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Build a generation of athletes and leaders

17 SEPTEMBER 2015 @ 11:00 AM



(/mh370)

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WHILE I laud the idea of a People’s Football League to discover new talents, I believe that we are not tackling the crux of the matter.

We are not short on talent, but we are short on talent that has staying power, the correct mindset and strength of character. Their hunger should not be sated with mere local success. It should not be satisfied with just a single win. It needs to be hungry for success on the world stage. Once we have a league and a team that is worth the trouble, I am sure we will unearth talents that will make us proud.

We need to build it from the ground up, forgetting past glories. We need key performance indicators (KPIs) that will drive them towards success. Unbridled rewards should not be given for wins in Southeast Asia. They need to show their mettle against Asian giants that are North and South Korea, Japan and China, and then the world.

We need to equip them with the spirit and will to fight, to never buckle under pressure. We need to build up their mental and thinking skills, and organise leadership and management programmes, and improve strategic thinking skills.

Many parents are not too keen on Malaysian football because it offers very little long-term future. We need to change that. Scholarships need to be offered to skilled and illustrious footballers, who have the academic achievements to match. This may provide them with qualifications that will hold them in good stead in the future. We need to get the nation to be behind our footballers and the best place to start will be with the parents. With the parents’ or guardians’ support, we can then build up a credible league that can even begin from the primary school level. There should be a close partnership between Football Association of Malaysia (FAM), the stewards of football, with the Malaysian Schools Sports Council (MSSM), the people responsible for school-level football, and the National Sports Council (MSN).

There should be a coordinated effort to rebuild the standard of football. There should be short-, medium- and long-term targets. Then, playing at the World Cup or even hosting it will not be just a dream.



(/news/2015/09/leverkusen-beats-bate-borisov-4-1-champions-league)

Leverkusen beats BATE Borisov 4-1 in Champions League (/news/2015/09/leverkusen-beats-bate-borisov-4-1-champions-league)

LEVERKUSEN: Javier “Chicharito” Hernandez scored his first goal for Bayer Leverkusen as the German side opened its Champions League campaign Wednesday with a 4-1 home win over BATE Borisov in Group E.

Enrique frustrated as Roma hold dominant Barca (/news/2015/09/enrique-frustrated-roma-hold-dominant-barca)



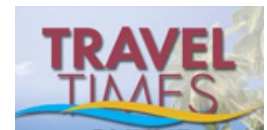
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There should be a plan to build up a credible support team made up of the management, coaches, therapists, trainers, dietitians and so forth. With such support and plan, we may have athletes who achieve glory and possibly, even wealth, on the global stage. When their duties are over, they can nurture teenage athletes or provide the leadership in the sports associations. We need to build a generation of athletes and leaders.

n MEGAT SHAH RIZAL NOOR IKHSANHulu Kelang, Selangor

7 reads

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The Thai national team celebrating after the AFF Suzuki Cup finals last year while Harimau Malaysia players (foreground) look on. We need to equip players with the spirit and will to fight.

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Pahang make AFC Cup exit but with heads held high (/news/2015/09/pahang-make-afc-cup-exit-heads-held-high)

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Princess Leia's slave costume entices at 'Star Wars' auction (/news/2015/09/princess-leias-slave-costume-entices-star-wars-auction)

LOS ANGELES: While most "Star Wars" fans are clamoring to get their hands on the newest franchise droid BB-8, deep-pocketed collectors will have a chance to buy original movie memorabilia such as Princess Leia's iconic slave costume in an upcoming auction.

Ex-Star Trek actress charged with indecent exposure (/news/2015/09/ex-star-trek-actress-charged-indecent-exposure)

A.R. Rahman: Music for Prophet film done in good faith (/news/2015/09/ar-rahman-music-prophet-film-done-good-faith)

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Massive jam due to Jalan Kuching crash (with video)

(<http://www.nst.com.my/news/2015/09/massive-jam-due-jalan-kuching-crash-video>)
(<http://www.nst.com.my/node/92989>)



After 2 deaths, Ikea recalls 27m Malm chests, dressers



Muhyiddin advises Umno members to face reality



Two killed as Tom Cruise movie crew plane crashes in Colombia

(<http://www.nst.com.my/node/93406>)
(<http://www.nst.com.my/news/2015/09/two-killed-tom-cruise-movie-crew-plane-crashes-colombia>)

PROMOTED STORIES

How big was China's stockmarket crash really? (<https://ad.doubleclick.net/ddm/trackclk/N5532.15990>) (*The Economist*)

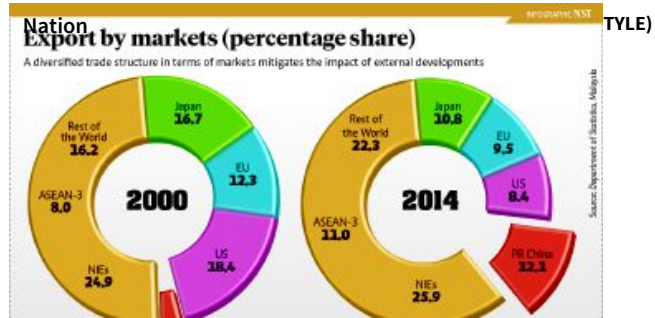
No Visa required: Malaysian's guide to exploring the best of Europe (<http://www.skyscanner.com.my/news/malaysians->

20 Interesting Facts About Aztecs You Probaby Didn't Know (<http://sv165.lolwot.com/20-interesting-facts-about-aztecs-you-probably->

Windows 10 Available In 190 Countries As A Free Upgrade (<http://forums.techarp.com/news/28817-5-Characteristics-Of-A-Boss-Lady>) (<http://www.glamasia.com/2015/09/03/5-characteristics-boss-lady/>) (*GlamAsia*)

What can an MMA fighter teach a bunch of 14-year-olds? (<https://ad.doubleclick.net/ddm/trackclk/N84602.1>

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'We have been able to manage highly challenging period'

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"AM I overwhelmed by this? No, because I have always known that central banking is always an unfinished business," said Tan Sri Dr Zeti Akhtar Aziz, wrapping up a lengthy interview amid the current turbulence in the world economy.

School close in Perlis due to flood
(/news/2015/09/school-close-perlis-due-flood)

Haze: Cloud seeding exercise in Sarawak
(/news/2015/09/haze-cloud-seeding-exercise-sarawak)

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Magnitude 8.3 quake kills three in Chile, Tsunami warning issued (/news/2015/09/magnitude-8.3-quake-kills-three-chile-tsunami-warning-issued)

SANTIAGO: A massive 8.3-magnitude earthquake struck off the central coast of Chile on Wednesday, killing at least three people, triggering the evacuation of coastal areas and sparking warnings that tsunami waves could reach as far as Japan.

Teen arrested for clock gets White House, Google, Facebook invite (/news/2015/09/teen-arrested-clock-gets-white-house-google-facebook-invite)

Remains of 1 more of missing 43 Mexico students identified (/news/2015/09/remains-1-more-missing-43-mexico-students-identified)

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Asian shares hit 3-week high ahead of crunch Fed meeting (/news/2015/09/asian-shares-hit-3-week-high-ahead-crunch-fed-meeting)

TOKYO: Asian stocks hit a three-week high on Thursday after a jump in oil prices lifted Wall Street, with many investors taking last-minute positions ahead of a crucial U.S. Federal Reserve policy announcement.

UMW-OG banks on Middle East (/news/2015/09/umw-og-banks-middle-east)

Bursa shares open higher (/news/2015/09/bursa-shares-open-higher)

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