



## Government to ensure management of development, infrastructure projects



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) in conjunction with the 15<sup>th</sup> National Day celebration.

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, February 23** – The government will ensure that all development and infrastructure projects are properly managed to meet the demands of modernisation and professionalism, in terms of quantity as well as quality.

The matter was highlighted 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 in his *titah* (royal speech) in conjunction with the 15<sup>th</sup> National Day celebration, which was broadcasted by Radio Television Brunei (RTB).

As an independent nation, said His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, the country has undertaken various development and infrastructure projects that can be seen through structural and landscape changes both in urban and rural areas.

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Asia-Pacific  
Economic Cooperation

## Regain confidence, revive economic development



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 meeting the delegates attending the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Business Advisory Council (ABAC) Meeting.

**JERUDONG, February 6** - 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 delivered a *titah* (royal speech) stating his assurance that the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) will be able to look positively forward in their efforts to focus on ways to regain confidence and revive economic development which is needed in the region.

The *titah* was delivered during the Gala Dinner for the APEC Business Advisory Council (ABAC) at the Polo Club.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam also stressed the need for the government and the private sector among the APEC country members to collaborate in achieving the international cooperation's objectives.

According to the Monarch, with the ongoing economic difficulty and financial crisis, all APEC member countries should trust that the APEC economic sector is working hard to overcome the problem.

"It is important for us to continuously consult each other and share responsibilities in the management and coordination of our economy," His Majesty clarified.

His Majesty added that since the establishment of APEC, official statements have always emphasised the need for the government and public sector to strongly cooperate, while understanding and respecting each other's works and responsibilities.

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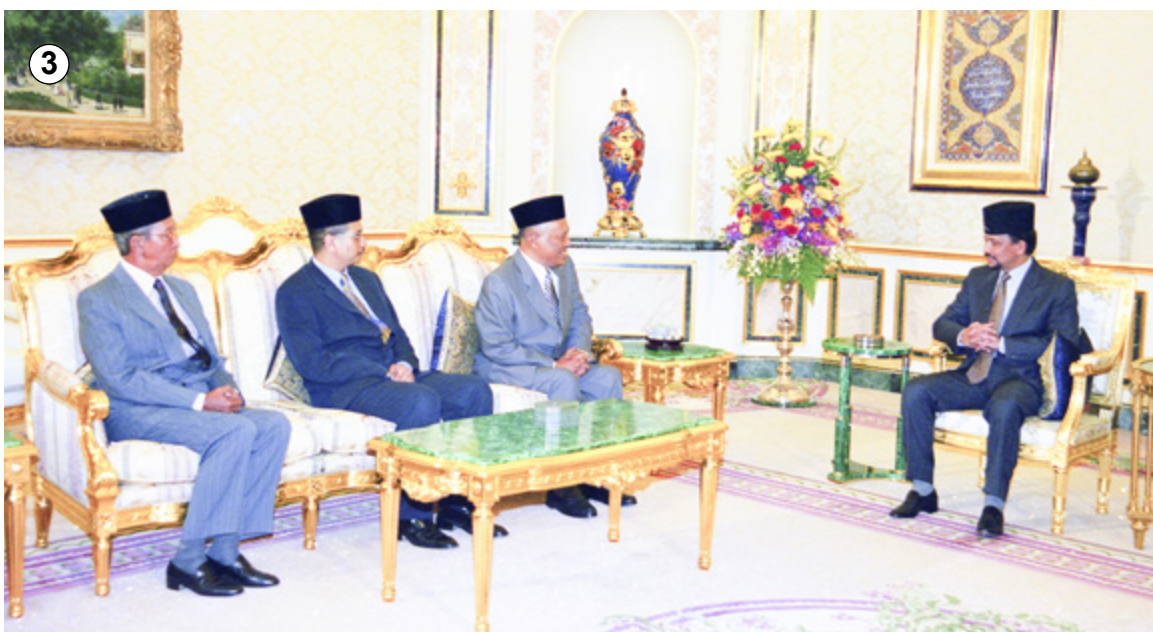


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# His Majesty grants audiences

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 received in audience at the Istana Nurul Iman:

1. His Excellency Mr. U Win Aung, Foreign Minister of Myanmar on February 17.
2. His Excellency Mr. Mohsen Amin Zadeh, Deputy Foreign Minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran on February 17.
3. The delegation of His Majesty Sultan Mizan Zainal Abidin, Sultan of Terengganu on February 18: Led by Yang Amat Berhormat Dato Seri Amar Diraja Tan Sri Haji Wan Mokhtar bin Ahmad, Chief Minister of Terengganu; alongside Yang Teramat Mulia Tengku Sri Bendahara Raja Tengku Mustafa Kamel; Yang Amat Mulia Tengku Sri Panglima Raja Tengku Baderulzaman; Yang Amat Mulia Tengku Sri Raja Tengku Abdul Malek; Yang Amat Mulia Tengku Sri Paduka Raja Tengku Ibrahim and several other government officials from Terengganu.
4. His Excellency Mr. Alhaji Tijani Boluri, High Commissioner of the Federal Republic of Nigeria on February 20.
5. His Excellency Sayyid Ali bin Hamoud bin Ali Al-Busaidi, Minister of Home Affairs of the Sultanate of Oman on February 22.
6. His Excellency Mr. Alain Richard, Minister of Defence of France on February 25.
7. His Excellency Chief Emeka Anyaoku, Commonwealth Secretary-General on February 27.



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## 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 deliver congratulatory messages to:

- The Honourable Sir Michael Hardie-Boys, Governor of New Zealand and The Honourable Miss Jenny Shipley, Prime Minister of New Zealand on the occasion of Waitangi Day on February 6.
- His Excellency Mr. Hojatole Eslam Seyyed Mohamed Khatami, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the occasion of the Islamic Republic of Iran National Day celebration on February 11.
- His Majesty Sheikh Jaber Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Emir of Kuwait and His Majesty Sheikh Saad Al-Abdullah Al-Salem Al-Sabah, Crown Prince and Prime Minister of Kuwait on the occasion of Kuwait's National Day celebration on February 25.

## 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:

1. Ibu Nurkamaria Rahardjo Djojonegoro, spouse of the Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia on February 4.
2. Mrs. Anqi Laffosse, spouse of the Ambassador of France on February 4.



## Audience with His Royal Highness

His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien received in audience at the Balai Penghadapan, Bukit Kayangan:

1. Mr. Derek Fatchett MP, Minister of State at the United Kingdom's Foreign and Commonwealth Office on February 11.
2. His Excellency Mr. Mohsen Amin Zadeh, Deputy Foreign Minister of Islamic Republic of Iran on February 17.



# National Day celebrated in full glory



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 15<sup>th</sup> National Day Celebration.

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, February 23** - 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 15<sup>th</sup> National Day Celebration at the capital.

The arrival of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in front of the royal stage at the compound of the Lapau Ceremonial Hall was welcomed by Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Digadong Seri Lela

Dato Seri Paduka Haji Awang Hussain bin Pehin Orang Kaya Digadong Seri Diraja Dato Laila Utama Haji Awang Mohd. Yusof, Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports as Chairman of Brunei Darussalam's 15<sup>th</sup> National Day Celebration Committee; as well as other members of the committee.

His Majesty then received a Royal Salute, followed by the national anthem performed by the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) Band. His Majesty then proceeded to inspect the guard of honour, which comprised of members of the RBAF and the Royal Brunei Police Force (RBPF).

Accompanying His Majesty to the celebration were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince; His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah; His Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah; His Royal Highness Prince Haji 'Abdul 'Azim; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen as well as other members of the royal family.

The celebration started off with the reading of the State pledge, in front of the royal stage by 300 participants, which was then followed by the singing of patriotic songs by a choir group.

The event continued with a marching parade involving 17,000 participants from the government ministries, uniformed organisations, as well as youths from the private sector and non-government agencies.

The parade was led by Brunei Darussalam flag bearers consisting of 40 uniformed members, followed by representatives from the ministries who were carrying national flags and department banners.

Also present at the celebration were State Dignitaries, Ministers, members of the Legislative Council, Deputy Ministers, foreign delegates, Permanent Secretaries, as well as senior government officers.

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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 receiving a Royal Salute at the 15<sup>th</sup> National Day Celebration held in Bandar Seri Begawan.



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 and other members of the royal family witnessing the marching parade as well as other performances held at the celebration.



His Majesty Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam inspecting the guard of honour upon arrival at the National Day Celebration.

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Prior to the celebration, His Majesty attended the *Majlis Kesyukuran* (Thanksgiving Ceremony) in conjunction with the 15<sup>th</sup> National Day Celebration on February 22 at the Omar 'Ali Saifuddein Mosque.

The arrival of His Majesty at the mosque was welcomed by Yang Berhormat Pehin Jawatan Luar Pekerma Raja Dato Seri Utama Dr. Ustaz Haji Awang Md. Zain bin Haji Serudin, and other members of the celebration's committee.

Also in attendance were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah; His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah; His Royal Highness Prince Haji 'Abdul Azim; His

Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik; and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

At the ceremony, the mass *Maghrib* and *Isyak* prayer were led by Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Siraja Khatib Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Yahya bin Haji Ibrahim, followed by the recitation of *Surah Yaa Siin* led by Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Udana Khatib Dato Paduka Ustaz Haji Awang Badaruddin bin Pengarah Dato Paduka Haji Awang Othman. Meanwhile, the recitation of *Doa Kesyukuran* was led by Yang Dimuliakan Lagi Dihormati Pehin Datu Seri Maharaja Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Abdul Aziz bin Juned, State Mufti.



His Majesty and other members of the royal family during the Thanksgiving Ceremony in conjunction with the 15<sup>th</sup> National Day Celebration.

## Government to ensure management of development, infrastructure projects

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On the other hand, the Government of His Majesty also continues to improve the level of well-being of the locals and citizens through the areas of education, health, housing and transportation.

In this regard, His Majesty stressed that what is important in the cultivation of all these areas is the balance of physical progression as well as spiritual strength.

The Monarch further explained that as an independent nation, we have also carried out international responsibilities and participated in various regional and international organisations, such as the United Nations (UN), ASEAN, OIC, the Commonwealth, NAM and APEC.

The country has acquired its deserving position in the international arena, His Majesty affirmed, we are standing on the same level as the rest by contributing to world peace and international system stability.

His Majesty also expressed his gratitude for the nation's ability to carry out its commitment by providing help to the countries that are in need. Aside from that, we have also received benefits in the form of technical and educational assistance from various organisations outside the country.

What is clear is that the past fifteen years was not a short time. With this, His Majesty invited the public to consider whether the progress and development that have been obtained throughout the time period are enough for us to progress even further in the future.

The Monarch then mentioned his observation that the achievements of the nation have been highly dependent on factors from inside and outside the country.

However, it is also crucial for us to take teachings and lessons from the past 15 years of independence in exploring and experiencing a more challenging future.

In his *titah*, His Majesty also emphasised the importance of preparation and readiness in facing the new millennium.

According to His Majesty, the preparation and readiness must always be guided by the basic principles which have been guaranteeing our continuity and survival after all this time: that is, the values of religion and culture which have existed across ages, aside from financial strength and economic stability.

The Monarch outlined that one of the preparations is to focus on the investment of human resources, which is by increasing efforts in the field of education and training.

In public service, the vehicles of administration does not only run on labour that is efficient, honest and responsible; but one that also makes complete assurance of the public interest, said His Majesty, urging the people to always be prepared, so that they can play effective roles in the future.

His Majesty also reminded the public that the generation in the new millennium needs to be exposed to a more ideal and visionary education.

This is in line with the theme for this year's National Day Celebration: '*Siap Siaga ke Alaf Baru*' (Ready For A New Millennium).

In relation to this, His Majesty expressed his hope, especially for the parents, to heavily consider their responsibilities.

"Because upbringing and educational discipline starts from home. If home can be made use as a platform, then *insyaaAllah* (with the will of Allah), everything will wonderfully produce good results," the Monarch elaborated.

His Majesty further stressed that strong collaboration between the government and the citizens is crucial. Without this cooperation, government programmes will not run smoothly.

This is the basis that we wish to achieve in all areas, His Majesty affirmed.

With that, His Majesty suggested a formula: 'Each citizen needs to have a vision for the country. Do not ask what the country can give us, but ask how we can be of service to the country.'

His Majesty assured that the nation will not forget its citizens, the facilities and services that are always available.

Nevertheless, this should not enable the citizens to slacken, for a community that slacks will not be able to achieve success.

With regards to economic difficulty that the country is facing, His Majesty underlined that we should not fall behind when it comes to creating progressive and active steps, such as increasing investment and trade opportunities in the country. To summarise, all effective methods and strategies should be used to revive the economy.

His Majesty also reminded all government agencies that all matters related to savings and expenditures need to be prioritised, including those related to large spending which need to be re-evaluated until the economy has improved.

## Their Majesties attend King of Jordan's funeral

**BERAKAS, February 7** - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddin Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam; along with Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajjah Mariam binti Haji Abdul Aziz departed to Jordan for the funeral of His Majesty Al-Malik Hussein ibni Talal, the late King of Jordan.

His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince; His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah; and Her Royal Highness Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Zariah; along with other members of the royal family were also present during the departure at the Brunei International Airport.

Accompanying their Majesties to Jordan were His Royal Highness Prince Haji 'Azim and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna.

Prior to the departure, a recitation of Doa Selamat was read by Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Siraja Khatib Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Yahya bin Haji Ibrahim.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam expressed his deep sadness for the passing of the King of Jordan, stating the Monarch and the citizens of the country are mourning along with the people of Jordan.

His Majesty further mentioned his hope that other leaders who share the same vision with His Majesty Al-Malik Hussein will continue their efforts so that real and everlasting peace can be achieved as desired by the Al-Marhum.

His Majesty also consented to send a congratulatory message to His Majesty King Al-Malik Abdullah bin Hussein who has been crowned as the new King of Jordan.



## Regain confidence, revive economic development



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; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince; and His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah at the ABAC Gala Dinner held at the Polo Club in Jerudong.

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His Majesty also highlighted that it is important for the government parties to be informed on these matters as well as the interests of the APEC trade leaders; in order to understand the problems faced in the efforts to maintain a steady development in this era of economic difficulty.

His Majesty also welcomed any suggestions and opinions, which can become valuable contributions through the shared responsibilities of ABAC leaders.

The Monarch continued his *titah* by mentioning that the ABAC's initiative to form a 'Partnership for equitable growth' has reflected the advisory council's recognition of the importance of the roles of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises; as well as the need to enhance the development of human resources and to encourage technology transfer.

His Majesty further demonstrated his trust that the formation of various Strategy and Action Plans will be appreciated by the people of the region, even though they will face difficulty in accepting change in order for the plan to be implemented successfully.

Upon arrival at the Gala Dinner, His Majesty was greeted by Yang Berhormat Pehin Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Abdul Rahman bin Dato Seri Setia Haji Mohammad Taib, Minister of Industry and Primary Resources; and Dato Paduka Awang Haji Hamdillah bin Haji Abdul Wahab, Chairman of ABAC, Brunei Darussalam.

Also in attendance at the the Gala Dinner were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince; and His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah.

His Majesty was introduced to the heads of delegates attending the ABAC Meeting and received a *pesambah* from the delegates.

This is Brunei Darussalam's first time hosting the high-level ABAC Meeting, which will run from February 5 to 7; before hosting the 8<sup>th</sup> APEC Meeting for the year 2000.



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah with the delegates of ABAC.

The ABAC Meeting was chaired by His Excellency Mr. Philip Burdon from New Zealand, who is also the former Cabinet Minister, businessman as well as Chairman of the Asia Association 2000.

Brunei Darussalam was represented by Dato Paduka Awang Haji Hamdillah bin Haji Abdul Wahab, Chief Executive of BLNG; Awang Haji Idris bin Haji Abas, Arkitek Idris partner; Mr. Timothy Ong, Deputy Chairman of the National Insurance Co. Bhd. and Co-Chairman of the ABAC Financial Crisis.

## Audience and *Junjung Ziarah* Ceremony with Haj pilgrims



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 (left) and Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam (right) receiving *junjung ziarah* greetings from expecting Haj pilgrims from Brunei Darussalam. Also in attendance at the event were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince; and His Royal Highness Prince Haji 'Abdul 'Azim.

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, February 24** - 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 and Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam; along with Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajah Mariam binti Haji Abdul Aziz received in audience those who will be performing the Haj pilgrimage from Brunei Darussalam.

The Audience and *Junjung Ziarah* (meet-and-greet) Ceremony took place at the Istana Nurul Iman, where His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam

received audiences and *junjung ziarah* greetings from the male Haj pilgrims in a separate section of the palace.

Present at the event were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince; and His Royal Highness Prince Haji 'Abdul 'Azim.

Meanwhile, in another section, Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri and Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri received audiences and *junjung ziarah* greetings from the female Haj pilgrims.

During the ceremony, the male pilgrims were provided with *ihram* clothings, whereas the female pilgrims received *telekungs* from His Majesty Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam.

## Two Commissioners appointed



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 presenting letters of appointment to Dayang Hayati binti Pehin Orang Kaya Shahbandar Dato Seri Paduka Haji Awang Mohd. Salleh (left) and Awang Steven Chong Wan Oon (right), two newly appointed Commissioners of the Supreme Court.

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, February 3** - 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 has appointed two new Commissioners of the Supreme Court.

The oath reading ceremony took place at the Istana Nurul Iman. First to read the oath in the presence of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was Dayang Hayati binti Pehin Orang Kaya Shahbandar Dato Seri Paduka Haji Awang Mohd. Salleh; who was then followed by Awang Steven Chong Wan Oon.

The letter of appointment was read by Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Penggawa Laila Bentara Istiadat Diraja Dalam Istana Pengiran Haji Alauddin bin Pengiran Paduka Tuan Pengiran Haji Abu Bakar, Grand Chamberlain of Brunei Darussalam.

His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince; His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah; and His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah were also present at the ceremony; as well as Dato Paduka Sir Dennis Robert, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court; and Awang Kifrawi bin Dato Paduka Haji Kifli, Attorney General.

## Baiduri World Badminton Grand Prix Finale



Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam attending the Baiduri World Badminton Grand Prix finale at the Hassanal Bolkiah National Indoor Stadium.

**BERAKAS, February 24** – Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam and Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajah Mariam binti Haji Abdul Aziz attended the Baiduri World Badminton Grand Prix Finale at the Hassanal Bolkiah National Indoor Stadium.

Joining the event were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and other royal family members.

Meanwhile, His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddin Sa'adul Khairi Waddien attended the match in the afternoon.

The first day of the competition started off with a Mixed Doubles tournament: throughout which the men in Group B played in Court One; whereas the men in Group A played in Court Two; and the women in Group B played in Court Three.

Court One consisted of a match between Tony Gunawan and Haryanto against Denny Kantono and Budi Arianto. Whereas, in Court Two, Flandy Limpele and Eng Hian played against Ricky A. Subagia and Rey Mainaky. All the players in Court One and Court Two were from the Republic of Indonesia.

On the other hand, in Court Three, Helen Kirkegaard and Pemille played against players from Marlene Thomsen and Rikke Olsen – all of whom were from the Kingdom of Denmark.

This is Brunei Darussalam's first time hosting the international badminton tournament, which offers prizes worth more than US\$300,000. Over 50 of the world's best players participated in the event, namely those from the Republic of Indonesia, South Korea, Malaysia and other countries.



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince with His Royal Highness Prince Haji 'Azim along with other royal family members (bottom) at the badminton tournament.



Other members of the royal family who were also present during the matches: Her Royal Highness Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Zariah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna; and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Amal Umi Kalthum Al-Islam.

## Badminton Finale prize presentation



Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik during the final matches of the Baiduri World Badminton Grand Prix Finale.

**BERAKAS, February 28** – Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam and Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajah Mariam binti Haji Abdul Aziz attended the final matches of the Baiduri World Badminton Grand Prix Finale at the Hassanal Bolkiah National Indoor Stadium.

The series of final matches consisted of the Mixed Doubles, Women's Singles, Men's Doubles and Men's Singles categories. During the event Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha presented the medals to the winners of the Mixed Doubles category; Kim Dong Moon and Ra Kyung Min from the Republic of Korea, who defeated a pair from England, Simon D. Archer and Joanne G. Goode.

The medals were presented by Her Majesty whereas the winning cheque replica and the souvenirs were presented by Her Royal Highness Pengiran Anak Hajjah Zariah.

The Women's Singles final match saw the first-place victory of Zhang Ning, who received US\$15,300; while Dai Yun received US\$9,900 for winning second place.

His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince presented the medals to the winners of the Women's Singles Category; followed by the souvenir presentation conducted by Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkiah; and the presentation of the winning cheque replicas by Miss Lu Sheng Rong, President of the International Badminton Federation.

Prizes for the Men's Doubles category were presented by His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien to two winning pairs from the Republic of Indonesia: Denny Kantono and Budi Ariantho Antonius,



Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha presenting the medals to the champions in the Mixed Doubles Category.



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince presenting medals to the winners of the Women's Singles Category.

who won first place; as well as Tony Gunawan and Haryanto Halim who won second place. The souvenirs and winning cheque replicas were presented by Her

Royal Highness Princess Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajah Masna, delivered by Mr. T.C Chan respectively.

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His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddin Sa'adul Khairi Waddien presenting the medals to the champions of the Men's Doubles Category.

Her Royal Highness Pengiran Anak Hajah Zariah presenting the the winning cheque replica to the champions in the Mixed Doubles Category.



Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkiah presenting a souvenir to one of the winners of the Women's Singles Category.

Under the Women's Doubles category, Ge Fei and Gu Ju from China won against the pair from Denmark, Marlene Thomsen and Rikke Olsen. The medals were presented by Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Digadong Seri Lela Dato Seri Paduka Awang Hussain bin Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Digadong Seri Diraja Dato Laila Utama Haji Awang Mohd. Yusof, Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports.

Meanwhile, the souvenirs and winning cheque replicas were presented by Dato Paduka Dr. Awang Haji Mat Suny bin Haji Mohd. Hussein, Managing Director of the Brunei Shell Petroleum Marketing Company; and Mr. Neil Cameroon.



Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna presenting the souvenirs to the winners of the Men's Doubles Category.

The highlight of the event was the match under the Men's Singles category, which took place between Peter Gade, the world's number one player from Denmark; and Sun Jun, the world's third best player from China who won the match. The winning prize under the category was worth US\$18,600, presented by Yang Mulia Seri Laila Jasa Dr. Awang Haji Ahmad bin Haji Jumat, President of the National Badminton Association of Brunei Darussalam. The souvenirs were presented by Dato Paduka Awang Haji Mohd. Alimin bin Haji Abdul Wahab, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Defence; whereas the winning cheque replicas were presented by Mr. K.V. Tan.

## Women's Council Hari Raya Celebration



Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam receiving *junjung ziarah* greetings from members of the Women's Council.



Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam and other members of the royal family during the national anthem upon arrival at Women's Council Hari Raya Celebration.

**BERAKAS, February 7** - Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam and Her Royal Highness Penigran Isteri Hajjah Mariam binti Haji Abdul Aziz attended the Hari Raya Aidilfitri Celebration organised by the Women's Council of Brunei Darussalam.

Also attending the event were Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna, Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Nor'ain, Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Umi Khalthum Al-Islam and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Nor Ehsani.

Upon arrival at the International Convention Centre (ICC), Her Majesty

Duli Raja Isteri and Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri were greeted by members of the council's Governing Board Committee, which was led by, Datin Hajah Edah binti Haji Mohd. Noor, President of the Women's Council of Brunei Darussalam.

The event commenced with the national anthem, followed by a welcoming speech from the President of the Council.

In her speech, Datin Hajah Edah explained the progress made by Women's Council, which included the admission of another women's association into the council, known as the Lambak Kanan Housing Women's Welfare Association (Persatuan Kebajikan Wanita Perumahan

Lambak Kanan - BAKANITA).

With a total of 12 associations currently under the Women's Council of Brunei Darussalam, the President hopes that more women's organisations will soon join the council.

During the celebration, Her Majesty and Her Royal Highness, as well as other members of the royal family were presented with various forms of entertainment, including singing, dancing and nasyid performances from members of the council as well as its associations.

Prior to leaving, Her Majesty and Her Royal Highness received *junjung ziarah* (meet-and-greet) greetings from members of the Brunei Darussalam Women's Council.

## The Crown Prince presents Honorary Medals

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, February 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 consented to award Brunei Darussalam Honorary Medals to a total of 1,209 recipients.

Presenting the medals on behalf of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince. Also present during the ceremony was His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien. A total of 418 recipients received the medals during the first day of the conferment on February 15.

The first on the list of honorary recipients at the Lapau Ceremonial Hall was Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Maharaja Lela Sahibul Kahar Pengiran Anak Haji Mohd. Yusof ibni Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam, Yang Di-Pertua of Adat Istiadat Negara; followed by Pehin Orang Kaya Pekerma Jaya Dato Paduka Haji Awang Judin bin Haji Asar, Permanent Secretary (Finance and Development) at the Ministry of Defence; Dato Paduka Seri Awang Haji Yaakub bin Orang Kaya Maharaja Diraja Dato Paduka Awang Haji Zainal, Commissioner of the Royal Brunei Police Force; and Dato Paduka Awang Haji Ahmad bin Haji Ibrahim, Director of the Anti-Corruption Bureau. The recipients were given the *Pingat Bakti Laila Ikhlas* (PBLI).

The Meritorious Service Medal (*Pingat Jasa Kebaktian* - PJK) was awarded to 70 people. Among these recipients are members of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces and the Royal Brunei Police Force. Three other people received the *Pingat Tabah Kerja Laila Lutanan* (PTKL); whereas 252 people received the *Pingat Indah Kerja Baik* (PIKB) Medal and 89 others received Long Service Medals (*Pingat Kerja Lama* - PKL).

During the second day February 16, a total of 364 government officials and staff received the Brunei Darussalam Honorary Medals.

The Meritorious Service Medal (*Pingat Jasa Kebaktian* - PJK) was received by 41 people, among them



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince attending the event on behalf of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam. Also present was His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien.



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah presenting the *Pingat Laila Ikhlas* (PBLI) medal to Dato Paduka Seri Awang Haji Yaakub bin Orang Kaya Maharaja Diraja Dato Paduka Awang Haji Zainal, Commissioner of the Royal Brunei Police Force.

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His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince presenting Brunei Darussalam Honorary Medals to government officers (above and below).



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was Yang Dimulikan Pehin Orang Kaya Pekerma Setia Dato Paduka Haji Awang Abdul Rahman bin Kani, the Director of Internal Security and Yang Dimulikan Pehin Datu Inderasugara Colonel Haji Awang Mohammad Yusof bin Haji Abu Bakar.

Meanwhile, 160 people received the *Pingat Indah Kerja Baik* (PIKB) Medal and 163 received Long Service Medals (*Pingat Kerja Lama* - PKL).

On the final day, 427 recipients received Brunei Darussalam Honorary medals.

At the event, 42 people received Meritorious Service Medals (*Pingat Jasa Kebaktian* - PJK) Medals;

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His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince presenting Long Service Medals (*Pingat Kerja Lama Polis* - PKLP) to one of the Royal Brunei Police Force officers.



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214 people received the *Pingat Indah Kerja Baik* (PIKB); 135 people received Long Service Medals (*Pingat Kerja Lama* - PKL); 35 people received Police Long Service Medals (*Pingat Kerja Lama Polis* - PKLP); and one person received the *Pingat Asgar Pahlawan* (AP).

Among those present at the ceremonies included State Dignitaries, Cabinet Ministers, Legislative Council members, Deputy Ministers, foreign diplomats, Permanent Secretaries and heads of Government departments.

*Doa Selamat* was read by Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Datu Imam Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Abdul Hamid bin Bakal.

## Brunei International Medical Journal launched



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince being briefed on the Brunei International Medical Journal Website.

**GADONG, February 14** - His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince consented to launch the Brunei International Medical Journal.

The arrival of His Royal Highness at the Centrepoint was greeted by Yang

Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Wijaya Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Abdul Aziz bin Begawan Pehin Udana Khatib Dato Seri Paduka Haji Awang Umar, Acting Minister of Health; Dato Seri Laila Jasa Awang Haji Ahmad bin Haji Jumat, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Health; as well as senior officials of the ministry.

Also attending the event was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik.

The ceremony started with a recitation of Surah Al-Fatihah led by Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Datu Imam Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Abdul Hamid bin Bakal, followed by a welcoming speech by the Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Health as Chairman of the Launching Committee. In his speech, Dato Seri Laila Seri Jasa Awang Haji Ahmad explained that the journal will be the driving force for Brunei Darussalam's relations in the field of international medicine.

Furthermore, the Permanent Secretary also hoped that it will be an effective platform, especially for doctors serving the country, to share reports, findings, as well as interesting and extraordinary experiences, in creating a medical academic culture and further provide quality medical and health services.

After the launching ceremony, His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah also viewed the published journal in-depth and the presentation of the Brunei International Medical Journal Website, which can be accessed through [www.bimj.edu.bn](http://www.bimj.edu.bn).

A *Doa Selamat* was read by Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Datu Imam Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Abdul Hamid bin Bakal.

## The Crown Prince attends luncheon



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince at the luncheon ceremony for the players, the organising committee as well as the media who will be part of the Baiduri World Badminton Grand Prix.

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, February 22** - About 50 of the world's best badminton players are expected to join the Baiduri World Badminton Grand Prix, an international tournament which will be held in the country for the first time.

His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince attended a luncheon with the players, organising committee members as well as the media who will be covering the tournament.

The event was held at the Sports Hall of Istana Nurul Iman.

After the luncheon, His Royal Highness the Crown Prince also had a friendly meet-and-greet with some of the world's most famous players.



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah with one of the world's best badminton players from Malaysia participating in the Baiduri World Badminton Grand Prix.

## Luncheon hosted by Minister of Foreign Affairs



His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Minister of Foreign Affairs during the luncheon for His Excellency Mr. U Win Aung, Foreign Minister of Myanmar at the Balai Penghadapan, Bukit Kayangan.

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, February 17** - His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Minister of Foreign Affairs, held a luncheon at the Balai Penghadapan, Bukit Kayangan for His Excellency Mr. U Win Aung, Foreign Minister of Myanmar who is in the country for a two-day working visit.

Prior to the luncheon, His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah and His Excellency Mr. U Win Aung conducted a bilateral discussion regarding issues concerning the region and mutual interests.

This was His Excellency Mr. U Win Aung's first visit to the Brunei Darussalam and as part of his series of visits to several ASEAN countries.