



No bed of roses:

## Malaysian state offers free honeymoons to warring couples

A Malaysian state is offering free second honeymoons for couples on the brink of divorce, hoping that romantic getaways will help **rekindle** their marriages, according to an official.

Under the ambitious plan, feuding couples will spend three days and two nights on one of the tropical islands off Terengganu state, said government official Ashaari Idris.

"Newly-wed couples are facing numerous problems. Among them are financial issues and problems related to their in-laws," said Ashaari, the state's welfare, community development and women's affairs committee chairman.

"Before marriage, all was good. But

after marriage, some are unable to cope with the new challenges," he told AFP.

"I want to strengthen family ties. If a marriage breaks down, it will hurt the children and it will have serious **implications** on society."

Couples will have to make an application and then undergo an interview before being accepted for the package which is worth an estimated 1,500 ringgit (NT\$14,300).

Ashaari said the state had already carried out a successful **pilot** project involving some 25 couples who faced marital woes.

He said that divorce rates in the Muslim-majority northeastern state were among the lowest in the country. (AFP)

Left: A newly married ethnic Chinese groom lifts his wife after a mass wedding ceremony in Klang in Malaysia's central state of Selangor on Valentine's Day, Feb. 14, 2009.

PHOTO: AFP

Below top: A man climbs a coconut tree in Kuala Terengganu, about 500km northeast of Kuala Lumpur, on Jan. 7, 2009.

Below bottom: A sea gypsy girl peddles her boat through her neighbourhood in the Sulawesi Sea in the Malaysian state of Sabah on Feb. 17, 2009.

PHOTOS: REUTERS

左圖：二月十四日情人節當天，在馬來西亞中部雪蘭莪州巴生舉行的一場聯合婚禮上，一位新婚的華裔新郎抱起新娘。

照片：法新社

下方上圖：元月七日，瓜拉丁加奴一名男子攀爬一顆椰子樹；瓜拉丁加奴位於馬來西亞首都吉隆坡東北方約五百公里處。

下方下圖：二月十七日，一名海上吉普賽女孩搖著船在馬來西亞沙巴州的蘇拉威西海上叫賣。

照片：路透社

## 馬來西亞免費招待瀕離婚夫妻二度蜜月

馬來西亞一名州政府官員表示，他們將免費招待瀕臨離婚的夫妻二度蜜月，盼能藉由這趟浪漫之旅重燃他們的愛苗。

丁加奴州官員阿夏立·艾德里斯表示，透過這項具挑戰性的計畫，爭吵不休的夫妻將可到當地的熱帶島嶼上度過三天兩夜的假期。

該州福利、社區發展和婦女事務委員會主席阿夏立說：「新婚夫妻會面臨許多問題，包括經濟及和雙方父母相處的問題。」

他對法新社表示：「結婚前一切是那麼美好。但結婚後，有些夫妻無法適應這些新的

挑戰。」

「我希望能鞏固家庭關係。若婚姻破裂，孩子跟著遭殃，最終會對社會造成嚴重的影響。」

欲參加的夫妻必須先提出申請，通過面試者，就能得到這價值約一千五百林吉特（新台幣一萬四千三百元）的套裝行程。

阿夏立說，丁加奴州已成功試辦這項計畫，約有二十五對瀕臨離婚的夫妻參加。

他說，位於馬來西亞東北部的丁加奴州人口以穆斯林為主，是全國離婚率最低的州之一。

(法新社/翻譯：袁星璽)

### 1. **rekindle** /ri'kɪndl/ v.

再點燃 (zai4 dian3 ran2)

例：A good book can sometimes be enough to rekindle your interest in literature.

(一本好書有時足以重燃你對文學的興趣。)

### 2. **implication** /,ɪmplɪ'keɪʃən/ n.

可能的影響 (ke3 neng2 de5 ying2 xiang3)，牽涉 (qian1 she4)

例：A conference will be held to discuss the implications of the new taxation regulations.

(將召開一場討論新稅制影響所及的會議。)

### 3. **pilot** /'paɪlət/ adj.

試驗性的 (shi4 yan4 xing4 de5)

例：Following the success of the pilot project, the program will be rolled out nationwide.

(試驗方案成功後，該計畫將推行至全國。)

