



برونى دارالسلام

Brunei Darussalam

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ASEAN-Australia Special Summit Opening Ceremony



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam together with other Heads of State and Government of ASEAN at the Leaders' Welcome Reception and Official Opening Ceremony of the ASEAN-Australia Special Summit.

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA, March 17 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam together with The Honourable Malcolm Turnbull, Prime Minister of Australia and other Heads of State and Government of ASEAN attended the Leaders' Welcome Reception and Official Opening Ceremony of the ASEAN-Australia Special Summit 2018 which was held at the Grand Ballroom Foyer Sydney of the International Convention Center.

Upon arrival, the leaders received the "Welcome to Country" ceremony performed by an indigenous Australian group.

The Opening Ceremony commenced with welcoming remarks by The Honourable Prime Minister of Australia. It was followed by traditional cultural performances to officially welcome ASEAN Leaders to Australia. The ceremony was also attended by Foreign Ministers as well as Chief Executive Officers from ASEAN and Australia.

Prior to the Leaders' Welcome Reception and Official Opening Ceremony of the ASEAN-Australia Special Summit, His Majesty attended the "New Colombo Plan" Afternoon Tea and Closing of the Counter-Terrorism Conference.

Presentation of the RAF Wing Badge and Certificate to His Royal Highness Captain Prince 'Abdul Mateen

UNITED KINGDOM, March 28 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, Minister of Defence and Supreme Commander of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces, attended the Graduation Ceremony of His Royal Highness Captain Prince 'Abdul Mateen. The ceremony was held at the RAF Shawbury, United Kingdom.

Accompanying His Majesty were His Royal Highness Prince Haji 'Abdul 'Azim, Her Royal Highness Princess 'Azemah Ni'matul Bolkiah and Her Royal Highness Princess Fadzilah Lubabul Bolkiah.

His Majesty's arrival at the RAF Shawbury was welcomed by Sir Algernon Heber Percy, Lord Lieutenant of Shropshire; Air Marshal Sean Reynolds, Deputy Commander Capability and Air Member for Personnel & Capability; Air Vice-Marshal Warren James, Air Officer Commanding 22 Group; Air Commodore David Bentley, Director of Flying Training; and Group Captain R. S. Norris, Station Commander of the RAF Shawbury.

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5. His Majesty receives Letters of Credence



7. ASEAN-Australia Special Summit 2018 "New Colombo Plan" Afternoon Tea



10. Presentation of the RAF Wing Badge and Certificate to His Royal Highness Captain Prince 'Abdul Mateen



11. Opening Ceremony of the 14th Session of the Legislative Council



13. Equip PKBN trainees with strong values



15. Al-Quran as the source of reference in life



16. Get-Together Ceremony: Educated generation are priceless 'natural resources'



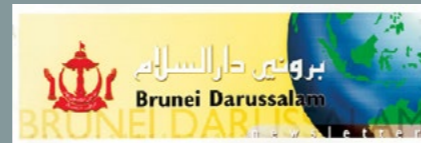
17. Chinese New Year get-together



18. Richard Mille Brunei 2018 Championships Prize Presentation Ceremony



19. 3rd Brunei Open and Masters Swimming Championship



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His Majesty receives audiences

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, Minister of Defence and Supreme Commander of Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) received in audience at the Istana Nurul Iman:



His Excellency Amphay Kindavong, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to Brunei Darussalam on March 8.



His Excellency Hisham bin Abdul Wahab bin Abdullah Zaraa, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Saudi Arabia to Brunei Darussalam on March 8.



His Excellency Abdolhamid Fekri, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Brunei Darussalam on March 8.



The Rear Admiral Denis Bertrand, Joint Commander Armed Forces in French Polynesia and Commander of the French Polynesian and Pacific Maritime Zones on March 14.



His Excellency Sayyid Badr bin Hamad bin Hamood Al Busaidi, Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Sultanate of Oman on March 21.



His Excellency General Qamar Javed Bajwa, Chief of Army Staff, Pakistan Army on March 26.

Her Majesty receives audiences

Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam received in audience at the Istana Nurul Iman:

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Mrs. Eiman A.B Kamal, spouse of His Excellency Hisham bin Abdul Wahab bin Abdullah Zaraa, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Saudi Arabia to Brunei Darussalam on March 6.

Her Majesty receives audiences (continued)

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Mrs. Fatemeh Fekri, spouse of His Excellency Abdolhamid Fekri, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Brunei Darussalam on March 6.



Mrs. Phimpha Kindavong, spouse of His Excellency Amphay Kindavong, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to Brunei Darussalam on March 6.



Mrs. Ayesha Bajwa, spouse of His Excellency General Qamar Javed Bajwa, Chief of Army Staff, Pakistan Army on March 26.



Mrs. Daw Nan Yin May Win, spouse of the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Republic of the Union of Myanmar on March 26.

His Royal Highness the Crown Prince receives audiences

His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Ministers' Office received in audience at Qashr Al-Meezan:



His Excellency U Cho Htun Aung, the outgoing Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to Brunei Darussalam on March 12.

His Royal Highness receives audiences

His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah received in audience at the Balai Penghadapan, Bukit Kayangan:



His Excellency Amphay Kindavong, the outgoing Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Lao People's Democratic Republic on March 13.



His Excellency Abdolhamid Fekri, the outgoing Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Brunei Darussalam on March 13.

His Majesty receives Letters of Credence

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, March 13 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, received Letters of Credence from 23 non-resident foreign envoys to the country. The ceremony took place at Istana Nurul Iman.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam received Letters of Credence from:



Her Excellency Ibeta Fernandez Hernandez, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Cuba;



Her Excellency Dorte Bech Vizard, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Denmark;



His Excellency Mohamed Reda Benkhaldoun, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Morocco;



His Excellency Emir Hadzikadunic, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Bosnia and Herzegovina;



His Excellency Manuel Jose Balaguer Salas, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Argentine Republic;



His Excellency Nathan Wolf Lustbader, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United Mexican States;



His Excellency Dr. Istvan Szerdahelyi, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Hungary;



His Excellency Raffaele Langella, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Italian Republic;



His Excellency Rui Fernando Sucena do Carmo, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Portuguese Republic;



His Excellency Andy Dettaille, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Belgium;



His Excellency Guido Felipe Loayza Devescovi, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Peru;



His Excellency Khalid Ghanim Mohammad AlGhaith, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United Arab Emirates;



His Excellency Dr. Michael Postl, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Austria;



Her Excellency Grietje Vonno-Landman, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of The Netherlands;

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Received Letters of Credence

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His Excellency Gamal Abdel Rahim Mohamed Metwally, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Arab Republic of Egypt;



Her Excellency Gunn Jorid Roset, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Norway;



His Excellency Hamza Omer Hassan Ahmed, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Sudan;



Her Excellency Elsa Nury Bauzan Benzano, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Uruguay;



His Excellency Fabian Enrique Valdivieso Eguiguren, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Ecuador;



His Excellency Nikoloz Apkhazava, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Georgia;



Her Excellency Ramzia Diab Ghanim, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Gambia;



Her Excellency Dorothy Samali Hyuha, High Commissioner of the Republic of Uganda;



His Excellency Nurudeen Muhammed, High Commissioner of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam then received in audience the non-resident High Commissioners and Ambassadors Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary who have just presented their Letters of Credence.

His Majesty sends congratulatory messages

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam consented to send congratulatory messages to:

- His Excellency Xi Jinping, President of the People's Republic of China on his re-appointment as President of the People's Republic of China on March 17.
- His Excellency Li Keqiang, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China on his re-appointment as Premier of the People's Republic of China on March 18.
- His Excellency Vladimir Putin, President of the Russian Federation on His Excellency's victory in the recent presidential elections on March 19.
- His Excellency Mamnoon Hussain, President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and His Excellency Shahid Khaqan Abbasi, Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Government as well as the people of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on the occasion of Pakistan Day on March 23.
- His Excellency Md. Abdul Hamid, President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and Her Excellency Sheikh Hasina, Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, the Government as well as the people of the People's Republic of Bangladesh on the occasion of its Independence Day on March 26.
- His Excellency U Win Myint, following his appointment as President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar on March 28.

His Majesty sends message of condolences

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam consented to send a message of condolences to:

- His Excellency Vladimir Putin, President of the Russian Federation, following the fire incident at a shopping mall in the Russian city of Kemerovo on March 31. In the message, His Majesty was saddened to learn the loss of life and injuries caused by the incident. His Majesty as well as the Government and the people of Brunei Darussalam wished to convey their deepest condolences to the Government and people of the Russian Federation, especially to the bereaved families of this unfortunate tragedy. His Majesty ended the message by extending his great sympathy.

ASEAN-Australia Special Summit 2018
"New Colombo Plan" Afternoon Tea



His Majesty, along with other ASEAN leaders, during the "New Colombo Plan" Afternoon Tea which was co-hosted by The Honourable Prime Minister of Australia and The Honourable Julie Bishop MP, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Australia.

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA, March 17 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attended the ASEAN-Australia Special Summit 2018 which was held at the Sydney International Convention Center.

After the photo session, His Majesty, along with other ASEAN leaders, was invited to attend the "New Colombo Plan" Afternoon Tea which was co-hosted by The Honourable Prime Minister of Australia and The Honourable Julie Bishop MP, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Australia.

The reception began with a speech by The Honourable Prime Minister of Australia, followed with a speech by The

Honourable Minister of Foreign Affairs of Australia. His Majesty was subsequently invited by Her Excellency Nicola Rosenblum, High Commissioner of Australia to Brunei Darussalam to meet with four selected students.

The event was also attended by participants of the "New Colombo Plan" and Australian Heads of Mission to the ASEAN Member States.

"New Colombo Plan" is an Australian Government initiative towards increasing the exchange of Australian University students in the Indo-Pacific region. The plan was launched in 2014 with the aim of promoting the growth of knowledge on the Indo-Pacific region in Australia, by giving Australian students the opportunity to study and undergo internship work in the region.

Closing of the Counter-Terrorism Conference



The Honourable Malcolm Turnbull, the Prime Minister of Australia delivering the closing address.



The signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on Counter-Terrorism between ASEAN and Australia, on behalf of ASEAN was His Excellency Dato Paduka Lim Jock Hoi, Secretary-General of ASEAN, and on behalf of Australia was The Honourable Julie Bishop MP, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Australia.

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA, March 17 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, attended the Closing of the Counter-Terrorism Conference held at International Convention Centre Sydney.

The ceremony began with a closing address delivered by The Honourable Malcolm Turnbull, the Prime Minister of Australia.

His Majesty was subsequently invited to join The Honourable Prime Minister of Australia as well as other Heads of State and Government of ASEAN to witness the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on Counter-Terrorism between ASEAN and Australia.

Signing on behalf of ASEAN was His Excellency Dato Paduka Lim Jock Hoi, Secretary-General of ASEAN, and on behalf of Australia was The Honourable Julie Bishop MP, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Australia.

ASEAN-Australia Special Summit 2018

Leaders' Dinner discuss ASEAN-Australia relationship



His Majesty in a group photo with other ASEAN Heads of State and Government during the Leaders' Dinner at Quay Restaurant, Circular Quay, Sydney.

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA, March 17 - In the evening, His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attended a Leaders' Dinner hosted by The Honourable Malcolm Turnbull, Prime Minister of Australia. The event was held at Quay Restaurant, Circular Quay.

The Leaders' Dinner commenced with a speech by The Honourable Prime Minister of Australia to welcome all the ASEAN leaders and delegates attending the ASEAN-Australia Special Summit. At the Dinner, the Leaders discussed the future direction of the ASEAN-Australia relationship.

Meeting with the Prime Minister of Australia: Exchange views on bilateral cooperation



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam with The Honourable Malcolm Turnbull, Prime Minister of Australia.



His Majesty and The Honourable Prime Minister of Australia during the meeting.

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA, March 18 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attended a Meeting with The Honourable Malcolm Turnbull, Prime Minister of Australia. The Meeting was held at the Bilateral Room, Sydney International

Convention Center.

During the Meeting, His Majesty and The Honourable Prime Minister of Australia exchanged views on regional and international matters of mutual concerns as well as bilateral cooperation between Brunei Darussalam and Australia.

ASEAN-Australia Special Summit 2018

Leaders' Plenary Session ASEAN-Australia Special Summit



His Majesty during the Leaders' Plenary Session of the ASEAN-Australia Special Summit.

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA, March 18 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attended the Leaders' Plenary Session of the ASEAN-Australia Special Summit which was held at the Sydney International Convention Centre.

The Leaders' Plenary Session commenced with a welcoming speech by The Honourable Malcolm Turnbull, Prime Minister of Australia for all the ASEAN leaders attending the ASEAN-Australia Special Summit.

This was followed by opening remarks from His Excellency Lee Hsien Loong, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore, as Chairman of ASEAN.

During the Plenary Session, His Majesty delivered a *titah* (royal speech) reflecting on the growth of ASEAN-Australian relationship over the years since Australia became ASEAN's first dialogue partner.

His Majesty added that the Summit is an opportunity to enhance the strategic relationship between the people of ASEAN and Australia.

His Majesty highlighted that continued cooperation through exchange programmes such as the Colombo Plan and the Scholarships are vital in bridging the people and nurturing mutual understanding, especially among the youth.

On trade, His Majesty praised the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (FTA) which has strengthened the ASEAN-Australia economic partnership. This agreement has benefitted trade flows, and served as a platform for other FTA frameworks as well as ASEAN economic integration.

His Majesty underscored the

importance of the digital economy as a growing and useful platform to connect and expand business networks regionally and beyond, and he welcomed closer cooperation towards supporting the development of enterprises.

On security, His Majesty highlighted the importance of ensuring a safe and stable environment, and that maintaining regional peace should be a priority in future collaborations.

His Majesty welcomed the collaborative efforts in combatting terrorism and transnational crimes, through exchanging information and intelligence sharing between law enforcement agencies.

In ending the *titah* (royal speech), His Majesty commended the many initiatives Australia had undertaken to commemorate the Special Summit, which marks a new beginning in its relationship with ASEAN.

During the Plenary Session, the leaders also discussed issues of cooperation and exchanged views on regional and international matters, as well as the future course of ASEAN-Australia relations. The leaders were also briefed with the reports and resolutions of the Business Summit and the Counter-Terrorism Conference which were held earlier.

Leaders' Luncheon and the Leaders' Retreat Session

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA, March 18 - His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attended a Leaders' Luncheon, which was hosted by His Excellency the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia and wife.

His Majesty and the other Leaders' travelled by boat from the Convention Wharf to Admiralty House. Upon arriving at the Croquet Lawn of the Admiralty House, His Majesty was welcomed by His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC Retired Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia and wife, Her Excellency Lady Cosgrove.

At the luncheon, His Majesty was invited to join The Honourable Malcolm Turnbull, Prime Minister of Australia and Heads of State and Government of ASEAN for a group photo session with His Excellency the Governor-General.

After the luncheon, His Majesty, together with The Honourable Malcolm



His Majesty in a group photo with other ASEAN Heads of State and Government during the Leaders' Retreat Session.

Turnbull, the Prime Minister of Australia as well as other ASEAN Leaders, proceeded for the Leaders' Retreat Session of the ASEAN-Australia Special Summit.

The Leaders' Retreat Session began with a speech by The Honourable Prime Minister of Australia to welcome all ASEAN leaders. This was followed by opening remarks from His Excellency Lee Hsien Loong, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore, as Chairman of ASEAN.

During the Retreat Session, His Majesty and other leaders exchanged views on regional and international strategic issues of common interest.

At the conclusion of the Retreat Session, the ASEAN and Australia leaders adopted the "Joint Statement of the ASEAN - Australia Special Summit: The Sydney Declaration".

Presentation of the RAF Wing Badge and Certificate to His Royal Highness Captain Prince 'Abdul Mateen



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam presenting the RAF Wing Badge and Certificate to His Royal Highness Captain Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

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Upon arrival, His Majesty proceeded to the lobby of the Officers' Mess of the RAF Shawbury to sign the guest book. His Majesty was then invited to the Library Room for light refreshments followed by a briefing about the Graduation Ceremony from Group Captain R. S. Norris, Station Commander of the RAF Shawbury. His Majesty later proceeded to Hangar 2 for the Certificate and RAF Wing Badge Presentation Ceremony.

The ceremony began with His Majesty receiving the Salute from the Static Guard of Honour and Colour Guard. His Majesty was subsequently invited to inspect the Static Guards and Colour Guard, followed by a welcoming speech by Group Captain R. S. Norris. The ceremony continued with the presentation of the RAF Wing Badges.

His Majesty then presented the RAF Wing Badge and Certificate to His Royal Highness Captain Prince 'Abdul Mateen. His Majesty also presented Certificates and RAF Wing Badges to the course participants which consisted of 6 Single Engine Rotary Wing participants including His Royal Highness Captain Prince 'Abdul Mateen; 2 Joint Aircrew men; 8 Multi Engine Rotary Wing Series 167 participants; and 11 Multi Engine Rotary Wing Series 169 participants.

The Ceremony continued with a speech by Air Vice-Marshal Warren James, Air Officer Commanding 22 Group. His Majesty was then invited to view the exhibition of the latest helicopter models which will be used for the next course series as well as a flypast demonstration.



His Majesty in a group photo with His Royal Highness Captain Prince 'Abdul Mateen and other course participants.



Also present at the graduation ceremony were His Royal Highness Prince Haji 'Abdul 'Azim, Her Royal Highness Princess 'Azemah Ni'matul Bolkiah, and Her Royal Highness Princess Fadzilah Lubabul Bolkiah.

Before leaving the ceremony, His Majesty joined His Royal Highness Captain Prince 'Abdul Mateen and other course participants for a group photo.

At midday, His Majesty was invited to the Dining Hall of the Officers' Mess of the RAF Shawbury to attend a Luncheon. Prior to that, course participants and families had the opportunity to interact with His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam at the Ante Room, Officers' Mess of the RAF Shawbury. The event began with a welcoming speech by Wing Commander Holly Steel, Commanding Officer of the Defence Helicopter Flying School.

During the luncheon, officers and attendees offered a toast to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second, Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; and to His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, followed by the National Anthems of both - the United Kingdom and Brunei Darussalam.

Afterwards, His Majesty presented awards to the best course participants. His Majesty, as the Minister of Defence and Supreme Commander of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces, also presented the Ministry of Defence plaque to Group Captain R. S. Norris, Station Commander RAF Shawbury. The luncheon concluded with a speech by Air Marshal Sean Reynolds, Deputy Commander Capability and Air Member for Personnel & Capability.

Opening Ceremony of the 14th Session of the Legislative Council

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, March 5 - The First Meeting of the 14th Session of the Legislative Council was officially opened by His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam at the Dewan Majlis Building.

Also present were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office as Ex-Officio Member; His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah; and His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah.

Shortly after arrival, His Majesty received the Royal Salute accompanied by the national anthem 'Allah Peliharakan Sultan' or 'Allah bless His Majesty', and subsequently inspected the Guard of Honour mounted by personnel of the Royal Brunei Police Force, led by Superintendent Awang Suhairi bin Haji Sukri, Parade Commanding Officer.

His Majesty then delivered a *titah* (royal speech) highlighting the importance for Brunei Darussalam to explore areas in agriculture, ensuring that it is handled effectively in order to succeed and this matter should not be ignored.

Touching on economy, His Majesty did not want our country to rely solely on oil and gas revenues.

"Brunei Darussalam needs to be more active in diversifying the economy. This is justified, based on world oil prices often seen unpredictable. Though world oil prices have begun to rebound to favourable rates, they are still not enough to tackle weak economic growth," said His Majesty.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam during a *titah* (royal speech) at the 14th Session of the Legislative Council.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam inspecting the Guard of Honour mounted by personnel of the Royal Brunei Police Force.

On this note, His Majesty stressed on the need to maintain the country's fiscal balance both in the short-term and long-term.

For that purpose, Brunei need to be cautious in spending, and must consolidate its resources towards growing its gross domestic product on a larger scale.

Earlier, the First Meeting of the 14th Session of the Legislative Council commenced in the morning with a Swearing-in Ceremony for 10 new Ex-Officio Members as Members of the Legislative Council. They are the ministers who were newly appointed on the 30th of January 2018.

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His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office as Ex-Officio Member (right) and His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah (left) during the 14th Session of the Legislative Council.



His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah (left) and His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah (right) during the 14th Session of the Legislative Council.

Opening Ceremony of the 14th Session of the Legislative Council (continued)

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The Swearing-in Ceremony took place in the presence of Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib, the Speaker of the Legislative Council.

The 10 new Ex-Officio Members are Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Setia Bakti Di-Raja Dato Laila Utama Haji Awang Isa bin Pehin Datu Perdana Manteri Dato Laila Utama Haji Awang Ibrahim, the Special Advisor to His Majesty and Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; Yang Berhormat Dato Paduka Doctor

Awang Haji Md Isham bin Haji Jaafar, Minister of Health; Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Paduka Haji Awang Abdul Mokti bin Haji Mohd Daud, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Paduka Doctor Awang Haji Mohd Amin Liew bin Abdullah, Second Minister of Finance; Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Paduka Awang Haji Erywan bin Pehin Datu Pekerma Jaya Haji Mohd Yusof, Second Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Paduka Awang Haji Suhaimi bin Haji Gafar, Minister of Development; Yang Berhormat Dato Paduka Doctor Awang Haji Mat Sury bin Haji Md Hussein, Minister of Energy



His Majesty in a Royal Salute during the singing of the national anthem.



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office as Ex-Officio Member, His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah, and His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah during the singing of the national anthem.



Among those present at the opening ceremony.

and Industry; Yang Berhormat Dato Paduka Awang Haji Hamzah bin Haji Sulaiman, Minister of Education; Yang Berhormat Awang Abdul Mutalib bin Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Setia Dato Paduka Haji Mohammad Yusof, Minister of Communications; and Yang Berhormat Retired Major General Dato Paduka Seri Haji Aminuddin Ihsan bin Pehin Orang Kaya Saiful Mulok Dato Seri Paduka Haji Abidin, Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports.

The Speaker of the 14th Session of the Legislative Council Meeting is Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib, assisted by Yang Dimulikan Pehin Orang Kaya Pekerma Jaya Dato Paduka Awang Haji Judin bin Haji Asar, Clerk to the Legislative Council and Dayang Rose Aminah binti Haji Ismail, Deputy Clerk to the Legislative Council.

His Majesty called on Legislative Council members to air their opinions and suggestions without fear or hesitation which will bring positive changes to the country.

The 14th Session of the Legislative Council will deliberate on the National Budget allocations for the Financial Year 2018 / 2019.

Equip PKBN trainees with strong values



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam delivering a *titah* (royal speech) during the Passing Out Parade of the 7th Intake of the National Service Programme (PKBN) at the PKBN Training Camp in Kampung Batu Apoi.

TEMBURONG, March 15 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in his *titah* (royal speech) expressed excitement with the enthusiasm shown by trainees during the recent National Day Celebration.

"Strong spirit like that must continuously be inculcated, so that we can create a 'Modern Brunei' by 2035," His Majesty said in his *titah* (royal speech) during the Passing Out Parade of the 7th Intake of the National Service Programme (PKBN) at the PKBN Training Camp in Kampung Batu Apoi.

The existence of the National Service

Programme (PKBN) can contribute towards the goal of generating human capital and can help produce the nation's finest youth who possess a strong identity and the spirit of patriotism.

His Majesty highlights country's progress is often linked to the development of human capital because human capital is the core of any effort to accomplish transformation towards change. Hence, this is the moment for the country to focus on the development of excellent human capital. One such method is through the PKBN, especially with regard to young human capital because youths are the pillar of the race and the nation.

His Majesty emphasises that the PKBN trainees should be equipped with



His Majesty inspecting the Guard of Honour comprising of 374 trainees.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam during the Passing Out Parade of the 7th Intake of the PKBN.

strong values in both physical and spiritual aspects so they can be relied upon to face any obstacle or challenge.

In the *titah*, His Majesty expressed great pride for another milestone of the programme with the establishment of the PKBN Alumni. The establishment of the PKBN Alumni not only unites all PKBN alumni under one organisation, but will also allow for a centralised platform for them to render their contributions through voluntary work as well as religious and community services.

His Majesty also expressed great delight over the infrastructure and buildings which are equipped with sophisticated facilities such Multi-Training Structures and Obstacle Course, His Majesty says that it should be used to the optimum.

Concluding the *titah*, His Majesty congratulated all 374 trainees, the biggest intake of the PKBN since its inception.

"Their success today is the result of not only their hard work, but also the unyielding support from various parties, especially the prayers of their parents and guardians as well as their intention for their children to be imparted with valuable knowledge, skills and experience to become a generation of youth that is truly ready to provide services to the nation," said His Majesty.

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Equip PKBN trainees with strong values (continued)



His Majesty presenting The Best Male Trainee in Parade award to 11632 Muhammad Iqmal bin Haji Abdul Latip from Platoon 2 and the Best Female Trainee in Parade award to 11821 Siti Nur Hazirah binti Zahari from Platoon 3.



The Best Male Trainee in Parade went to 11632 Muhammad Iqmal bin Haji Abdul Latip from Platoon 2 while the Best Female Trainee in the same category went to 11821 Siti Nur Hazirah binti Zahari from Platoon 3. 11573 Mohammad Ihsanuddin bin Awang Haji Abdul Hakim from Platoon 6, and 11794 Edna Jessica Michelle binti Mosley from Platoon 6 received the awards of Best Male and Best Female Trainees in Physical Training.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam proceeded to Block 1 of the PKBN Training Camp for the *junjung ziarah* (meet and greet) session with the members of the PKBN Alumni Association Administrative Committee. His Majesty then consented to sign the *Buku Lembaran Kenangan* (commemorative book) and received a *pesambah* (gift) presented by the Director of the PKBN at the multipurpose hall.

Before leaving, His Majesty received a *junjung ziarah* from the PKBN trainees and their family members.



His Majesty during the *junjung ziarah* (meet and greet) with the PKBN trainees and their family members.



His Majesty signing the *Buku Lembaran Kenangan* (commemorative book).

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His Majesty's arrival at the Parade Ground of the PKBN Training Camp in Batu Apoi, Temburong, was greeted by Yang Berhormat Retired Major General Dato Paduka Seri Haji Aminuddin Ihsan bin Pehin Orang Kaya Saiful Mulok Dato Seri Paduka Haji Abidin, the Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, and other senior government officials.

Shortly after the arrival, His Majesty received the Royal Salute and inspected the Guard of Honour comprising 374 trainees; 258 male and 116 female.

His Majesty then consented to bestow awards to the six best trainees. The Overall Best Male and Female Trainees Overall were 11666 Awangku Muhammad Al-Hafiz bin Pengiran Omar Ali, and 11732 Nurul Jannah binti Zainal from Platoon 3 respectively.



His Majesty in a group photo with the trainees of the 7th Intake of the National Service Programme (PKBN).

Al-Quran as the source of reference in life

BERAKAS, March 1 - Apart from the present generation needing to continue to read and understand the Al-Quran, His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in a *titah* (royal speech) stressed that children, the succeeding generation should also be equipped with Al-Quran knowledge so that they will be able to achieve better things than their elders because they are the future assets who will determine the country's direction.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam delivered the *titah* on the occasion of the Finals of the 58th National Al-Quran Reading Musabaqah for Adults 1493 Hijrah / 2018 Masihi at the International Convention Centre (ICC).

"In Brunei, we have religious schools where the learning duration is seven years and Al-Quran is the most exalted subject that is being taught since pre-school. We also have the classes for the translation and interpretation of Al-Quran in public secondary schools, Arabic schools in all levels and the Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Tahfiz Al-Quran Institute that teaches the holy book as well as knowledge related to it. In the higher educational level, we have the Sultan Sharif Ali Islamic University and Seri Begawan Religious Teachers University College for teaching Al-Quran," His Majesty noted.

The Monarch believes it is vital for relevant undergraduates to understand the Al-Quran. "If religious undergraduates and religious teachers do not understand or are still unable to understand the Al-Quran, then who else should understand its teachings?" His Majesty said in his *titah*.

Earlier in the *titah*, His Majesty stressed the theme of the musabaqah, 'Al-Quran, the Source of Just Leadership', which is most appropriate for leading the Muslim ummah to refer to Al-Quran in matters related to leadership.

Here, the meaning of 'just' is to put something in its rightful place, so thus the question is, 'have we done this?' His Majesty praised the hosting of the annual National Al-Quran Reading Musabaqah and also other competitions in memorising and interpreting the holy book which reflects the efforts in putting the Al-Quran in its rightful place, for it to be learnt and appreciated.

Present at the ceremony were His Majesty's sons and brothers, His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik, His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, and His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah.

The ceremony began with the presentation of the Al-Quran verses read by Sheikh Ahmad bin Yusuf Al-Azhari, an invited qari and juror from Bangladesh, the Champion of the Dubai International Quran Reading Competition in 2011.

Following three consecutive nights of performances by all 12 finalists of the competition, Awang Haji Muhd Fikri bin Haji Awang Metussin was announced as the Champion Qari and Dayang Hajah Nurfaezah binti Haji Emran was announced as the Champion Qariah of this year's National Al-Quran Reading Musabaqah for Adults.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam delivering a *titah* (royal speech) at the Finals of the 58th National Al-Quran Reading Musabaqah for Adults 1493 Hijrah / 2018 Masihi at the International Convention Centre (ICC).



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam presenting a prize to Champion Qari, Awang Haji Muhd Fikri bin Haji Awang Metussin.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam presenting a prize to Champion Qariah, Dayang Hajah Nurfaezah binti Haji Emran.



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik.



His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah and His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah.

Get-Together Ceremony: Educated generation are priceless 'natural resources'

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA, March 17 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attended a get-together ceremony with citizens and residents of Brunei Darussalam who are currently in Australia. The ceremony was held at Hilton Hotel, Sydney, Australia.

Upon arrival, His Majesty was ushered to Function Room 2 for a light refreshment with the Brunei Students' representatives. His Majesty later signed a commemorative parchment before joining a photograph session with senior officers of the High Commission of Brunei Darussalam in Australia. His Majesty then proceeded to the Grand Ballroom A for the Get-Together Ceremony.

The ceremony continued with a welcoming address by Awang Muhammad Romulus bin Awang Muhammad Roland, President of the Brunei Students' Union in Sydney, on behalf of all the students, which among others, delivered a pledge of unwavering loyalty and allegiance to His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam.

During the ceremony His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam delivered a *titah* (royal speech) reminding the importance of knowledge, especially in the government's efforts towards realising the National Vision 2035. His Majesty stated that a young and educated generation are in truth, the priceless 'natural resources' of the country. Educated and skilled citizens will be able to drive the economy and prosperity of the nation.

His Majesty expressed hope for the young generation to be bolder in facing challenges. They need to come forward and give ideas and make efforts towards national development. His Majesty urged all students to use the opportunity provided by the government, not only for higher-education, but also to strengthen their value and self-identity. The students also have to show their commitment and loyalty by serving their country upon the completion of their studies. According to His Majesty, that is the spirit of patriotism.

His Majesty went on to emphasise to the students that they are the true Bruneians, who have principles, culture and their own identity. The students have to strongly adhere to this culture and identity, and not to lose it or exchange it, as they are our assets and values.

His Majesty stressed that the Malay Islamic Monarchy (MIB) is our system and identity. If we were to disregard it, it is as if we are rejecting our own system and smearing our own identity. However, His Majesty expressed his confidence in Bruneian students as they are already matured and are aware of the history of their people and country.

His Majesty was also convinced that Bruneian students are very patriotic and highly disciplined, unlike students in other places. His Majesty therefore urged for the clean record of Bruneian students to be upheld.

Before leaving the ceremony, His Majesty proceeded to mingle and meet with more than 300 citizens and residents of Brunei Darussalam consisting of students, government officials, as well as those on vacation in Australia. The ceremony also featured a *Tausyeh* performance by Bruneian students in Australia.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam delivering a *titah* (royal speech) during the ceremony.



His Majesty meeting and greeting citizens and residents of Brunei Darussalam consisting of students, government officials, as well as those on vacation in Australia.



His Majesty with senior officers of the High Commission of Brunei Darussalam in Australia and the President and Vice President of the Brunei Darussalam Students' Union in Sydney.

Chinese New Year get-together



Their Majesties at the Chinese New Year 2018 get-together. Accompanying Their Majesties were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah; and His Royal Highness Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Malik. Also in attendance were His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah, His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah, Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna, and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Amal Umi Kalthum Al-Islam.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, March 14 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Darussalam, and Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam, graced a get-together marking the Chinese New Year 2018 at International Convention Centre.

Accompanying Their Majesties were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik, His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah, His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah,



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Darussalam, and Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam, during the get-together marking the Chinese New Year 2018.

Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna, and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Amal Umi Kalthum Al-Islam.

Upon arrival, Their Majesties as well as other members of the Royal Family were greeted by Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Kapatin Lela Diraja Dato Paduka Goh King Chin, Honorary Advisor; Yang Berhormat Awang Tiong Oh, a member of the Legislative Council and Honorary President of the organising committee; and other organising committee members.

Before heading to the Plenary Hall, Their Majesties and other members of the Royal Family consented to join a group photo session with the organising committee. Their Majesties then received a *pesambah* (gift), followed by cultural performances presented by the students of Chung Hwa Secondary School.



Their Majesties being greeted by the performers.



Cultural performances by the students of Chung Hwa Secondary School.



Richard Mille Brunei 2018 Championships Prize Presentation Ceremony

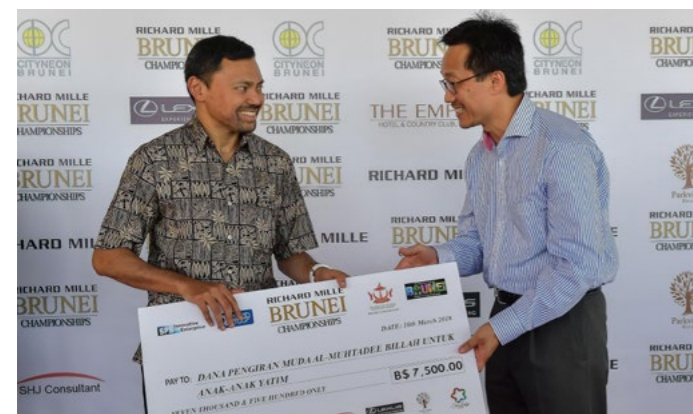
JERUDONG, March 10 - His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office graced the prize presentation ceremony of the Golf Richard Mille Brunei 2018 Championships which took place at The Empire Hotel and Country Club, Jerudong.

Also in attendance were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddin Sa'adul Khairi Waddien and Her Royal Highness Princess 'Azemah Ni'matul Bolkiah binti His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah.

His Royal Highness the Crown Prince then handed over cheques to two organisations. The Pengiran Muda Mahkota Al-Muhtadee Billah Fund for Orphans received BND 7,500 and was presented to Dato Paduka Eddie bin Dato Paduka Haji



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office, His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddin Sa'adul Khairi Waddien and Her Royal Highness Princess 'Azemah Ni'matul Bolkiah binti His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah.



His Royal Highness presenting a donation cheque to Pengiran Muda Mahkota Al-Muhtadee Billah Fund for Orphans (DANA).



His Royal Highness presenting a donation cheque to Pusat Ehsan Al-Ameerah Al-Hajjah Maryam.



His Royal Highness presenting the grand prize to the winner of the Golf Richard Mille Brunei 2018 Championships, Kun Kiradech Aphibarrat from Thailand.

Sunny, the Managing Director of Yayasan Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah (YSHHB).

The Pusat Ehsan Al-Ameerah Al-Hajjah Maryam also received BND 7,500 and was presented to Dato Paduka Awang Haji Mohd Alimin bin Haji Abdul Wahab, the Senior Trustee of Pusat Ehsan Al Ameerah Al-Hajjah Maryam.

His Royal Highness then presented the grand prize to the winner of the Richard Mille Brunei Championships, Kun Kiradech Aphibarrat from Thailand.

120 players from 20 countries participated in the championship. Brunei Darussalam was represented by nine players which consisted of five professionals and four amateurs. One of the local professional participants was Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Muda Abdul Hakeem.



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah in a group photo.

3rd Brunei Open and Masters Swimming Championship

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, March 4 - His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office, and Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah binti Pengiran Haji Salleh Ab Rahaman, attended the 3rd Brunei Open and Masters Swimming Championship which took place at International School Brunei (ISB).

Participating in the championship were His Royal Highness's son and daughter, Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Muntaqim and Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Anak Muneerah Madhul Bolkiah representing ISB Hammerheads.

Also present was His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince's son, Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda Muhammad Aiman.

Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Muntaqim made a new record in two categories; 47.19 seconds in the 50-metre Backstroke category and 36.57 seconds in the 50-metre Freestyle category.

Meanwhile, Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Anak Muneerah Madhul Bolkiah took part in the 50-metre Backstroke category with record of 55.41 seconds and also took part in the 50-metres Freestyle with a record of 51.55 seconds.

Earlier in the morning, Yang Teramat Mulia, represented ISB Hammerheads in five categories; the 25-metre Backstroke; 25-metre Freestyle; 25-metre Breaststroke; 25-metre Butterfly stroke and the 100-metre Freestyle Relay.

Yang Teramat Mulia won gold medals in four categories, and broke the record for the 7-year-old girls category. Meanwhile, in the 100-metre Freestyle Relay, the ISB Hammerheads, participated by Yang Teramat Mulia, won silver.



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah and Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah binti Pengiran Haji Salleh Ab Rahaman watched the 3rd Brunei Open and Masters Swimming Championship. Also present were His Royal Highness's sons and daughter, Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Muntaqim; Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Anak Muneerah Madhul Bolkiah; and Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda Muhammad Aiman.



Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Anak Muneerah Madhul Bolkiah holds the top record for the 7-year-old girls category.



Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Muntaqim participating in the 50-metre Backstroke category.



Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Anak Muneerah Madhul Bolkiah took part in the Butterfly Stroke category for 7 to 9 Years Old Age Group.

Keep maritime assets safe for future generations

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, March, 10 - Over the past 50 years, it has become apparent how human actions have taken a toll on the ocean faster than ever thought before. We have witnessed how human beings have contributed to greenhouse gas emissions, marine pollutions, coral bleaching, illegal activities and overfishing.

Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah binti Pengiran Haji Salleh Ab Rahaman emphasised the matter in a *sabda* (royal speech) at the Opening of the 14th International School Brunei Borneo Global Issues Conference (ISB BGIC), held at International Convention Centre (ICC). As such, it is all the more important that global issues must be addressed with global solutions. Failure to act upon their protection now is a failure to protect the future generations.

This year's theme, 'Life Below Water', is more fitting given the importance of the oceans to human well-being as well as for social and economic development worldwide.

"We need to heed scientific warnings of climate change and realise that the ocean regulates the global ecosystem by absorbing heat and carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, helping to protect coastal areas from erosion and flooding, and also remind ourselves that marine resources contribute around \$28 trillion to the global economy each year, with an immeasurable impact on global food security", said Her Royal Highness.

Therefore, Her Royal Highness added, "Therefore it is vital for governments, private sectors and society as a whole particularly the young people to keep in mind the simple truth: the oceans on Earth, and the life in them, have no substitutes".

Her Royal Highness in her *sabda*



Her Royal Highness presenting a certificate of participation to one of the participants.

added that His Majesty's government has made concerted efforts to protect the country's maritime environment with initiatives like: Marine Protected Areas to conserve the coral reef ecosystem and fisheries productivity; being one of the first Asian country in banning the sale and import of all shark fin products; and the opening of the Marine Biodiversity Centre to rehabilitate and treat any marine life that is caught or discovered. Her Royal Highness went on to say that education campaigns regarding waste disposal have also been going strong for decades.

At a more grass root level, Her Royal Highness added, non-governmental agencies like Beach Bunch and Green Brunei are taking it up onto themselves to organise recycling drives and beach clean-ups, whilst at the same time, pushing for better environmental awareness and education.

To these strings of initiatives, Her Royal Highness was pleased to support this student-led conference as it highlights

the increasingly important role our youth have to play in systematically keeping our maritime assets safe for the future generations.

Her Royal Highness hoped that United Nations-style conferences like ISB BGIC will encourage participants to balance their conviction with empathy, views with those of others, and passion with compassion, as it is the only way to make lasting and sustainable solutions for the hard issues we are facing.

Also in attendance at the 14th ISB-BGIC was Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Muntaqim ibni Duli Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Muda Mahkota Pengiran Muda Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah.

Doctor Steven Geragthy, the Executive Principal of ISB in his keynote address touched on this year's conference theme, which is particularly salient as warming seas are reported to be harming corals and the issue of plastics pollution takes up an increasingly significant part of the sustainability debate.

Two invited international speakers, Anna Oposa, the co-founder and Chief Mermaid of Save Philippines Seas (SPS), and Danni Washington, co-founder of the Big Blue & You, shared their views on tackling global environment issues.

The ceremony was enlivened with a musical performance by ISB students. Also taking part in the performance was Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Muntaqim.

The four-day conference was attended by almost 300 secondary students from over 20 local and international schools across the country.



Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Muntaqim ibni Duli Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Muda Mahkota Pengiran Muda Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah performing at the 14th International School Brunei Borneo Global Issues Conference (ISB-BGIC).

Newborn Princess

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, March 10 - By command of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, the Office of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, hereby announces that Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Raabi'atul 'Adawiyah binti Pengiran Haji Bolkiah, wife of His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, by the grace of Allah Subhanahu Wata'ala, has safely given birth to a Princess on Saturday, the 23rd of Jamadilakhir 1439 corresponding to the 10th of March 2018 at 10.48 in the evening. To mark the birth of the Princess, a 17-gun salute was fired from the compound of Istana Nurul Iman.

His Majesty with great pleasure has named His Majesty's granddaughter as Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Fathiyah Rafaahul Bolqiah binti Duli Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Malik.



Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Fathiyah Rafaahul Bolqiah binti Duli Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Malik.

His Majesty and Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha as well as other members of the Royal Family sincerely thanked all those involved during the birth and who had conveyed their message of congratulations and greetings on the birth of Their Majesties' granddaughter.

ISB National Day celebration

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, March 2 - International School Brunei (ISB) held a National Day Assembly in conjunction with the 34th Brunei Darussalam National Day celebration at the Theatre Hall of ISB.

Among the students involved in the cultural performance were the children of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Wakeel, performed 'Generasi Berwawasan' and Her Royal Highness Princess Ameerah Wardatul Bolkiah participated in the 'Iltizam Generasiku' dance.

Also participating in the performance was children of His Royal Highness



His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Wakeel and Her Royal Highness Princess Ameerah Wardatul Bolkiah performing in the cultural performance. Also participating were His Royal Highness the Crown Prince's children, Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Muntaqim, and Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Anak Muneerah Madhul Bolkiah.

the Crown Prince, Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Muntaqim, performed 'Generasi Berwawasan' and Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Anak Muneerah Madhul Bolkiah participated in the 'Mari Menari' dance.

Brunei joins lawn bowling for XXI Commonwealth Games 2018

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, March 24 - Brunei Darussalam will be sending contingents to participate in the XXI Commonwealth Games 2018 in Gold Coast, Australia from April 4 to 15, 2018.

The 12 contingent of Brunei Darussalam that comprises of eight athletes and four officials including Chef de Mission, secretary, team manager and coach.

For this Commonwealth Games, Brunei Darussalam will participate in one event only, which is lawn bowling, where the contingents is expected to leave for Gold Coast, Australia on April 1, 2018.

The national flag presentation ceremony for Brunei Darussalam to the XXI Commonwealth Games 2018 Gold Coast, Australia was held at the Green Room of the Hassanal Bolkiah National Stadium.

Present at the ceremony was His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, the President of the Brunei Darussalam National Olympic Council.



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien handing over the flag of Brunei Darussalam to Retired Major Md. Talip bin Md. Tahir as the Chef de Mission of the Brunei Darussalam Contingent to the XXI Commonwealth Games 2018 Gold Coast, Australia.

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Brunei joins lawn bowling for XXI Commonwealth Games 2018 (continued)



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien in a group photo with the contingents.

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Yang Berhormat Retired Major General Dato Paduka Seri Haji Aminuddin Ihsan bin Pehin Orang Kaya Saiful Mulok Dato Seri Paduka Haji Abidin, the Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, in his welcoming remarks stated that the selection of athletes to the Commonwealth Games is one of confidence and trust that requires commitment, and must be inculcated fully as they are the representative of the country who will display the national flag of Brunei Darussalam in Gold Coast.

According to the Minister, the participation of the Brunei Darussalam's contingents in the Commonwealth Games organised by the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) is not the first time, the country's continuous participation in the Commonwealth Games shows its commitment to international sports events although Brunei Darussalam is a small nation.

At the same time, the Minister explained, it shows the state's commitment to the Commonwealth establishment. What's more important is that this participation will also provide a platform for national athletes to compete with elite-class athletes.

"We are confident with the development of this experience and exposure, it will enhance and strengthen the physical and mental strength of the athletes, said the Minister.

His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah delivered his *sabda* (royal speech) during the event and subsequently consented to handover the flag of Brunei Darussalam to Retired Major Md. Talip bin Md. Tahir as the Chef de Mission of the Brunei Darussalam Contingent to the XXI Commonwealth Games 2018 Gold Coast, Australia.

Brunei Ladies Open Golf Tournament Prize Presentation

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, March 19 - Her Royal Highness Princess 'Azemah Ni'matul Bolkiah binti His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah attended the Prize Presentation Ceremony of the Brunei Ladies Open Golf Tournament at the Empire Hotel and Country Club, Jerudong.

Also in attendance was Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Muda Bahar.

The event started with a welcoming address from Pengiran Dato Paduka Haji Mustapha bin Pengiran Metassan, President of the Brunei Darussalam Golf Association, followed by the prize presentation.

Her Royal Highness presented the Winners Jacket to Miss Kyung Ja Kim, the Executive Director of Korean Ladies Professional Golf Association (KLPGA) who later put the jacket on the Champion of the Brunei Ladies Open Champion for 2018, Hong Ran from Korea with the final score of 18 under par.

Her Royal Highness then presented the Brunei Ladies Open Champion Trophy to Hong Ran who also received 140 million



Her Royal Highness Princess 'Azemah Ni'matul Bolkiah presenting the Brunei Ladies Open Champion Trophy to Hong Ran of South Korea.

Korean Won, presented by Miss Kyung Ja Kim.

The tournament had attracted 59 professional players from Korea, 40 from China and also featured three players from Brunei Darussalam; Dayangku Siti Nurmashizriah binti Pengiran Nikman, Pajaree Anannarukarm and Velerie Tan.



Her Royal Highness Princess 'Azemah Ni'matul Bolkiah and Hong Ran in a group photo.

Kuwait Culture and Arts Week

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, March 12 - The Kuwait Culture and Arts Week was held for the first time in this country and provided clearer insights into Kuwait's culture, heritage and history.

Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna binti Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade consented to officiate the Kuwait Culture and Arts Week held at the Airport Mall, Berakas.

His Excellency Doctor Fahad Mashary Al-Thafiri, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the State of Kuwait to Brunei Darussalam in his welcoming remarks, among other things touched on the establishment of bilateral relations



Cultural performances of Kuwait enlivening the ceremony.



Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna binti Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (right) during the Kuwait Culture and Arts Week. Also present was Yang Berhormat Retired Major General Dato Paduka Seri Awang Haji Aminuddin Ihsan bin Pehin Orang Kaya Saiful Mulok Dato Seri Paduka Haji Abidin, the Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports (middle).

between the two countries, through the care and attention of the wise Monarch's leadership.

"It is also in conjunction with the National Day of Brunei Darussalam and Kuwait," said His Excellency.

Her Royal Highness then toured the exhibition which showcased the cultural heritage of Kuwait and witnessed a food demonstration during the event. The ceremony was enlivened with cultural performances of Kuwait.

Brunei-Oman Commemorative Gallery Exhibition

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, March 21 - Brunei Darussalam and the Sultanate of Oman established diplomatic ties on the 24th of March 1984, and has since enjoyed and achieved success in various areas of cooperation. This close relationship has been continuously developed with His Majesty's previous visits to the Sultanate of Oman on 1984, 1985 and 2009.

In line with the efforts to further strengthen the bilateral and diplomatic ties between the two countries, the Embassy of the Sultanate of Oman in Brunei Darussalam organised the Commemorative Gallery Exhibition themed 'His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam Visits to Oman in Portraits', held at the Royal Regalia Museum.

Present to officiate the Commemorative Gallery Exhibition was Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna binti Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

His Excellency Sheikh Ahmed bin Hashil Al-Maskari, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Sultanate of Oman to Brunei Darussalam, in his welcoming remarks, among other things expressed gratefulness for the opening of this gallery which aimed at commemorating the resounding success achieved in bilateral relations of both countries over the course of 34 years, in light of the visits of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam.

This event was also the best opportunity to celebrate the similarities in the leadership of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said and His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah.

"We are proud that Oman and Brunei are the only sultanates officially recognised by the United Nations", said His Excellency.



Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna binti Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade officiating the Commemorative Gallery Exhibition.



Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna touring the exhibition.

Minister of Religious Affairs receives courtesy call

BERAKAS, March 22 - Yang Berhormat Pehin Udana Khatib Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Badaruddin bin Pengarah Dato Paduka Haji Awang Othman, the Minister of Religious Affairs received a courtesy call from His Excellency Amphay Kindavong, the outgoing Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to Brunei Darussalam.

During the visit at the Ministry of Religious Affairs (MoRA), both parties expressed appreciation for the existing close ties between the two countries and exchanged views on current issues and matters of mutual interest.

His Excellency Amphay Kindavong presented his Letter of Credence to His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam on September 13, 2014.



Yang Berhormat Pehin Udana Khatib Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Badaruddin bin Pengarah Dato Paduka Haji Awang Othman, the Minister of Religious Affairs (right) and His Excellency Amphay Kindavong, the outgoing Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to Brunei Darussalam (left) during the courtesy call.

The Ministry of Defence and RBAF enlivens Bandarku Ceria

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, March 25 - Bandarku Ceria continues to gain solid support from various parties, especially the government sector, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and the public.

Over 1,000 personnel from the Ministry of Defence (MinDef) and the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) were involved in several activities at the Taman Mahkota Jubli Emas in conjunction with the Bandarku Ceria programme, which was also participated by Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Retired Major General Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd Yussof, the Second Minister of Defence.

The event started with the 'Masjidku Makmur, Negara Berkat' programme which took place at the Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Mosque which included the Subuh prayer and was made livelier with a tazkirah (pre-dawn talk) titled 'Riadah Sebagai Satu Sunnah' (recreational activity as a Sunnah) delivered by Major Ariffin bin Amit @ Hamid, the Acting Head of the RBAF Religious Department.

As one of the initiatives of the Ministry



Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Retired Major General Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd Yussof, the Second Minister of Defence participating in the boat race.



Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Retired Major General Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd Yussof, the Second Minister of Defence participating in one of the activities.

of Defence and the RBAF is to support the nationwide approach in promoting a healthy lifestyle amongst the community through sports, this event also emphasises that the traditional boat race is among the sports loved by all walks of life, including the Royal Family and the people, along with cycling activities, which has been declared as a national hobby in Brunei, as well as tug of war games.

The event also introduced water sport activities such as kayak, water ball, water bicycle, tug of war, dragon boat and others, located at the Sungai Kedayan riverbank, adjacent to the Taman Mahkota Jubli Emas.

Non-governmental organisations such as the Radio Control Boat Race Association (Racobra) for radio control boats, also joined the event.

It is hoped that such an activity will not only contribute to the development of a sporting culture in the nation, but at the same time, strengthen national unity through community involvement as a whole.

The programme was organised by the Performance Optimisation Centre (POC), in collaboration with the Directorate of Administration and Manpower, with support from the units and departments of the Ministry of Defence and the Royal Brunei Armed Forces.

As part of the wider efforts to ensure the safety of the public during the event, the organising committee placed strong emphasis on safety measures and precautions including the use of lifejackets, especially for those partaking in the water-based activities.