

Malaysian poet does country proud

Piece entitled 'World of Poetry' to be included in book of acclaimed poetry

Dateline: Kuantan

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MALAYSIAN poet Teo Wei Sing did Pahang proud when one of his poems was selected to be printed in a compilation of internationally acclaimed poetry.

His poem entitled "World of Poetry" was chosen from some 200 poets from 30 countries.

Among them were from France, German, Colombia, Mexico, Argentina, Morocco, Ecuador, Chile, China, India, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Russia, England, the United States, Japan, South Korea and Indonesia.

The poets were in the country to attend the 33rd World Congress of Poets recently, which saw a host of activities including poetry recitals and cultural performances, book launches and site visits.

Teo, 31, said he was honoured to have one of his poems printed in the compilation together with poets from the rest of

the world.

He said only the best poems that met international standards were selected and translated into English for the compilation.

"I will continue to find time to write more such poems and other literature works during my free time. I hope my efforts will represent a new generation of Malaysians," he said.

His father, a petty trader, had no objections for him to further his studies in Malay language and literature.

Interestingly, Teo started his primary education at SJK (C) Pei Chai.

It was Teo's Form Six teacher Mohd Che Ibrahim at SM Abdul Rahman Talib who boosted his interest in Malay literature.

He continued his studies at Universiti Putra Malaysia under the tutelage of the late S. Othman Kelantan and Associate Prof Dr Lim Swee Tin.

Teo has several books under his belt namely *Kutemui 1Malaysia*; *Dendang Dunia*; *Suara Anak Pahang*; *Genting Gaza*, *Gentingnya Genting*; and *Ekspresi*.



Poetry in motion: Teo with Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka director Datuk Dr Awang Sariyan.