Rais declares 154 sites, objects, individuals as Malaysia’s national heritage

KUALA LUMPUR: Information Communication and Culture Minister Datuk Seri Dr Rais Yatim has declared 154 sites, tangible and intangible objects and distinguished individuals as the country’s national heritage.

They comprise 24 sites, 10 tangible objects, 111 intangible objects and nine individuals.

Rais said the declaration of the national heritage status was a positive move in providing visibility to all transformation programmes implemented by the government.

“The ministry views the declaration as a catalyst to fuel our spirit of patriotism and nationalism. It will also boost the spirit of conservation and preservation,” he told reporters at the launch of the United Nations Economic and Social Survey for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2012 yesterday.

At the event, he also presented national heritage certificates to all transformation programmes positive move in providing balance national heritage status was a

For natural heritage, the status was given to the Forest Research Institute of Malaysia (FRIM) in Kepong, Selangor; Tanjung Piai National Park in Pontian and Gunung Ledang National Park in Muar, Johor; Belum Royal Park in Grik, Perak and Perdana Lake Garden in Kuala Lumpur.

For architectural heritage, the status was given to 16 buildings, namely Istana Kenangan, Kuala Kangsar; Ubudiah Mosque, Kuala Kangsar; All Saints’ Church, Taiping; Leaning Tower of Teluk Intan and Taiping Prison in Perak; Sultan Suleiman Royal Mosque in Klang, Selangor; Santiago City and St Paul’s Church in Melaka; Istana Jahar in Kota Baharu, Kelantan; former information department building, former high court building in Jalan Raja, former federal territories post controllers office (now Kuala Lumpur Memorial Library), former Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China; St Mary’s Church, Sekolah Menengah St John, Bukit Nanas and Malaysian Institute of Rubber Research in the city.

For fine art heritage, the status of national heritage was given to two paintings, namely the ‘Pago-Pago’ by Abdul Latiff Mohidin and ‘Pemandangan Malaysia’ by Khalil Ibrahim. For tangible objects, the status was given to Pahang Canon Law, Zainal Abidin bin Ahmad (ZABA) personal letters, Tengku Omar ibni Almarhum Sultan Ahmad Shah personal letters, Declaration of Malaysia 1963, Declaration of Kuala Lumpur 1974, Labuan Treaty and the Terengganu Inscription Stone.

Under the intangible object category, the national heritage status was given to traditional medicine category, the status was given to ‘main petteri’, ‘ulik mayang’, ‘bekam’, ‘bomoh patah’, traditional massage and traditional midwife.


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Distinguished Malaysians: (From left) Datuk Mohd Nor Khalid, or Lat, with fellow recipients of Tokoh Orang Hidup Warisan Kebangsaan Intan Sulga KK Tiring, Kumaresan Karthigesu, Eyo Hock Seng, Mek Jah Deris, Ramli Ibrahim, Nyonya Tan Abdullah and Jati Ju after receiving their national heritage certificates. — Bernama photo