



2003

For Immediate Release

Press Release: Fireballs Light Up Temburong Sky as Lyrids Peak

Text and Photographs by the Astronomical Society of Brunei Darussalam (PABD)

Bandar Seri Begawan - Over 50 stargazers gathered at Peliunan Park on April 22 for 2026 Lyrids Meteor Shower AstroCamp, witnessing a spectacular celestial display. The event was co-organized by the Astronomical Society of Brunei Darussalam (PABD) and the Peliunan Park Management.

Under a clear sky, participants recorded 99 bright meteors with fireballs between 10 pm and 5 am - an average of 14 meteors per hour (ZHR) - streaking from the constellation Lyra.

With the Moon setting early, the suburban dark skies of Batu Apoi offered ideal conditions for viewing the annual meteor shower, produced as debris from Comet C/1861 G1 (Thatcher) entered Earth's atmosphere at extreme velocity, leaving glowing ionized trails.

The event commenced in the afternoon on April 22 with tent setups and registration, transitioning into an "All-night Stargazing" session in the evening. Participants were treated to views of the Moon, planet Jupiter and bright deep-sky objects through the optical telescopes and smart telescopes.

The event comprised a specialized astronomy talk by the PABD Secretary General, Hazarry bin Haji Ali Ahmad. The presentation covered the science of the Lyrids meteor shower and raised critical dark sky awareness, emphasizing the importance of protecting the night from light pollution.

Held in conjunction with International Dark Sky Week, the session served as a call to action for the local community to join the global movement for dark sky preservation. By committing to responsible lighting, participants joined a worldwide effort to curb light pollution and protect the visibility of our universe and astronomical phenomena for the next generation.

"Witnessing so many people connect with the night sky to watch the celestial wonder is truly inspiring," expressed Hidayatullah bin Ahmad, PABD Programme Coordinator. "AstroCamp is more than just a meteor shower; it's about building awareness, igniting a sense of wonder, and reminding us that we must all work together to preserve the natural darkness of our universe."

Under the theme "Dark Skies, Falling Stars," the program featured a dedicated Milky Way hunt and the "First Light" Lyrids Astrophotography Challenge. After observations concluded at astronomical twilight, participants gathered for the prize presentation. Muhammad Arif bin Ismail was named the astrophotography champion, taking home a Dobsonian telescope.



A bright Lyrid meteor streaking across the pristine skies of Temburong during our 2026 AstroCamp. Captured by Muhammad Arif bin Ismail, First Light" Lyrids Astrophotography Challenge champion.



PABD Secretary General Hazarry bin Haji Ali Ahmad delivered a talk on the science of the Lyrids and the importance of dark sky preservation, highlighting the need to protect our night skies from light pollution.



A young participant sees the Moon through a telescope for the first time.



An elderly participant takes a closer look at the night sky.



A group photo, framed by the stars and the majestic Milky Way.



Participants of Astrocamp 2026 gather at Peliunan Park for the Lyrids meteor shower observation.



The highlight of the 'First Light' challenge was the crowning of Muhammad Arif bin Ismail as the astrophotography champion. Arif distinguished himself as the first participant to successfully capture both a meteor and the Milky Way in a single frame, earning him the grand prize of a Dobsonian telescope.

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For more information, visit www.bruneiastronomy.org.
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Siaran Akhbar: Tahi Bintang Terangi Langit Temburong Semasa Kemuncak Lyrids

Teks dan Gambar oleh Persatuan Astronomi Brunei Darussalam (PABD)

Bandar Seri Begawan - Lebih 50 peminat astronomi berkumpul di Taman Peliunan pada 22hb April bagi acara Perkhemahan Astronomi (AstroCamp) Hujan Meteor Lyrids 2026, menyaksikan paparan fenomena langit yang menakjubkan. Acara ini dianjurkan bersama oleh Persatuan Astronomi Negara Brunei Darussalam (PABD) dan Pengurusan Taman Peliunan.

Program pencerapan astronomi intensif sepanjang perkhemahan ini merekodkan jumlah kumulatif 99 meteor terang atau lebih dikenali sebagai "tahi bintang". Data pencerapan dari jam 10 malam hingga 5 pagi menunjukkan kadar purata juraian (ZHR) sebanyak 14 meteor sejam yang terpancar dari radian buruj Lyra.

Dengan keadaan bulan yang terbenam awal, langit gelap dan cuaca cerah di Batu Apoi telah menyediakan pandangan yang optimum untuk sesi pencerapan.

Ketika serpihan daripada Komet C/1861 G1 (Thatcher) memasuki atmosfera pada kelajuan yang sangat cepat, meninggalkan jejak juraian yang bercahaya.

Acara bermula pada petang 22hb April dengan pemasangan khemah serta pendaftaran, sebelum beralih ke sesi cerapan bintang sepanjang malam. Para peserta berpeluang melihat Bulan, planet Musytari (Jupiter), dan objek-objek samawi (*deep-sky objects*) yang terang melalui teleskop optikal serta teleskop pintar (smart telescope).

Program ini turut memuatkan taklimat astronomi khas yang disampaikan oleh Setiausaha Agung PABD, Hazarry bin Haji Ali Ahmad. Pembentangan tersebut merangkumi sains mengenai hujan meteor Lyrids dan meningkatkan kesedaran terhadap langit gelap, serta menekankan kepentingan melindungi malam daripada pencemaran cahaya.

Pencerapan langit ini diadakan bersempena Minggu Langit Gelap Antarabangsa (International Dark Sky Week) yang menekankan gerakan global bagi pemuliharaan langit gelap. Ia merupakan inisiatif PABD untuk meningkatkan kesedaran awam di mana para peserta turut menzahirkan komitmen terhadap pelestarian langit gelap demi memastikan fenomena astronomi ini terus dapat dinikmati oleh generasi masa hadapan.

"Sangat menginspirasi apabila melihat ramai pencerap berkumpul untuk menghayati keindahan langit malam," kata Penyelaras Program PABD, Hidayatullah bin Ahmad. "AstroCamp bukan sekadar tentang hujan meteor; ia adalah platform untuk memupuk kesedaran, mencetuskan rasa ingin tahu, dan peringatan buat kita semua untuk bersama-sama menjaga keaslian langit gelap malam kita."

Program ini juga memuatkan aktiviti menjejak Bimasakti dan Cabaran Astrofotografi Lyrids. Para peserta berkumpul bagi pengumuman pemenang dan penyampaian hadiah menjelang berakhirnya tempoh pencerapan pada waktu fajar. Muhammad Arif bin Ismail telah dinobatkan sebagai juara astrofotografi, sekali gus membawa pulang sebuah teleskop Dobsonian.



Sebutir meteor Lyrid yang terang melintasi ruang angkasa Temburong yang bersih semasa AstroCamp 2026. Dirakam oleh Muhammad Arif bin Ismail, juara Cabaran Astrofotografi Lyrids.



Setiausaha Agung PABD, Hazarry bin Haji Ali Ahmad, menyampaikan ceramah astronomi mengenai sains di sebalik fenomena hujan meteor Lyrids serta kepentingan menangani pencemaran cahaya demi melestarikan langit malam.



Seorang peserta muda melihat Bulan menerusi teleskop buat kali pertama.



Seorang peserta warga emas mengamati langit malam dengan lebih dekat.



Foto berkumpul di bawah hamparan bintang dan galaksi Bima Sakti yang mempersona.



Peserta Astrocamp 2026 berkumpul di Taman Peliunan bagi sesi pencerapan hujan meteor Lyrids.



Kemuncak cabaran 'First Light' Lyrids adalah pengumuman Muhammad Arif bin Ismail sebagai juara. Arif membuktikan kehebatannya sebagai peserta pertama yang berjaya merakam meteor dan galaksi Bima Sakti dalam satu bingkai gambar, sekali gus memenangi hadiah utama berupa sebuah teleskop Dobsonian.

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