



14 AUG, 2024

## Segamat wall art earns spot in M'sian record book

The Star, Malaysia

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JOHOR

# Segamat wall art earns spot in M'sian record book

By YEE XIANG YUN  
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A MURAL depicting two trains across different periods in Segamat, Johor has made it into the record books.

Ghai Swee Ling, who initiated the artwork, said the "Train Across Time" mural featured a steam train from 1954 meeting a modern train from 2024 at the corner of the wall, creating a visual narrative of the passage of time and technological advancement.

Ghai is the founder of the train station-themed food and beverage restaurant in Jalan Abdullah, where the mural is located.

Situated next to the Segamat wet market, it is also nearby the old train station that was demolished years ago.

She added that the 10.4m-high and 12.5m-wide artwork received the Malaysia Book of Records recognition for the largest train wall mural on July 28.

The date holds a special meaning for Ghai, who spent several months searching for historical photographs of the old train station.

"I finally found a photo from the official archives of Keretapi Tanah Melayu Bhd taken on July 28, 1954.

"I developed the concept and engaged mural artist Tan Jian Siong from Muar to bring the artwork to life," she said, adding that the choice of trains as the theme was inspired by Segamat's historical train station.

The old landmark has since been replaced with a new one, which is currently in operation.

Ghai received the certificate from Malaysia Book of Records representative Lee Pooi Leng on July 28, coinciding with the 70th anniversary of the old train station photo.

## Mural at eatery a visual narrative of passage of time and technological progress



The 10.4m high and 12.5m wide 'Train Across Time' artwork has made it into the Malaysia Book of Records for the largest train wall mural.

She also noted that 2024 marked an important milestone with the opening of the new Segamat train station, which inspired the creation of the mural linking the past and the present.

"I hope the mural helps the community reconnect with Segamat's heritage and offers a visual journey through the town's railway history," she said.

"I also hope to play a part in revitalising the old town through culture and art as this will boost tourism and at the same time, encourage more locals to return to their hometown.

"This will help boost Segamat's economic development."

Jementah assemblyman Ng Kor Sim, who was also present at the certificate presentation



Lee (right) presenting the certificate to Ghai (second from left) while Ng (second from right) and Tan look on.

ceremony, said the mural was not only a highlight for the district but also a testament of the hard work put in by those involved in bringing it to life.

"I hope the mural is just the

beginning, with more people coming together to promote Segamat's tourism industry and develop it into a well-known tourist destination in Johor," she said.



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### SUMMARIES

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