Selamat datang. (Welcome)

Malaysia is a country that located in Southeast Asia. It is a culturally diverse nation which we have several races and ethnics in Malaysia. We have Chinese, Indian, Malay and etcetera. The assimilation of our various cultures is such a beautiful and unique identity for the Malaysians. Yet why am I telling about this to you?

It is because the object that I am going to narrate really related to the Malaysian tradition. Ladies and gentlemen, I present you our unique tradition wear, ‘songket.’ First and foremost, let me explain to you what is ‘songket?’ Basically, songket is a traditional cloth for Malay. It is a fabric that belongs to the brocade family of textiles of Indonesia, Malaysia, and Brunei. It is actually hand-woven in silk or cotton and intricately patterned with gold or silver threads.

This one particular songket is my all-time-favorite songket because it brings up mélange of good memories. Usually, I will wear this songket at a special celebration or festival, especially during Eid Mubarak. Eid Mubarak is a day of Muslim celebration after fasting for a month of Ramadan.

Because of this songket is truly momentous for me, I wear this songket every year and I even bring this songket to the United States. By wearing this songket, it reminds me of all the good memories as the celebration of Eid Mubarak is all about happiness and bliss. Every year, our big family will gather at my grandparents’ house and have a catch-up with everyone. Those precious moments are what made this songket really meaningful for me.
At the moment when I got accepted to this university, the first thing that came into my mind is to bring this priceless songket. I departed from Malaysia to pursue my study at the University of Minnesota on January 10, 2014 and I arrived here on January 11, 2014. As well as me, this songket has gone through a long journey all the way from Malaysia to the United States.

This songket has definitely been a significant to my journey of migration as it is a very meaningful object that reminds me of my home country and my family. Every single time I wear this songket here, in the States, I feel very close to home. I feel connected to my family.

I really want to introduce my culture, my tradition and my songket to the world and hopefully I could share this happiness and pleasure with everyone else.