

EXPERIENCE OF A DIPLOMAT

Diploma in Public Administration (DPA)



AMBASSADOR AMINAHTUN HJ. A KARIM
Deputy Director General,
Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations (IDFR)
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia

Presentation Outline



What is Diplomacy?

The management of international relations by negotiation; the method by which these relations are adjusted and managed by ambassadors and envoys; the business or art of the diplomatist.

(Oxford English Dictionary)

The application of intelligence and tact to the conduct of official relations between the governments of independent states.

(Sir Ernest Satow)

A continuing process. The skill lies in obtaining what your country wants, whether it is a treaty, an exchange of students, or a trade agreement, while still leaving the other country satisfied.

(Harold Nicolson)

Diplomacy is

- •* To charm
- •* To persuade, dissuade
 - •* To prevent war
 - •* To negotiate
- •* To soften negative impact
- •* Be correct, precise, truthful, firm

Quotable quotes

In matters of language, the art of the diplomatist is that of expressing hostility with courtesy, in difference with interest, and friendship with prudence.

(André Maurois)

A diplomat is a person who can tell you to go to hell in such a way that you actually look forward to the trip.

(Caskie Stinnett)

Diplomats are blessed with Hope, Soldiers with courage and Politicians with promises

(Anonymous)

What is a Diplomat?

1. Career

- External sector
- Full-time

2. Non-career

- From various sectors
- Political appointees
- Professionals

3. Diplomatist

Role of the Diplomats?

- 1. To represent King and country
- 2. Promote and protect national interest
- 3. Develop, maintain and strengthen bilateral relations
- 4. Assist and protect Malaysians
- 5. Communicate and advance Malaysia's position.

My Diplomatic Journey

At Home:

South East Asia
Protocol Division
ASEAN
Africa Desk
Europe Desk
Consular Division
Administration
IDFR



Abroad:

Ottawa, Canada Jakarta, Indonesia Kiev, Ukraine Zagreb, Croatia

Memorable Moments

1. Professional

- Stature pomp and ceremony
- Experience
- Lifestyle and perks

2. Personal

- Travels and Culture
- Schooling
- Friendship

Challenges



Web site for reference

Ministry of Foreign Affairs: www.kln.gov.my

Institute of Diplomacy & Foreign Relations: www.idfr.gov.my

THANK YOU

Ambassador Aminahtun Hj. A Karim

E-Mail: aminahtun@idfr.gov.my

Institute of Diplomacy & Foreign Relations (IDFR),

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Jalan Wisma Putra, 50460 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Tel: 603 – 2149 1000 | Fax: 603 – 2144 5640 | info@idfr.gov.my