



SPEECH BY

THE VICE CHANCELLOR UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

MALAYSIA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON FOREIGN LANGUAGES 2024

(MICFL2024)

OPENING CEREMONY

السالم عليكم ورحمة هلا وبركاته

dan Salam Malaysia Madani.

Saudara dan saudari pengacara majlis,

Yang Dihormati Prof. Madya Dr. Hazlina Abdul Halim
Dekan, Fakulti Bahasa Moden dan Komunikasi, UPM

Yang Berusaha Prof. Madya Dr. Roslina Mamat
Pengerusi, 8th Malaysia International Conference on Foreign Languages,
2024,

Dif-dif kehormat,

Para pembentang kertas kerja dan peserta persidangan, tuan-tuan dan
puan-puan yang saya kasihi sekalian.

1. Terlebih dahulu saya memanjatkan setinggi-tinggi kesyukuran ke

hadrat Allah SWT kerana dengan izin dan limpah rahmat-Nya, Persidangan kali ke-8, Malaysia International Conference on Foreign Languages (MICFL2024) ini akhirnya dapat diadakan secara bersemuka oleh Universiti Putra Malaysia setelah melalui kekangan berikutan pandemik COVID-19 pada persidangan yang ke-7 pada 2021.

2. Syabas dan tahniah kepada Pengerusi dan Jawatankuasa Pengelola MICFL2024 serta warga Fakulti Bahasa Moden dan Komunikasi. Saya berharap persidangan ini akan mencapai sasaran dan matlamat seperti yang dihasratkan, sekali gus memberikan peluang kepada sarjana dan ilmuwan untuk berkongsi ilmu dan kepakaran mereka dalam memajukan dan membangunkan lagi aspek-aspek penting dalam pengajaran dan pembelajaran bahasa asing di rantau ini secara khususnya dan dunia secara amnya, selaras dengan objektif utama persidangan ini.

Tuan-tuan dan puan-puan, izinkan saya meneruskan ucapan saya dalam Bahasa Inggeris.

Ladies and gentlemen.

3. First of all, I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to all those who contributed to the planning and realisation of this engaging event. I would especially like to commend the Chairperson, the organising team of the 8th Malaysian International Conference on Foreign Languages (MICFL2024) and the Faculty of Modern Languages and Communication for their tireless efforts in ensuring the continuation of this conference. This underscores the Faculty's unwavering commitment to promoting the teaching and

learning of global languages for the betterment of society, both locally and internationally. Congratulations to the organisers!

4. Ladies and gentlemen, distinguished guests from home and abroad, on behalf of Universiti Putra Malaysia, I would like to welcome all international and local presenters and participants to MICFL2024. We greatly appreciate your presence and commitment to this conference. This event is not only a tribute to MICFL 2024, but also a reflection of UPM's reputation as we welcome and celebrate scholars who generously share their expertise and wisdom with us, aligning with UPM's vision to become the Tower of Knowledge (*Menara Ilmu*).

5. The theme of this year's MICFL 2024 is "Integrating Technology, Civilisation and Culture into Language Learning", an appropriate theme that resonates with contemporary challenges. During MICFL 2024, we will explore a range of topics aligned with our conference objectives:
 - i. To bring together foreign language teachers from home and abroad to share information and the latest technological developments in foreign language teaching and learning;

 - ii. To provide a platform for academics, language associations, government, and non-governmental organisations to discuss aspects of the development of foreign language teaching and learning;

- iii. To create a network at the national and international level between the delegates participating in this conference;
 - iv. To discuss important issues in the field of linguistics, literature and methods of foreign language teaching and learning that need to be taken into consideration by policymakers when reviewing the effectiveness of foreign language teaching policy implementation in Malaysia and countries in the region.
6. Learning foreign languages has experienced a surge in popularity as people strive to engage with the global community and participate in the process of globalisation by communicating effectively with people from various cultural backgrounds.
 7. In today's diverse and multilingual work environments, foreign language skills have proven to be a critical component of the skills needed for professional success, and proficiency in foreign languages helps one to stay relevant and competitive. Technological advances have fundamentally changed the way we communicate and consequently reshaped our perception of reality.
 8. Another important line of research that needs more attention is the use and impact of technology on language learning. Classroom activities have shifted to real-world issues, events and problem-solving tasks. As a result, technology brings a new dimension to the teaching and learning process. This includes the use of digital and

social media platforms to manipulate learning materials and language according to individual needs.

9. As we navigate through these challenges and demands, the integration of technology, civilisation and culture into language learning is of paramount importance to enhance language learning and promote global collaboration and intercultural competence. MICFL 2024 will undoubtedly be an important platform where academics and industry leaders can collaborate to share insights, best practices, and skills to address emerging trends and obstacles. I am confident that the dialogues and presentations during this two-day event will provide valuable guidance in refining the trajectory of our students' educational pathways. Through innovative teaching methods and learning initiatives, we aim to enhance the learning process and provide a more tailored and enriching experience for students and educators alike.

10. Recently, I pointed out how important it is for us to manage the crisis while recognising the opportunities it presents for the Universiti Putra Malaysia community in terms of growth and resilience. We need to chart a clear course for the future by making gradual and deliberate changes based on tangible results, our core values and inclusivity. In this contemporary landscape, where social and digital media trends carry substantial weight, it is crucial to provide quality education and equip our students with the right values and skills that are directly relevant to real-life scenarios. We all need to have the necessary competence, which includes a mix of knowledge, expertise, skills and the right mindset to take on this role and responsibility. This will ensure that we can provide the best education and learning experience for our students, the community,

and the current generation.

11. Undoubtedly, we are all eager to embrace new ideas, innovations, and different cultures in the realm of foreign language education. Let us take this opportunity to broaden our horizons at MICFL 2024. Language is of great importance in our lives, as it is our most important means of communication and an expression of our cultural identity. Proficiency in foreign languages not only enriches our personal experiences but also plays an important factor in shaping our professional opportunities, including securing dream jobs and career advancement.
12. In today's interconnected world, mastering multiple languages is a gateway to unlocking new networks and expanding existing ones. I am sure you will agree that this also transcends cultural barriers and dismantles international boundaries that hinder our potential. Let us embark on this journey together towards language proficiency and global harmony.
13. To conclude my speech, I would like to express my gratitude once more for your continued support during the MICFL2024. My special appreciation to our sponsors, including the Office of the Menteri Besar Negeri Selangor, the Lee Foundation, the States of Malaya, the Selangor and Federal Territory Hainan Association of Malaysia and the Selangor and Kuala Lumpur Kwang Tung Association, for

their generous contributions. I am confident that every participant will leave this event feeling more energised and inspired to tackle the complexities of foreign language teaching and learning. I look forward to welcoming you all back at the next MICFL.

14. It is with great pleasure that I declare the Malaysia International Conference on Foreign Languages (MICFL2024) officially open and wish you all fruitful and successful discussions.

Thank you.

TEKS UCAPAN ALUAN

YBhg. Dato' Prof. Dr. Ahmad Farhan Mohd Sadullah
Naib Canselor
Universiti Putra Malaysia

**MAJLIS MENANDATANGANI
MEMORANDUM PERSEFAHAMAN (MoU)
ANTARA
UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA
DENGAN
FINEXUS GROUP**

24 APRIL 2024
JAM 12:00 TENGAH HARI
DEWAN TAKLIMAT SERDANG, TINGKAT 1
BANGUNAN CANSELORI,
UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA