



**TRAGEDY
OF
MH17**

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The casket containing the remains of in-flight supervisor Mohd Ghafar being taken to a hearse from the aircraft yesterday.

Remains of UMS lecturer, two other victims arrive

SEPANG: The remains of three more victims of Malaysia Airlines (MAS) Flight MH17 arrived in Malaysia Sunday, with two of them accorded military honours at a simple ceremony at the Bunga Raya Complex, KL International Airport (KLIA), here.

Malaysia also observed the one-minute silence at 8.41am to honour the victims.

The atmosphere turned solemn and gloomy as soon as the aircraft approached the complex for the commencement of the ceremony to honour the remains of MH17 in-flight supervisor Mohd Ghafar Abu Bakar and Universiti Malaysia Sabah lecturer Ng Shi Ing.

MH19 left Schiphol Airport, Amsterdam, at noon (6pm Malaysian time) and landed at the main terminal of KLIA at 6.45am, before the aircraft proceeded to the Bunga Raya Complex at 8.25am and came to a complete halt five minutes later.

Those present, including dignitaries, government officers and relatives of the victims, were overwhelmed with emotion, especially when the casket containing the remains of Mohd Ghaffar and the urn, with the ashes of Ng, were brought down from the aircraft and transferred to the hearses.

The casket was the first to be brought down, followed by the urn.

The identity of the remains of the third victim that was brought home Sunday was not revealed on the request by family members.

Mohd Ghafar will be buried at the Taman Kosas Cemetery, Ampang, while the urn containing Ang's ashes was sent to Xiao En Bereavement Care Sdn Bhd in Cheras, Kuala Lumpur.

Soon after the doors of the two hearses were closed, the master of ceremony

announced for those present to observe the one-minute silence.

Present at the complex to honour the MH17 victims were Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, Transport Minister Datuk Seri Liow Tiong Lai, Women, Family and Community Development Minister Datuk Seri Rohani Abdul Karim and the ministers in the Prime Minister's Department, Tan Sri Joseph Kurup and Datuk Dr Wee Ka Siong.

Besides the next-of-kin and relatives of the victims, also present were a group of MAS crew and family members of passengers in MH370 which disappeared from the radar on March 8 this year.

A total of 190 personnel from the 12th Malaysian Infantry Brigade were involved in Sunday's ceremony.

On Saturday, Liow said the third batch of the MH17 victims was scheduled to arrive in the country on Aug 30.

So far, the Dutch authorities had identified 30 Malaysian nationals.

The remains of 20 of the victims arrived last Friday in 17 caskets and three urns, and were given full military honours, the first ever accorded to civilians in the country's history.

Also present during Friday's ceremony were the Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah, the Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Hajah Haminah, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak and wife, Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor, Muhyiddin and wife, Puan Sri Norainee Abdul Rahman and other dignitaries.

Flight MH17 crashed in eastern Ukraine on July 17 as it was flying from Amsterdam to Kuala Lumpur with 283 passengers and 15 crew on board. The Boeing 777-200 aircraft is believed to have been shot down over the troubled country. - Bernama



An urn containing the ashes of UMS lecturer Ng Shi Ing being taken out from the aircraft yesterday.

Ashes of UMS lecturer kept at centre

KUALA LUMPUR: The ashes of the remains of Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) lecturer Ng Shi Ing, one of the victims in the doomed Malaysia Airlines (MAS) Flight MH17, which arrived Sunday, was brought to the Xiao En Bereavement Centre in Cheras.

The centre's Corporate Communication and Marketing General Manager, Sally Tan, said Shi Ing's ashes would be kept with that of her younger sister, Elisabeth Ng Lyeti, which arrived last Friday.

She said the ashes of the two sisters would be kept at the centre pending the repatriation of the remains of Shi Ing's one-year-old son, Benjamin Lee Jian Han.

"The family members informed us that the (ashes or remains of) three of them will probably be sent to Muar, Johor, after the religious rituals conducted here," she told reporters.

The urn bearing the ashes of Shi Ing's remains, which was wrapped with the national flag, arrived at the centre at 9.41am.

It was carried by her husband, Lt Commander Lee Vee Weng, a Royal Malaysian Navy officer based in Kota Kinabalu, into the centre, accompanied by two Buddhist priests.

See Page 2, Col. 4

Lecturer's family members, friends present

From Page One

About 10 family members and friends were present, while 50 staff of the centre and volunteers from the Young Buddhist Association (YBAM) lined the path leading to the place where the ashes would be kept.

Shi Ing, a lecturer in the Teaching of English as a second language (TESL) at the USM's Faculty of Psychology and

Education, was returning home with her son and sister after attending a conference at the University of Antwerp, Belgium.

The remains of 20 MH17 victims, comprising 11 passengers and nine crew members, arrived home in a special aircraft last Friday.

The second batch, involving the remains of three victims, including Shi Ing's ashes, arrived Sunday.