

Visit to Malay Heritage House (2nd Dec 2017, 2.30pm)

DARUL MAZIAH



The heritage house "Darul Maziah", located in Kampong No. 6 in Kuching, was built in the late 19th century by Datu Bentara Abang Haji Hashin bin Arif. Constructed by local Malays craftsmen, it is made entirely of ironwood and is decorated with Moorish-inspired woodcarvings. The house boasts of 2 gates, 8 bedrooms, a large kitchen and a large room where the owner held court.

Datu Bentara was conferred the title Datu Bentara by Raja Charles Vyner Brooke in 1902 and joined the Raja's Court of Malay nobles. Datu Bentara was a wealthy spice merchant, owning shophouses, land. He even owned a schooner to aid his spice trade, and rode his own horse when accompanying the Rajah on rides along Green Road - the house had its own stable to house the Datu's horses.

During the period of unrest before Sarawak was ceded to the British colonial government, the house was the headquarters of the anti-cession movement. To commemorate the group's involvement, a memorial pillar was created in the house's compound. Due to its unique architectural features and historical significance, the house was listed as a Malay Heritage Building in December 2015.

The house is presently home to Tuan Haji A.S. Jaya, a grandson of Datu Bentara and is a popular stop for tour groups to take photographs of the house.