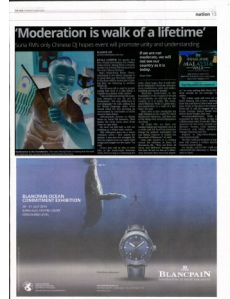


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'Moderation is walk of a lifetime'

Suria FM's only Chinese DJ hopes event will promote unity and understanding



By JAROD LIM
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KUALA LUMPUR: He speaks just like a Malay and deejays for a Malay radio station. Abang Brian certainly stands out in Suria FM because he is the only Chinese DJ there.

Batu Pahat-born Brian Chen's command of the Malay language is so good that any first-time listener to his show will be fooled into thinking they are listening to another Malay DJ.

The 30-year-old is used to people asking him how it is like being a Chinese in a Malay radio station.

"I do not like answering this question, because to me we are all Malaysians – the only difference is our language," he said, adding that his Malay language skills were honed when he was growing up surrounded by classmates of other races in Batu Pahat.

Affectionately known as Abang Brian by Suria FM listeners, Chen helms the *Ceria Suria* show from 10am to 1pm daily.

He does not feel odd or left out working in a Malay radio station.

"My colleagues gave me a warm welcome when I first joined the station. I was also the youngest DJ, but my seniors took me under their wings and taught me the ropes," he said.

Chen's fans will be able to meet him at the Anak-Anak Malaysia Walk 2016 on Aug 14. Endorsing the

If we are not moderate, we will not see our country as it is today.

Brian Chen

walk, Chen hopes that it will celebrate Malaysia's diversity and promote moderation, unity and understanding among the people.

"Basically, moderation is the foundation of the country. If we are not moderate, we will not see our country as it is today. The Anak-Anak Malaysia Walk is a good start, but moderation is a walk of a lifetime," he said.

Chen, who is also among the top eight finalists in the reality TV show *Masterchef Malaysia*, said that one of the things that united Malaysians was food.

"At Suria FM, we have our *makan-makan* get-togethers once in a while and the food that everyone brings for potluck represents, not just Malay, Chinese or Indian but the whole of Malaysia," he said.

Chen also teaches at a cooking school for children in Desa Sri Hartamas, KL. "They are from all races and different backgrounds, but they do not see this as a difference because they have fun togeth-



er," he said, adding that these children should be an example to adults.

The 3.4km walk will kick off at Bukit Bintang City Centre, starting from the junction of Jalan Imbi and Jalan Pudu at the site of the former Pudu Jail. It will be flagged off by Kuala Lumpur Mayor Datuk Seri Mohd Amin Nordin Abd Aziz.

#AnakAnakMalaysia Walk is organised by Star Media Group in collaboration with Ecoworld. Other sponsors for the event include Car Sponsor: Proton, Gold Sponsor: Panasonic and Silver Sponsors: Tenaga Nasional and YES.

Register at <http://sites.thestar.com.my/aamwalk/>.

The first 3,000 participants to register will receive a Golden Screen Cinemas movie ticket.

For details, call 03-7967 1388 ext 1432/1529/1243 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm).

Moderation is the foundation: Chen (aka Abang Brian) is hoping that the walk will celebrate the country's diversity and promote harmony.