

# ALUMNI RELATION DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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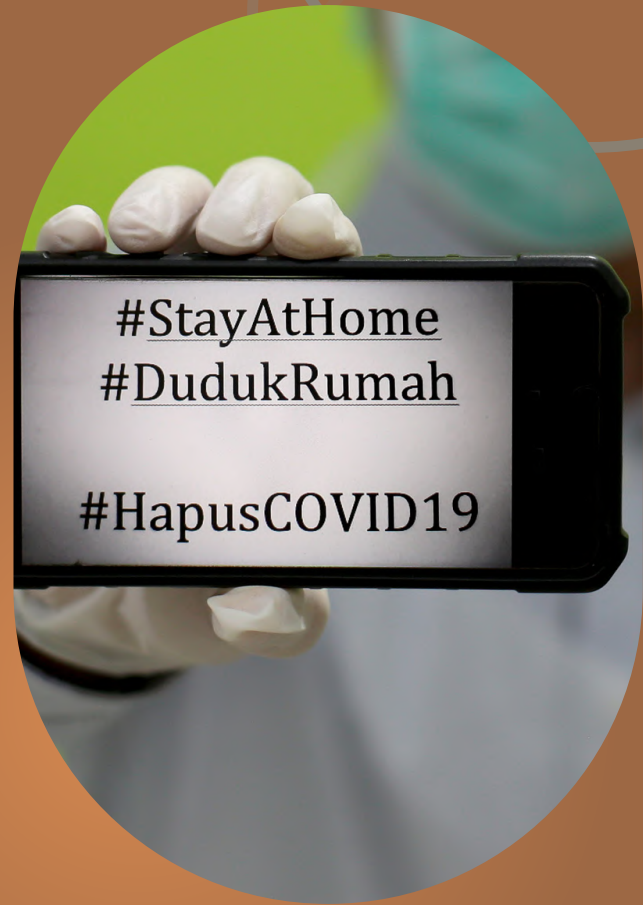
## COVID-19 IN MALAYSIA

COVID-19 is a disease that is caused by an extremely lethal virus, and it is responsible for a significant number of deaths each year. In December 2019, the potentially fatal virus was found for the first time in Wuhan, China. Within the first case detected in Singapore, eight people in Johor, Malaysia were found to be in close contact with the suspect (Abdullah, 2020). However, it wasn't discovered until January 25, 2020, in Malaysia when the first COVID-19 case was reported. Over these past 2 years, the spread of COVID-19 has affected the everyday life of people. Although, the first Malaysian-positive case was reported on February 3, 2020, when the infected person attended a business meeting with a delegation from China.

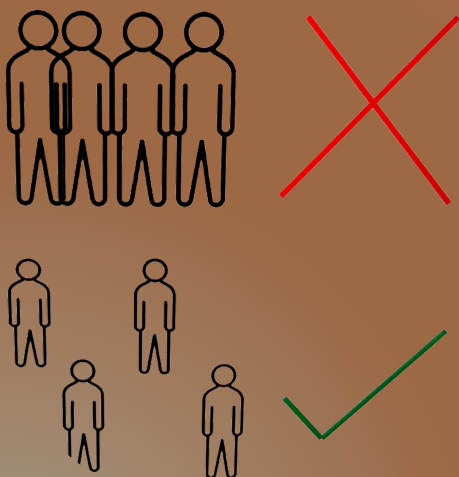


# EFFECT OF COVID-19 IN MALAYSIA

5.02 million people have tested positive for COVID-19, and 36,845 have died as a result. Moreover, the economy of the country was also declining during the outbreak since activities outdoor were limited and people were losing their jobs because some industries also stopped working. People are being affected to the extent that they are flying white flags outside their homes to draw attention and help.



## AVOID CROWDING



The MCO era had a negative economic impact on Malaysia, with daily losses of RM2.4 billion and a total loss of RM63 billion as of the end of April (Jamal Hisham Hashim, 2021). Starting from May 4th, Malaysia eased the MCO and opened up its economic sector in an effort to lighten the country's financial load. Herd immunity against COVID-19 is currently most effectively achieved through vaccination rather than through natural acquisition.

## ALUMNI RELATION DURING COVID-19

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Alumni have shown a positive response to COVID-19 and have been very helpful throughout the outbreaks by contributing aid, food, and other essentials. Peter Kwok, Dr Helena McKeown, and many others are just a few of the many Imperial College London alumni who have contributed to the fight against the outbreak (London, 2022).



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**"Remember this: Be kind to your mind."**

– @reallygreatsite

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It's fortunate for the people of Malaysia that there are so many good people willing to lend a hand whenever it's needed. Numerous fundraising efforts have been made to aid those who have been severely impacted by the current COVID-19 outbreak. In addition, many of our alums in Malaysia are actively assisting the affected.

Peter Kwok serves as the Chairman and Founder of the UK Federation of Chinese Professionals. Peter co-founded the Global Diaspora Coalition with the United Nations International Organization for Migration (IOM) in 2020 in response to the worldwide spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr Helena McKeown is the chairperson of the Representative Body of the British Medical Association (BMA) and works as a portfolio GP locum in Wessex as well as a senior GP appraiser.







The COVID-19 pandemic has had and will continue to have a devastating effect on the lives and livelihoods of people in our community. In August 2021, EY Malaysia established Tabung COVID EY to help lessen the financial burden of those affected. Their EY alumni network connects all of their EY employees, both past and current (EY, 2021). United Sikhs Malaysia (USM) and the 'Pay It Forward' programme by WOMEN: girls and Groove Grocer are the first two recipients of money from Tabung COVID EY. COVID-19 patients in need will receive oxygen concentrators and pulse oximeters from USM, and members of the B40 community will receive assistance through the "Pay It Forward" campaign.

In addition, a total of RM30,000 was donated to the "GIVE2UKM" fund by alumni of the Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) in Sarawak. This donation was made in Kuching (Hady, 2022). The donation was presented to Professor Dr Mohd Syuhaimi Ab Rahman, head of the UKM Bangi Alumni Relations Centre, in the presence of President Datuk Julaihi Narawi. Minister of Utilities and Telecommunications Julaihi says the donation is in recognition of UKM's efforts on behalf of its alumni.

According to what Julaihi revealed at the Majlis Ramah Tamah Aidilfitri & Gawai of UKM Sarawak alumni, the university's alumni have donated a total of RM71,000. This money was sent to the State Disaster Management Committee (SDMC) COVID-19 fund via the Premier in order to help the state deal with the effects of COVID-19. Tabung Sumbangan COVID-19 is one of many campaigns to raise money under the "GIVE2UKM" platform. This streamlined donation process was established so that more people and organisations may support the university in its fight against the covid19 virus. The university has taken quick measures, including providing free food to students residing in residential colleges, in response to the government's mobility control order. The funds will also be used to support students who have contracted the Covid19 virus.



**"NO ACT OF KINDNESS, NO MATTER HOW  
SMALL, IS EVER WASTED."**  
-@Aesop

Now we'll look at another donation by the Malaysian university, UUM. UUM received a contribution in the sum of MYR15,000 from the UUM Alumni Association, which was represented by Dr Mohd Azlan Yahya, the association's President. This payment is intended to assist in the prevention of the COVID-19 epidemic (UUM, 2022). In addition to that, he mentioned that the Alumni Association had participated in a variety of community-based projects to support individuals who were in need, such as repairing damaged homes and providing financial assistance to victims. The Vice-Chancellor voiced their desire for the University to continue to receive financial support from the Alumni Association in the form of donations so that they may better assist the University in providing support to the students.

"NO ONE HAS EVER BECOME  
POOR FROM GIVING."

-@Anne Frank



According to reports from around the world, alumni from all over the world provided significant assistance during the pandemic. They organised a fundraiser and distributed goods to those in need. People are losing their occupations, which means they can't provide an income for their families, therefore it helps to lessen the strain of living. Hence, at times like this, the assistance that they provide is really valuable.