

Korean's savor Malaysia's heritage, performances and local delicacies

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ABOUT 30 South Korean delegates had a first time experience visiting the Unesco Heritage Site of George Town during their four-day Global Peace Leadership Exchange (GPLE) programme.

Global Peace Festival Malaysia (GPFM) chairman Tan Sri Zaleha Ismail said the programme was aimed at promoting unity in diversity.

“These delegates are from various professions, and are decision makers in their country. They are from the government sector, academicians, businessmen and other corporate figures.

“There have been delegates from South Korea to Malaysia since May last year, and this is the seventh group that visited Malaysia,” she said before joining the delegates on their trishaw ride recently.

She added that while other groups had toured other states such as Negri Sembilan, Pahang and Malacca, this group was given the opportunity to tour Penang heritage sites.



Excitement in the air: Zaleha, GPFM board members and the South Korean delegates gearing up for their trishaw ride

GPFM leadership development director James Poon said the tour was more than just sight-seeing.

“It has been an eye-opening scenario to the delegates who were deeply surprised by the way Malaysians interact with one another of different beliefs,” he said.

The delegates were taken on a trishaw ride along the Esplanade, where they visited Fort Cornwallis before travelling along Jalan Mesjid Kapitan Keling, also known as the Street of Harmony.

GPFM board member Datuk Mary Ritchie said the delegates were introduced to the historical St George’s Church, Goddess of Mercy Temple, Sri Mahamariamman Temple and Kapitan Keling Mosque along the street.

The group was also treated to traditional performances and local food the next evening.

The programme was jointly organised by GPFM and the National Unity and Integration Department under the Prime Minister’s Department.