

Just one gigantic godown

Fashioned after the factory outlets for branded goods in Britain and the United States, the Nilai 3 wholesale centre in Nilai, Negri Sembilan, has all kinds of everything for the whole family.

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If you haven't been to Nilai 3 wholesale centre in Nilai, Negri Sembilan, you don't know what you're missing. It has everything you need - from furniture and car accessories to artificial flowers and soft toys for the kids.

So if you plan on spending a few hours here to shop, think again as even one day is not enough to browse through the lot.

The Nilai 3 concept is similar to the factory outlets of branded goods, which are found in Britain and the United States.

Tucked away from Seremban, this gigantic centre has up to 400 shops, selling all and sundry, such as kitchen utensils, textiles, paintings and the like.

"The main attraction to me is the textiles. There are so many different kinds to choose from and they are all affordable," said Suraya Ismail, 25, who have just bought six pieces of fabrics to make clothes for the upcoming Raya celebration. She added that she'd be coming back to buy more later.

"I know it's a little too early to do my shopping, but this place will get very packed by the time the Raya month arrives and I'm not going to go through all the crowd, especially

on weekends," she said.

Textiles are a big hit among the ladies as the exotic cloths come from various countries like Indonesia, Myanmar, Thailand, China, Pakistan and India.

"The best thing about some of the shops here is that you can bargain your way, including my shop," said a bubbly supervisor for Al-Baz Textile, Linda Wati.

Linda said that her cheapest Thailand silk cost between RM30 and RM70 and they come in various colours, including pastel.

Her shop also offers the traditional Malaysian baju kurung, headscarves, shawls kain songket as well as the brooches and songkok.

Just a few doors away from Al-Baz Textile, there is a shop which occupies about two lots, and it offers wedding accessories and artificial flowers.

It also sells souvenir paper bags, bunga telur, photo album, trays and all kinds of dainty stuff and gift items.

One interesting thing to note is that this shop not only sells various designs of souvenir accessories taken in from China, Borneo, Indonesia, Thailand and Myanmar, it also sells custom-made accessories.

"We have even designed gifts and souvenirs for actor and television personality Jalaluddin Hassan and singer Bob Azrai's wedding," said

Syafinaz Ariffin, who is the supervisor of the shop, VR Star Sdn Bhd. Syafinaz added that they also design hantaran and do flower arrangements for free.

Additionally, they even design their own photo albums, which currently come in two different shades - gold and green.

"The photo albums cost between RM51 and RM68, with 100 pages. What sets them apart from other albums is the materials used in making them," said Syafinaz, who is the official designer for the company.

"We even deliver the items bought by our customers but, of course, we charge them a delivery fee. At least, in this way, they do not have to make another trip to collect the items," she said.

If you walk to the heart of Nilai 3, you would notice a huge roof hovering over about a hundred shops selling different kinds of goods.

One such shop is Idaman Collection Enterprise which sells a wide range of bags, be it working or casual bags.

The prices range from as low as RM1 to RM50 and they come in different shapes and colours to suit various tastes.

Manager of Idaman Collection Enterprise, Noorashidah Samat, said that the bags are brought in from Hong Kong, China, Taiwan, Myanmar and Thailand.

She added that if you buy three bags, you are entitled to a free purse, provided the total on your receipt is at least RM100.

Just as the clock struck 7 that evening and the writer and cameraman were about to call it a day, they noticed there were some children surrounding some bright coloured figurines in a particular shop.

Curious as to what could attract so many children, the writer decided to check it out.

"Spider-man! Spongebob Squarepants! I want those, please!" cried four-year-old Mohd Fakri Syareez, clinging on to his brother and sister.

Jiason Trading (N3) offers a galore of soft toys of popular cartoon characters such as Spider-man, Spongebob Squarepants, Garfield, Doraemon, Pikachu, Winnie the Pooh and many more.

Here, you can find a metre-high Spongebob Squarepants figurine and it is sold at RM199.

"This cartoon character has been the biggest hit in our shop. The Spider-man figurine is a big hit as well," said the sales assistant here.

Indeed, this shopping paradise is worth checking out as it offers so many interesting items and at affordable prices, too.

But take note that you might in the end overspend on too many things here as the offers are really that tempting.

Inch by inch:
Shoppers Noorashidah Samat and Wong Choi Fan 'testing' the colourful bags at Idaman Collection Enterprise.



Exotic designs:
Curious shoppers looking at a carpet brought in from Pakistan at the Khyber Maju shop.



How's this for size?:
Two young ladies trying on bracelets at a shop in Nilai 3.



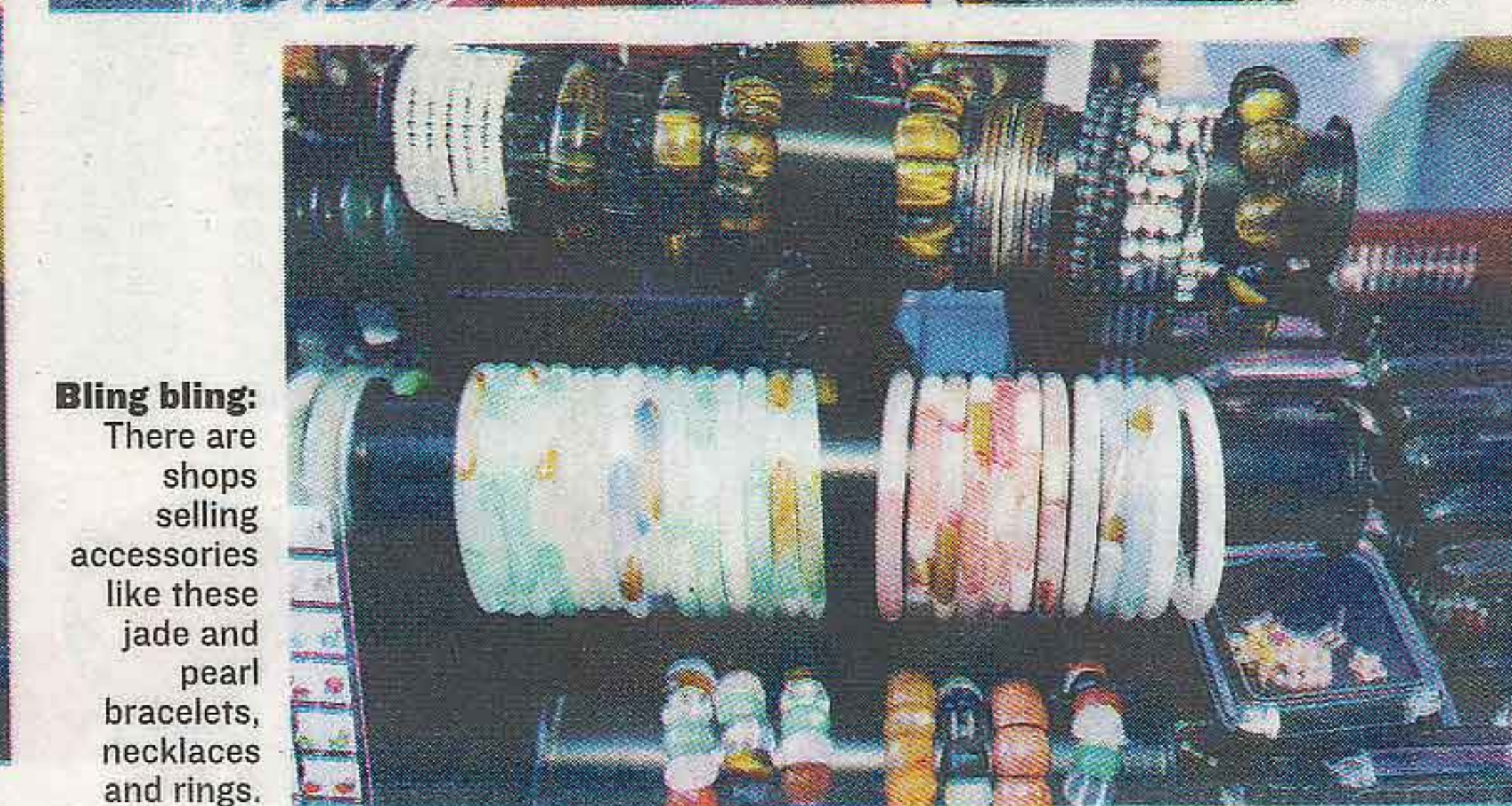
Imported material:
Al Baz Textiles brings exotic textiles from China, Thailand, Myanmar, Indonesia and Borneo.



Items for the home:
A wide variety of household ware at Saaka Nilai Sdn Bhd.



Cuddly stuff:
Siblings Mohd Firdaus Hamzah, Mohd Fakri Syareez and Siti Fairuz checking out the soft toys at Jiason Trading.



Bling bling:
There are shops selling accessories like these jade and pearl bracelets, necklaces and rings.



Affordable attractions: Once you're in Nilai 3, you are sure to find everything that you want, and at a cheaper price.



Family outing: Father and son checking out some toys at Idaman Collection Enterprise.



Special creations: The custom-made 'hantaran' at VR Star Sdn Bhd. The shop also sells various designs of souvenir accessories.