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# National Library carries Malay version of Russia's history book

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**KUALA LUMPUR** — The National Library has added a Bahasa Malaysia translation of a book on Russian history to mark the country's decades-old links with Malaysia.

The book titled *Sejarah Tamadun Dan Budaya Rusia* was written by linguistic expert Prof Victor Pogadaev.

Pogadaev also contributed 31 items, including books, dictionaries and a collection of poetry he wrote.

National Library director-general Datuk Nafisah Ahmad said the launch of the book and an accompanying exhibition themed "History of Friendship" would continue to promote close bilateral ties between the two nations.

"I hope this exhibition will educate people, especially our visitors, in understanding the history, culture, political and economic ties between the two countries," she said at the launch yesterday.

Malaysia established relations with the former Soviet Union in 1967, and second prime minister the late Tun Abdul Razak officially visited the country in 1972.

"I am confident that with 50 years of relationship, our cooperation will grow from strength to strength in the decades

ahead," Nafisah said.

The launch was officiated by Russian ambassador to Malaysia Valery Yermolov.

Yermolov said that while formal ties were established in 1967, the two countries' relations stretched back further and has grown in the areas of economic, technical, cultural and scientific cooperation.

"Our cultural exchanges have been especially fruitful and there has been mutual interest in language as evidenced by this book which we hope will make the history of Russia accessible and interesting," he said.

The exhibition at the National Library is open to the public for one month. Among others, it features an extensive collection of photographs documenting the ties between the two countries, highlights of cooperation and cultural exchanges, including Pogadaev's works.



Nafisah, Yermolov (centre) and Pogadaev flip through the book during its launch at the National Library. — Picture by Zuraneeza Zulkifli