

A truly authentic Malaysian Adventure

USING THEIR OWN SAVINGS TO FUND THE FIRST SEASON OF KAMPUNG QUEST, THE SHOW WAS PICKED UP FOR BROADCAST BY HYPP TV IN OCTOBER 2014.

BY ANURADHA VINUGOPAL

Young, passionate and enthusiastic, Iskander and Feisal Azizuddin are on a mission.

Armed with the passion for reality shows, kampung life and a strong sense of unity, the brothers are continuing their mission to change perceptions of Malaysian audiences of all walks of life with their own show – Kampung Quest.

Founded in 2010, Feisk Productions started as a video production company with a focus on corporate and wedding videos.

However, to stand out from the hundreds of videographers out there, both Iskander and Feisal knew they had to stay relevant and do something more – thus venturing into the reality show business in 2013.



KAMPUNG QUEST: CHANGING PERCEPTIONS THROUGH REALITY

10 city dwellers compete in a series of challenges – physically, mentally and socially.

The producers of Kampung Quest are on their second season of the adventure show, where 10 city dwellers compete in a series of challenges – physically, mentally and socially.

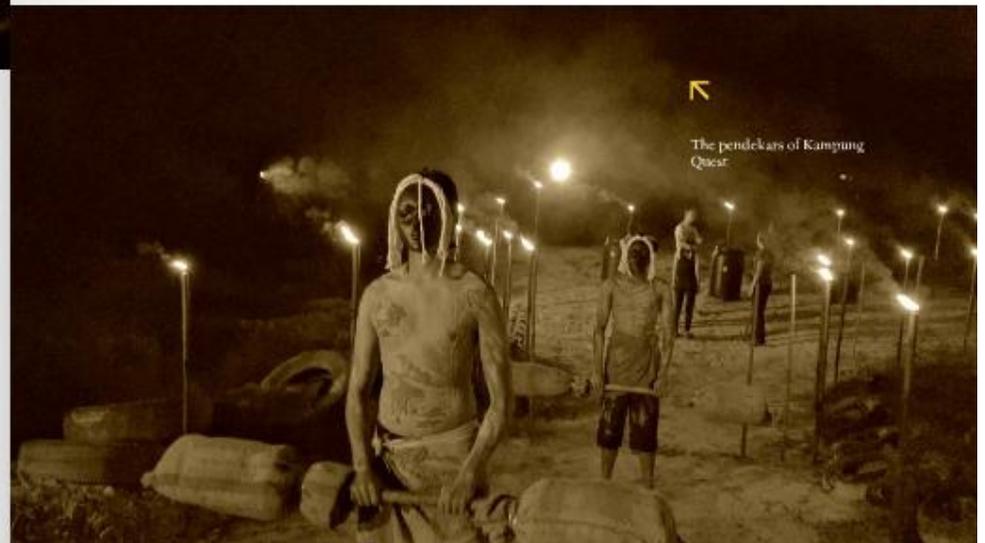
As reality shows often dictates, each night, one undeserving urbanite is eliminated at The Campfire. The camps compete against each other until later, when they compete individually. The village themed reality show is set amidst lush rainforests and rivers of Malaysia.

For the first two days, the chosen urbanites spend time getting to know each other as one big group. On day two, they are woken up in the middle of the night and paired up against each other for a challenge.

The winners and losers are put into two separate camps. The participants from the loser camp will spend the night in the jungle while the victorious group get to stay in a comfortable kampung house.

"In Kampung Quest, we created a sandbox environment. When we feel things are going too good for one camp we create events to mix around stuff, like change team members," said Feisal, who has plans to expand the show to other countries in South East Asia.

"Although we have a flow of events happening each day and a handbook for us to throw challenges at them, the contestants have no script or control. It's quite spontaneous that way," added Iskander.



The pendekars of Kampung Quest



Iskander believes that Kampung Quest is a show for all Malaysians

10 URBANITES 1 EPIC JOURNEY

With 10 Urbanites divided into 2 Camps, rewards favour the one most united and with individuals who can step up to the tasks that lay ahead.

Using their own savings to fund the first season of Kampung Quest, the show was picked up for broadcast by Hypp TV in October 2014. While broadcasting details are in the works, the guys caught a break when they got funded by MDeC this time around and received sponsorship from Reebok and Sony.

Continuing The Quest... and Adventures

"For the second season, we started publishing the programme in forums and also targeted specific individuals who fit into Kampung Quest. We spread the word out to college and

university students' too," said Feisal.

Potential participants then had to produce a 15 second video to show why they would be ideal candidates for the reality show. The producers then chose the 10 contestants based on four criteria -looks, personality, communication skills and the ability to speak English.

Filed over 10 fast paced and intense days, there was a lot of preparation done by the 5 production crews before the actual filming, which included building the right set to reflect Kampung Quest's theme.

The brothers hired extra talents to do the filming, making it 15 people from different backgrounds



Iskander and the other contestants of Kampung Quest



Iskander and the other contestants of Kampung Quest

NIK'S KAMPUNG ADVENTURE

The sentiments are shared by Kampung Quest participant, Nik Daniel Hazeed who said he bonded with his team mates of different cultures. Hailing from Subang Jaya, the Mass Communication student at Inti College, has not had much experience of the kampung life, besides his short visits to his kampung in Kelantan.

"I've always wanted to know how it's like joining a reality show. I've always wanted to join shows such as The Amazing Race, Explorace, Fear Factor and Survivor. So when I got the chance to join Kampung Quest, I decided to take it and truly enjoyed it," said Nik.

While admitting it was initially weird to have cameras following him, Nik adapted to it fast and said they were as natural as they could be. The challenge for him was being the only guy in the camp of 3 girls and a guy, and physical challenges were difficult for them. Still, thanks to teamwork, they managed to win.

"I was away for once without gadgets for 10 days so it was a personal challenge, as we are all so used to phone with us. We had to find things to do and entertain each other," added the reality show fan.

Nik laughingly denied any rumours of relationships among his team mates, but ad-

mits there was a whole lot of drama during the film. As expected, there were highs and lows, as challenges eliminated contestants and members got swapped – changing the dynamics of the show.

Among the memorable (but trying) moments he witnessed was when his team had to sleep in the rain. The girls could cover themselves in the shelter they made, but he was too tall, ending up curling like a ball and still getting wet. In that one moment, Nik was only thinking about home.

Still, the 20 year old believes it was an interesting experience and had his share of lessons while participating in Kampung Quest.

"I learnt that communicating with people is important, to be never picky when it comes to food and to survive, we have to accommodate other people's needs too," he added.

As the producers work on another game show based on obstacle courses, Iskander and Faisal will continue focus on Kampung Quest, a production close to their hearts.

Hosted by Jeremy Teo of Red FM, the second season of Kampung Quest looks to be one that is darker and more thrilling. Here's one reality show to look forward to!



The Ober Camp Tra



Nik (second from left) and other participants in Kampung Quest

working on the set – a testament of the company's multi-racial philosophy.

"Many broadcasters have criticised us for having the show in English and want they to target the Malay audience, but we want to target a Malaysian crowd," said Iskander, who believes Kampung Quest is a show that target Malaysians from all walks of life regardless of race, religion and background.

Kampung Quest's participants are between 16 to 28, with producers ensuring that the different faces of Malaysia are represented. When faced with rough situations and tough challenges, the participants clearly work well together, putting race and religion aside to pull through.

"We are told that there is uneasiness going on between Malaysians from different backgrounds, but I don't see it. My best friend is Indian, we work with Chinese. You can see people eating from the same plate. No question about who you are – to me, we are all Malaysians," revealed Iskander.

Rationed food, limited water, mystery quests and unexpected twists; the 10 Urbanites must do what it takes to survive