

"I send greetings to those celebrating Deepavali, the Festival of Lights. Light is an enduring symbol of hope and holds deep, spiritual significance for people everywhere. During Diwali, Hindus, Sikhs, Jains and many others in India and around the world will light lamps in celebration, symbolizing the victory of good over evil," said President George Bush in a message, according to a press release.

Paulson remarked on the ex-

traordinary economy of India and proposed to make Mumbai a "front office" financial center, emphasizing that the U.S. was willing to cooperate with India.



The lighting of the lamp at the Diwali ceremony at the White House.

Both Paulson and Burns emphasized that the U.S.-India nuclear agreement was in the interest of both countries.

Burns noted that cooperative agreements like the nuclear deal would further promote cooperation in fields such as space exploration and agriculture.

LA City Council Issues Diwali Proclamation

By MICHEL W. POTTS
Special to India-West

LOS ANGELES—Surrounded by Indian American staffers who work in City Hall here, councilman Eric Garcetti presented a proclamation Nov. 8 officially recognizing Diwali for the first time by the City of Los Angeles to Hamid Khan, executive director of the South Asian Network.

In making the presentation during the morning session, Garcetti briefly described the significance of Diwali, pointing out that the emphasis on light "symbolizes the light within the individual and rids the soul of the darkness of ignorance. In short, it is good overcoming evil within every human being."

Noting that the proclamation was the first time the City of Los Angeles has officially recognized the annual celebration, he also explained how Diwali has historical significance for Sikhs and Jains.

"So we all join together to recognize all the contributions that have been by Indians and South Asians who celebrate and practice their religion," he de-

clared on behalf of Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and members of the city council.

The presentation of the proclamation highlighting the first official recognition of Diwali by the city was organized by Rasha Goel, a television reporter for L.A. City View on Channel 36 and a local correspondent for CNN-IBN.

"I've seen (the city) highlight Native American Heritage Month, Latino Heritage Month, Asian Pacific Month, but I've never really seen anything done in this city with the South Asian community," she explained to India-West.

"I felt (that with a proclama-

tion) what a great way for them to know what the South Asian culture is about, especially when celebrating Diwali, because it is one of our biggest festivals."

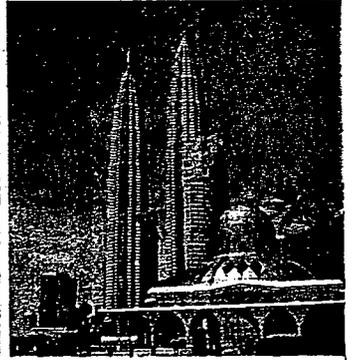
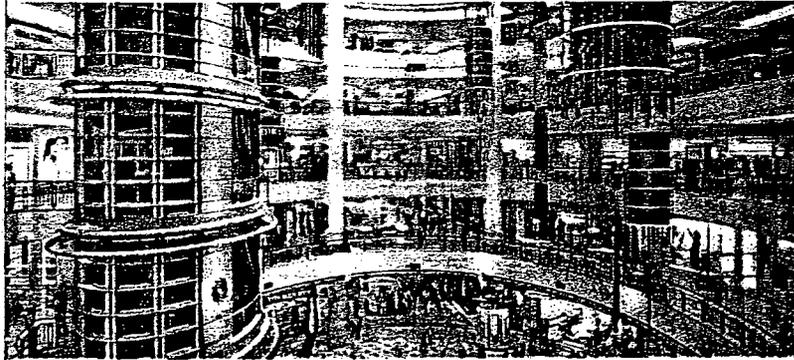
For SAN, the proclamation was "an acknowledgement of the community as a whole," Khan told India-West. "A lot of times, the community is identified in a very stereotypical way, where just the affluence and the successes are seen."

Through the city's recognition of Diwali, "since it is a celebration of light, it's also an opportunity to shed light on the broader condition of the community," he added.



Surrounded by Indian American staffers who work in City Hall, Los Angeles city councilman Eric Garcetti (third from left) presents a proclamation recognizing Diwali to Rasha Goel and Hamid Khan. (Michel Potts photo)

THE TIME IS NOW THE PLACE IS MALAYSIA



Kuala Lumpur
from \$160

Penang
\$150

Malaysia

Optional sightseeing tours & extra night hotels are available

TOURISM MALAYSIA
www.tourismmalaysiausa.com

A Touch of Class Tours
a touch above the rest
quality, service & affordable prices

1-800-203-0438

Visit Malaysia
Celebrating 50 Years of Independence

*Above packages are valid through March, 2008. All packages include 3 nights hotel accommodations with daily breakfast, round trip transfers airport/ hotel/ airport. Half-day city tour with English speaking guide, entrance fees, guide fees, hotel taxes are also included. Triple occupancy and single supplement are available at different prices. Please call A Touch of Class Tours for more information.

11/16/07

Cristina Samiley

From: ShermansTravel [top25@shermanstravel.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2008 12:56 PM
To: Top25 Subscriber
Subject: This Week's Top 25

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nowhere else on earth. This once-in-a-lifetime journey is typically done on an all-inclusive cruise that usually costs a premium. We've found four worthy expeditions that will give you the most for your money – and lasting memories as well. [Full Deal Review](#)

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\$463 & up: Round-trip flights to Italy on Alitalia through March

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Source: Travelocity

\$121 & up: Winter weekend flights (round-trip) to popular cities,

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Source: Major Providers

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Source: Major Providers

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Source: Canary Hotel

• 24-hour sale: Carnival cruises from \$259 this March!
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• \$177+: Last-minute 2-nt Las Vegas getaways at Strip resorts with flight
Source: Hotels.com

• \$1799+: Guided 9-day India tour with flights & hotels in Delhi, Jaipur & more; safaris, & transfers. Book by Feb 27.

PORTS INDIA

• \$13.95+: Low car rental rates in major cities like LA & San Fran this winter
Source: Hotwire.com

• \$999+: 4-day Rome winter vacations with airfare and well-located 3-star hotels for travel through March 15.

American AIRWAYS

• \$99/nt: Spring break at downtown Disney resort w/perks like kids' breakfast
Source: Regal Sun Resort

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UNITED.COM

• \$835+: All-inclusive 4-nt Playa del Carmen vacation w/luxe resort & flight
Source: BeachDestinations.com

• \$166* & up: London fare sale from 9 cities (each way) for travel through March 23. Book by February 21.



• \$544+: 4-star Austin hotel for 3 nights w/flight from NY – 25% off thru April
Source: Omni Austin Hotel at Southpark

• Up to 80% off: Last-minute Caribbean cruises from \$229. **CRUISES ONLY**
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• Up to 40% off: 4-night Jamaica all-inclusive with resort & flight from \$664
Source: Holiday Inn SunSpree Montego Bay

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EUROPEAN DESTINATIONS

• \$188/day+: 6-day Machu Picchu & Cuzco tour with flight & hotels this



EXPLORE BEYOND THE SHORE

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April

Source: LatinDestinations.com

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Rate includes free transfers & gift card – book by Feb 24.



\$392+: 4-nt Puerto Vallarta beach escape with flight & \$100 resort credit
Source: Fiesta Americana

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\$121 & up: Weekend flights to Las Vegas this March – taxes included
Source: Major Providers

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>> \$463 & up: March flights to Italy (round-trip) on Alitalia. Book by Feb 17!

>> \$199+: Cruise super-sale with up to \$250 credit on top lines to the Caribbean, Mexico & more – ends February 28.

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 THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE PADI DIVING SOCIETY

11 LUXURY
LIVE-ABOARDS:
VIP ALL-ACCESS
PASS

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SUPER MACRO:
HOW TO SHOOT
ITSY BITSY
MARINE LIFE

PAGE 26

Discover the Wild Diversity of Bali, Malaysia and Indonesia

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Solmar V

placed a fin on her back. The three whales swam a short distance, dove to 60 feet and parked again. Every five minutes, the newborn would ascend once more to breathe.

There's nothing in the ocean that makes one seem so small and insignificant as being in the company of whales. Nothing is guaranteed in nature. But just this once, everything came together on an unforgettable dive. — Eric Hanauer

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- December 1 - January 1, 2008: Malaysia Year End Sale Carnival



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Realty major Trump plans India foray

MUMBAI The "incredible" growth in the Indian realty sector has attracted Trump Organization, the largest high-end condominium builder of the US, and it is looking for a joint venture partnership in India over the next 12-18 months.

"We are looking for JV partners to enter India. That is precisely why I am here. We are interested in the major cities for investment," Donald Trump Jr, executive vice president (development and acquisition), Trump Organization, said here.

"On a later date, we may enter the secondary and tertiary cities as they grow," he added.

Asked which cities his company would be interested to invest in, he said, "Certainly the city I'm standing on (Mumbai), Delhi, Hyderabad and Bangalore where the IT sector has witnessed a boom."

Trump said the company had no intention to enter the middle or low income segment since it is "the best in the high-end sector."

The company would also look at developing hotels and resorts, he said.

"Now is the time to come to India. We hope to strike the deal in the next 12-18 months. We will be

eager to do it before that," Trump Jr said. He, however, declined to divulge the proposed investment, saying it would depend on the projects.

According to him, India has cre-

According to him, India has created a far more conducive environment for foreign investment over the past decade

ated a far more conducive environment for foreign investment over the past decade. Infrastructure still remained a major roadblock, and this needed to be addressed, he said.

"Deregulation has paved the way for foreign direct investment (FDI). Foreign players have been provided with a level playing field. That's great. Whenever they come, efficiencies grow. India required FDI to take the sector to the next level. It will help other sectors as well," he said.

Trump owns and manages several marquee hotels, resorts, casinos and building complexes in New

York, including the Trump Casino, Trump International Hotel, Trump Marina Hotel and Casino, Trump Taj Mahal Casino Resort and Trump Tower.

The company recently entered the Dubai property market with the Palm Trump International Hotel and Tower through a local joint venture.

In India too, Trump is planning joint ventures or licensing agreements with local developers.

"We are in talks with many developers, hopefully we will be able to sign a deal in the next 18 months.

However, there are not many high-end products that we can buy into," he said.

Trump is of the view that although property prices in India have spiraled, they are not as high as global realty prices.

"There is a shift from rental homes to owned houses and the educated youth is creating a lot of wealth. This factor can be utilized by the luxury developers like us," Trump said.

Trump believes that the emergence of nuclear families and de-

mand for real estate can drive the growth for high-end developers.

"Like the US, India is becoming increasingly urbanized, where more youth are moving into cities. This is another opportunity," he said.

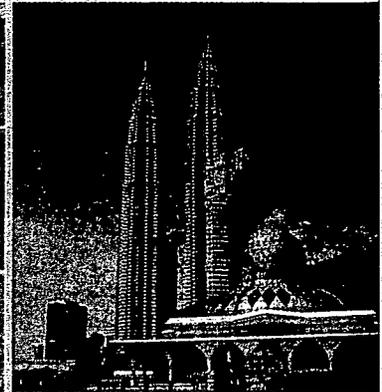
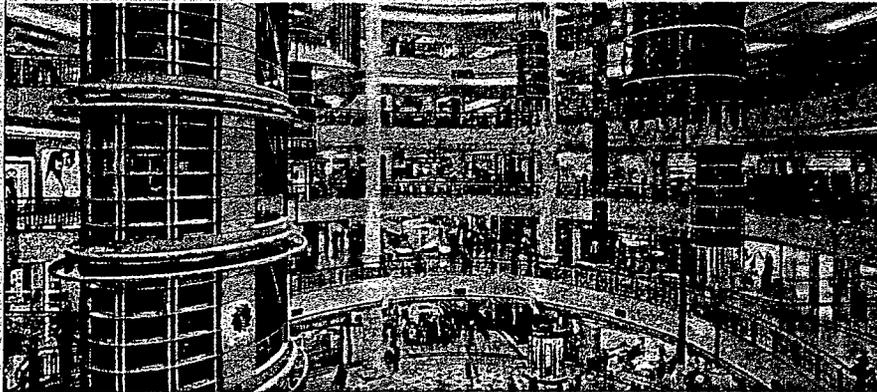
He said, upcoming high-end projects in India have instilled confidence in developers and investors like them to enter the country.

"When I came here some years ago, developers were making tall claims. Today, we can see a lot of good high rises coming up and it instills a confidence in us," he said. Agencies



VIRGIN MAGICIAN: Founder of the Virgin Group of Companies, Richard Branson adjusts a turban during a press conference in New Delhi, November 19. Branson, speaking at a press conference of FM radio channel Fever 104 FM which is a collaboration between Virgin Radio and HT Media, said that FM radio space in India was showing tremendous promise.

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Recall Opponent in SF Bay Area Gets Death Threats

By RICHARD SPRINGER
India-West Staff Reporter

Contra Costa County Democratic Central Committee chairman Nagaraja Rao has received death threats he is convinced are related to the local Democratic party's opposition to a recall election.

A resident of Richmond, Calif., Rao told India-West Nov. 27 that he received "about nine death threats" on his cell phone on the same two days that articles appeared in local newspapers reporting the Democratic Party's passage of a resolution opposing the recalls of Pinole Mayor Maria Alegria and Councilman Stephen Tilton.

"Multiple law enforcement agencies are investigating this hate crime," Rao told the Pinole City Council Nov. 20.

Rao told the Contra Costa Times that he was at the Berkeley Marina taking a course on shoreline oil cleanup Nov. 17, when he received the first of four threatening calls between 9:30 a.m. and 10 a.m. He received more calls Nov. 20, the day of the council meeting.

Rao said he reported the threats to police departments in Pinole, Berkeley and Richmond and authorized his cell phone service provider to share phone records



Nagaraja Rao, chairman of the Contra Costa County Democratic Central Committee, received death threats after party officials passed a resolution opposing the recall of elected officials in Pinole, Calif.

with law enforcement authorities.

He also told India-West Nov. 27 that the Berkeley police department, which is heading the investigation, have "had a hit" on his cell phone records, and are preparing a warrant for a phone number where about six of the calls originated.

Rao told the Times that the first caller, a woman, told him, "I'm watching you. You will be dead."

Another caller, a man, said "I know what you did yesterday. I'm watching. You will be dead. You will be dead for sure," Rao said.

In other calls, where the voices were muffled, he could not tell if the callers were male or female.

Rao said there was nothing in the calls directly linking them to his party's stand against a recall of Alegria and Tilton Feb. 5, but that the timing, on days when newspapers reported the party's stand, make it likely they are linked.

Cindy Trego, a recall supporter, told the Times she doubted that anyone connected with the recall drive made the calls.

"Is he sure they're coming from recall people?" Trego, a Pinole Neighborhood Watch captain, asked. "Or are these threats based on other issues that he is pursuing with the Democratic Party? We certainly encourage him to follow through on the investigation; and we'd like him to report back his findings."

Rao pointed out at the Nov. 30 council meeting that many prominent groups and individuals are on record opposing the recall, including state Senator Tom Torlakson, state Assemblyman Mark DeSaulnier, Assemblywoman Loni Hancock, the Contra Costa Deputy Sheriffs Association, several labor groups and the Sierra Club.

NRI Group Appeals for Support to Narendra Modi

By a Staff Reporter

Friends of Gujarat's Progress, a New Jersey-based group of NRIs, is appealing to NRIs to reach out to their fellow Gujaratis in India in order to vote for and support Narendra Modi in the state elections next month.

"It is vital for Narendra Modi to win the elections with a sizable margin so Gujarat's progress may continue unhindered," stated the group in an appeal. "We therefore urge all NRIs living around the globe to help support Narendra Modi's team. In the current unfortunate situation of poor politics and biased media, the dreams of five crore Gujaratis must not be allowed to be snuffed out. Now is the

time for all of us to make the maximum impact on Gujarat's future." It added.

The appeal went on to praise Modi's achievements as chief minister of Gujarat, saying that since he took over as chief minister, "Gujarat has achieved the highest degree of administrative efficiency and modernization. In fact, Gujarat has become the best-governed state in the country where regional and national pride is overflowing."

Readers wishing more information, or to volunteer, may contact Support Gujarat's Progress, P.O. Box 266, Marlboro, NJ 07746, call (847) 376-3012, email supportgujarat2007@gmail.com or visit their Web site, www.supportgujarat.org.

Gates Found. Giving \$100M To Fight Polio

SEATTLE (AP) —The Gates Foundation is giving \$100 million to the global campaign to wipe out polio. Rotary International is matching the grant with another \$100 million over three years.

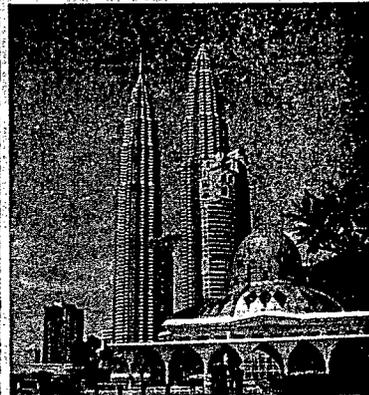
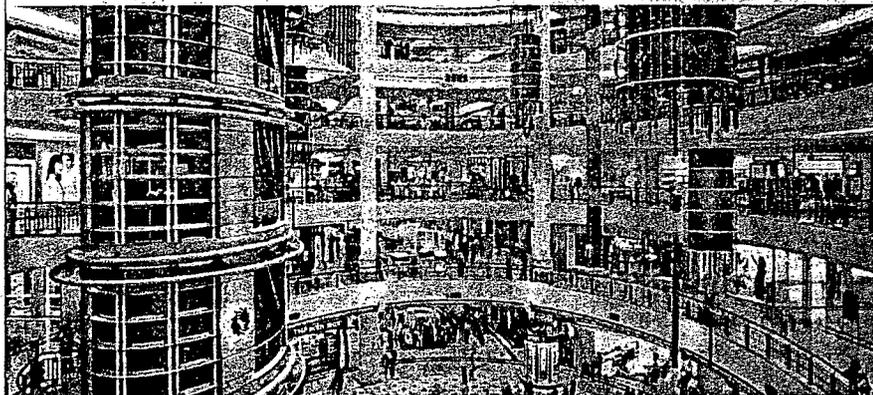
The grant was announced Nov. 26 in London by the World Health Organization.

The incidence of polio has been slashed by more than 99 percent worldwide since the organization's

global initiative began in 1988. But the virus remains entrenched in Afghanistan, India, Nigeria and Pakistan.

Armed conflicts and weak health services in some countries make it difficult to reach the high vaccination levels needed to wipe out polio. And in India, the vaccine is less effective due to poor sanitation and the fact that children are often infected with intestinal viruses.

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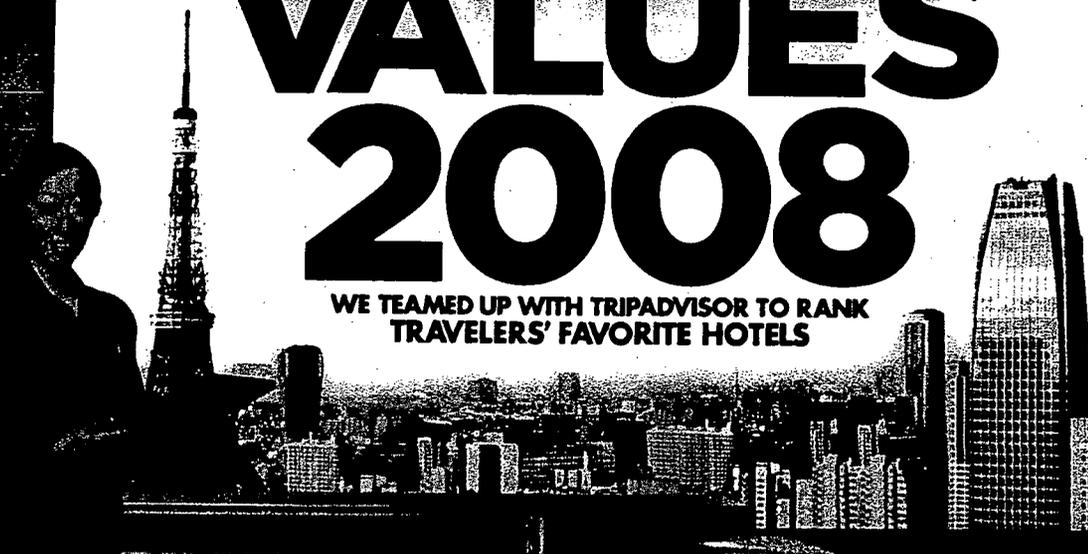
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The Wines of Change

What's new in the world of wine? More price breaks at restaurants, more packaging innovation (aluminum bottles, tote bags) more cause marketing, more celebrity labels, and a whole lot... um, more. / By Bill Marsano / Photography by Mark Wagoner

COCA-COLA IS SO POPULAR BECAUSE IT'S SO easy. Crack the cap, knock it back, that's that. Wine's the maddening opposite, ever in ferment. Some wine folk drone solemnly about "time-honored," "traditional," and "artisanal" values; others chant feverishly about progress and innovation. As one journalist giddily put it, "The wine world is always changing—it makes my heart pound. It can keep you awake at night!"

Really? If you owe the bank for vineyard acreage at Napa Valley prices, yes. If you're just a hyperbolic scribbler, please.

The truth lies between. Thirsty Reader. Most producers are wary of innovation, often because they're still paying for earlier breakthroughs. Yet change is coming: here and there, by fits and starts. Maybe not today. Maybe not tomorrow, but soon, and for the rest of our lives. One certainty: *Mon* will get a workout in 2008. Expect more of this and more of that.

More restaurants will bend a bit on wine policies. Manhattan's *Cité* was famous for unlimited pours of four wines with prix-fixe dinners. *Cité's* gone now, but its generosity lives on at Maloney & Porcelli. At Icon, chef Michael Wurster decrees weekly BYOB nights—with no corkage. "We're making Monday evenings a neighborhood experience," Wurster says. At Compass, the \$35 three-course dinner includes a 50-percent discount on any bottle in the restaurant's

award-winning cellar. "The neighborhood has supported us," says Compass partner Don Evans, "and we support our neighborhood."

This isn't just a New York thing. Every Sunday this Valentine month Morristown, New Jersey's Copeland Restaurant cuts champagne prices in half at brunch and dinner. So if nothing's cooking where you live, chat with management wherever you're a regular.

Expect more interest in Merlot, the wine reviled in *Sideways*. Doug Pendleton, owner of Grapevine Cottage in Zionville, Indiana, says "The cherished '61 Cheval-Blanc in that movie is one-third Merlot, and Pétrus is 25 percent." Pétrus fetches \$1,000 a bottle, so he recommends values from Canyon Road, Grayson, and Sebastiani, and serious Merlots from Shafer, Twomey, or Whitehall Lane. There are more where

Can an Old World learn New tricks?

You bet. Italy's GCWs (Good Cheap Wines) include Feudo Arancio, Bigi, and Dogajolo.

Make Valentine's Day into a Month: F.J. Hien, W.L. Weller, Bourbon, Cio Potrero Rye, The Gieroths Mal, Cuervo Tequila, Cognac Delamain, Taylor Flaccage Port. For Her: Penfold's Grange, BV Georges De Latour Private Reserve, Barolos by Fontanetteda and Giovin Caparoli, Château d'Yquem Sauternes. Bubbles for Both: Weve Ciccquot Yellow Label Brut, Domaine Carneros Cuvée de la Pompadour, J Cuvée Brut, Henriot Brut, Villa Sandi Prosecco, Domaine Chandon etoile rose, Formery Cuvée Louise.

(California) those came from: Blackstone, Brassfield, Burgess Cellars, Cartridge & Browne, Clos du Bois, Clos Pegase, Duckhorn, Gainey, Gundlach ▶

Special Advertising Feature

Colors of Malaysia



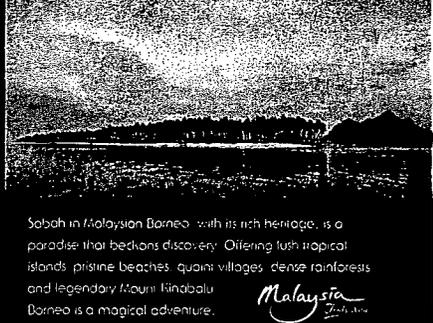
The Colors of Malaysia festival, occurring throughout the country, is a month long celebration of Malaysia's culture and traditions beginning in May and ending in June. For an entire month, Malaysia showcases the best of what the country has to offer in terms of cultural crafts, and cuisine.

The main attraction of the celebration is the kick-off parade themed Colors of Malaysia, on May 24 at Putra Jaya. It showcases the country's history and heritage with dance, music, colorful costumes, and fireworks.

Visitors all over Malaysia will have a chance to experience firsthand the wonders of Malaysian culture. Mouth-watering food festivals and cultural exhibitions will also be held throughout the country. The event involves the participation of all 13 states of Malaysia and Kuala Lumpur. It truly is the perfect opportunity for visitors to have an unforgettable cultural experience. The time is now, the place is Malaysia.

For more information on the Colors of Malaysia festival and Malaysia, please call 800-336-6842 or visit tourismmalaysia.com.

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