

Mohamed Haniff Research & Development Trust Fund

Mohamed Haniff bin Kupey Pitchey, an outstanding personality in botanic research, was born in Penang on the 2nd of November 1872 and studied at the Penang Free School from 1878 to 1889. In 1890 he was employed as a botanical apprentice by the famous curator, Mr Charles Curtis, and worked in collecting thousands of plant specimens collaborating with many eminent botanists including R.E. Holttum, H.N. Ridley and I. Burkill. He had an outstanding lifetime career with the Penang Botanic Gardens and related institutions from 1890 to 1930. This dedicated botanist had one genus and several species of plants named after him; and had pioneered work including what is reputed to be the first orchid hybrid by a Malaysian – the 'Aranthera Mohamed Haniff'. He had also collaborated to produce books that would introduce plants of the tropics and their traditional uses to the public.

To recognise the outstanding work of this remarkable person, Penang Free School, alongside Universiti Sains Malaysia and Penang Botanic Gardens established this Trust Fund in 2001 to inspire work in his tradition of dedication and excellence. The purpose of the Trust Fund is to promote botanic research and development activities through partnership between the three parties, and related organisations in activities related to botanical and taxonomy research.

One of the objectives of this Trust Fund is to:

- a) Award grants for research, publications, workshops to promote the research and development capacity of the Penang Botanic Gardens and related work by USM and organisations and individuals interested in the botanic heritage of Penang

The details of the grant are as below:

- Eligibility : At this stage, this grant is open to all USMs' academic member
- Scope : Any but project must be related to Penang Botanic Gardens
- Amount : Maximum of RM2,000.00 per project
- Duration : 1 year

Please email your proposal (2 pages) on the project to be carried out together with the budget requested to: **Dr Asyraf Mansor, School of Biological Sciences** (asyrafm@usm.my)

Please send in your proposal **before of by 21th July 2017.**

Successful recipients **will be contacted by 31st August 2017.**