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# Caricature feat earns him place in book of records

Coffee and dates keep cartoonist awake as he completes 320 drawings in 24 hours

IT WAS a triumphant moment for freelance cartoonist Mohd Azmi Mohd Hussin when it was announced that he had made it into the Malaysia Book of Records (MBR).

The crowd was outside the Kapitan Keling Mosque in Penang to witness the 33-year-old taking home the title of making the most number of live caricature drawings within 24 hours.

Mohd Azmi, who looked tired, was all smiles after achieving the rare feat. He managed to draw 320 caricatures.

Starting at 10am on a Saturday, he was originally supposed to draw only 250 caricatures but after reaching the target at 3.25am the next day, he decided to carry on until the 24-hour mark.

Mohd Azmi said: "I was given 24 hours and an extra 40 minutes for breaks, but I only took time out to pray."

"I ate dates and drank a lot of coffee to keep me up throughout the night."

Mohd Azmi said he had expected to draw 300 caricatures and the extra 20 was an added bonus.

"I was worried there would not be enough people to draw as sometimes there were less tourists in the area, but during the night the crowd came in after having supper."

"It took me about three to four minutes to do a caricature."

"Many people misconceive that when I draw them it will be a nice proper portrait but a caricature is a cartoonised version of the person I am drawing," he said.

MBR research and marketing assistant manager Ayman Izzaz Mujab, who was present to witness Mohd Azmi's work, said the title was the first of its kind in Malaysia.

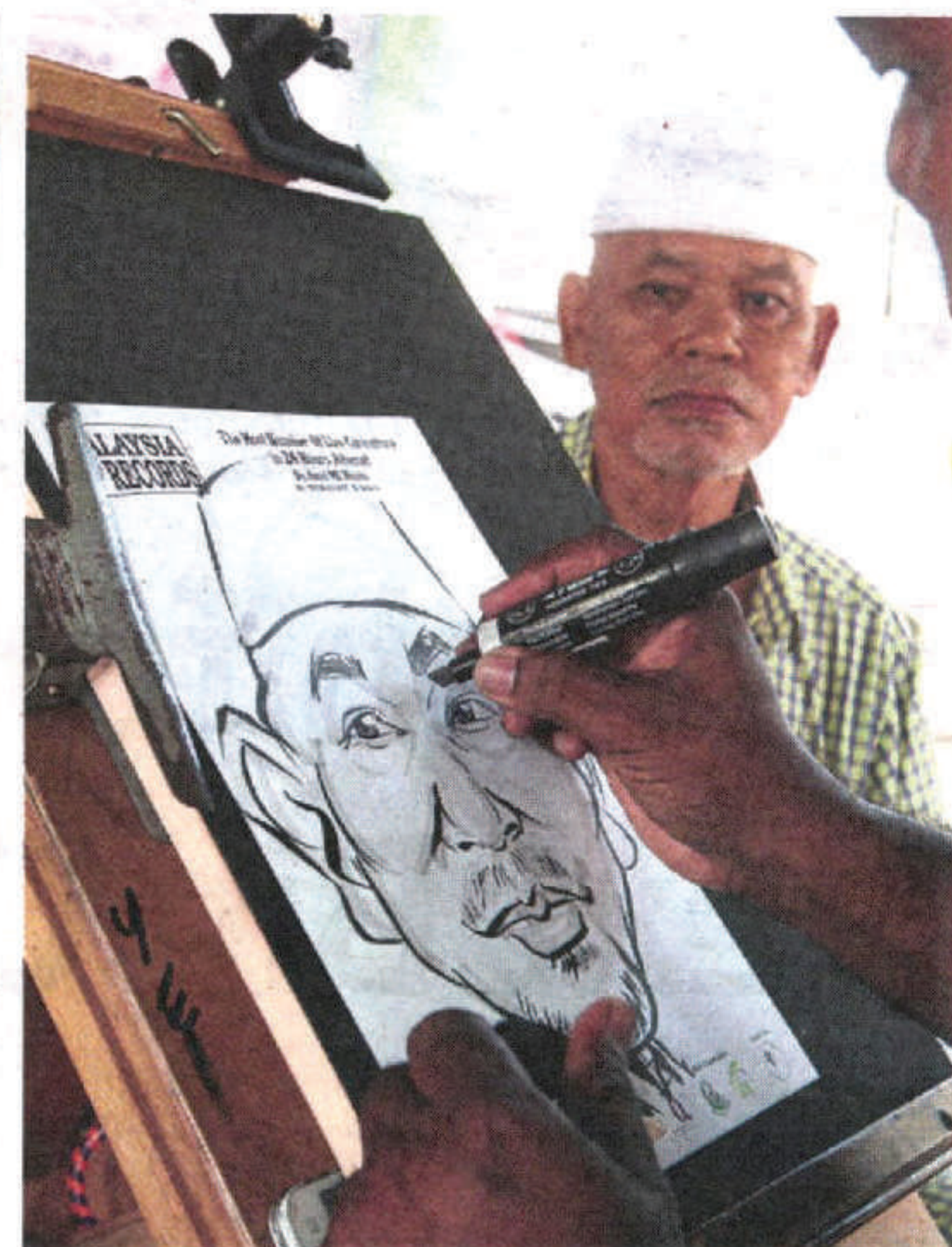
"No one has attempted this before. I came to check if he had adhered to the rules and if it was carried out properly."

"We gave him a minimum of 250 caricatures but he exceeded it by 70," he said, adding that the event also raised funds for three organisations.



Kendra Wishnowsky, 22, holding with a caricature of herself during the event where Mohd Azmi drew the most number of live caricature drawings in 24 hours, outside the Kapitan Keling Mosque.

— Photos: LIM BENG TATT/The Star



A man getting his caricature drawn by Mohd Azmi.

The mosque and Indian Muslim Community Organisation Malaysia managed to raise RM20,511 within the 24 hours.

Kapitan Keling Mosque committee chairman Datuk Meera Mydin Mastan said the proceeds would go to Persatuan Tongkat Putih, Malaysian Cancer Society and the National Kidney Foundation.

Padang Kota assemblyman Chow Kon Yeow, who was the guest of honour, praised the artist for his effort and was proud to have the 320th caricature drawn of him.

The drawings were then displayed at the mosque hall and later collected by those who had their caricatures drawn for free.



Ayman (left) presenting the Malaysia Book of Records certificate to Mohd Azmi (right, with garland) while Chow looks on.