



# بروني دارالسلام

## BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

newsletter

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*Flanked to the right by his brother, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Haji Mohamed Bolkiah, His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam walks ahead of the procession around the Brunei Darussalam capital to commemorate Prophet Muhammad's birthday. Close behind are His Majesty's sons, Their Royal Highnesses Paduka Seri Duli Pengiran Muda Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah and Paduka Seri Duli Pengiran Muda Haji 'Abdul 'Azim (extreme left). More pictures on pages 6 and 7.*

## Be on guard against dubious Islamic religious teachings

**M**ore than 85,000 Muslims have taken part in gatherings and processions held simultaneously in

the country's four districts on 30 August (12 Rabiulawal 1414 of the Islamic Calendar) to commemorate

the birthday of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him).

*Continued on page 2*



## BRUNEI DARUSSALAM NEWSLETTER

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### YOUR TURN

The next issue of the Brunei Darussalam newsletter will appear on 30 September, 1993. If there are events relating to our country you would like featured in this newsletter please call us on Tel: 02-225941 or better still, send us a report with a picture, if possible. All editorial rights reserved.

*From page 1 (Maulud)*

The largest, at the Taman Haji Sir Muda Omar Ali Saifuddin in the capital, Bandar Seri Begawan, about 58,000 people heard His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam warn Muslims, especially youths, against falling prey to dubious religious teachings particularly those which are clearly doubtful and contradict the Ahlus Sunnah Wal-Jema'ah.

In his titah, highlighting the importance of aqidah (faith), His Majesty said that such deviationist teachings could create misunderstanding and cause confusion among Muslims and therefore should be avoided.

Upholding the true Islamic faith is foremost while developing the economy and administering the country come later, the Monarch said.

The Ruler stressed that it is important for Muslims to fulfill "ibadat-ibadat fardhu 'ain" [religious obligation for each Muslim such as the five-times a day prayer], strengthen their iman or faith and enhance their "takwa" (piety). At the same time, they should not neglect other responsibilities in life.

"Our duty is to ensure that Islam is spread through education and dakwah (missionary activities) and we should ensure that only authorised and qualified persons are involved in these work," His Majesty asserted.

Muslims in Brunei Darussalam should therefore be constantly alert to any possibility of such teachings which run contrary to the Ahlus Sunnah Wal-Jema'ah, the Quran and the As-Sunnah.

His Majesty also expressed concern about news reports of deviationist teachings in some countries in the region.

One way to combat this problem, besides enforcing laws through related Acts and by providing certain directives or regulations, is to intensify [the spread of correct] informa-

tion through religious sermons, seminars and talks as well as through the dissemination of booklets, said His Majesty.

"We should act before any problem arises".

The gathering also featured various religious presentations and was followed by a procession around the capital led by His Majesty himself. With the Monarch were two of his sons, Their Royal Highnesses Paduka Seri Duli Pengiran Muda Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah and Paduka Seri Duli Pengiran Muda Haji 'Abdul Azim and His Majesty's eldest brother, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Haji Mohamed Bolkiah.

### Accumulate wealth by legitimate means

In the Belait District, some 13,000 Muslims gathered at the Kuala Belait municipal ground, and later walked in a procession around the town.

The chief guest there was the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Finance, Dato Paduka Awang Haji Yaakub bin Abu Bakar, who among other things said that Muslims are encouraged to pursue as much as wealth as possible.

Then, he said, if such wealth is used properly for wellbeing as advocated by Islam, we would have fulfilled Allah's (God the Almighty's) command. He added that the "hands which donate are better than those which merely receive."

He stressed that Islam does not question the amount of wealth one accumulates, but rather how it is obtained and for what purposes it would be used.

"Islam advocates the accumulation of wealth by legitimate means, free of wrong doings such as fraud or corruption", he said.

Islam, he went on, also calls for one to be generous such as donating to worthy causes and paying tithes.

He reminded Muslims that in their

*Continued on page 3*



*From page 2 (Maulud)*

pursuit of wealth, they must always strike a balance between physical and spiritual development.

"It is on this basis that Brunei Darussalam has been able to implement policies that are demanded by Islam, such as the establishment of the Islamic Bank of Brunei and the Brunei Islamic Trust Fund", he said.

## **Live up to true image of Islam**

A similar gathering in the Temburong district took place in front of the Bangar Town Civic Centre, followed by a procession around the town. Almost half the district's population of about 9,000 turned out to celebrate the Prophet's birthday.

Speaking before the more than 4,000 Muslims present, the Permanent Secretary in the Prime Minister's Office, Yang Dimuliakan Pehin udana Khatib Dato Paduka Ustaz Haji Awang Badaruddin bin Pengarah Dato Paduka Haji Othman, who was the chief guest, urged Muslims to conduct themselves in accordance with Islam by practising its teachings in the contexts of their private lives as well as living within a community and nation.

Non-Muslims, too, need to suit themselves with the Islamic climate of the country by respecting the religion and being loyal to the Ruler and Government.

The theme of the Prophet's birthday celebration this year is "Pembangunan berasaskan Islam" (Development founded on Islam). The theme, said the official, gives meaning that the people are the target of development so that they can become administrators on this earth.

In nationbuilding, said the Permanent Secretary, we must achieve development in the true sense. This calls for such factors as physical and mental strength whereby the people and authority behind the process must be healthy, strong, determined and confident.

In order to achieve success in nationbuilding the people and government must also be able to function effectively by having expertise and knowledge.

The prime-movers of nationbuilding, people and government, must also be close to Allah as well as among mankind itself.

## **Islam, the true way of life**

More than 11,000 Muslims converged on the ground of the Tutong Town civic centre for the gathering and procession in the Tutong District.

The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources, Dato Paduka Malai Ali bin Haji Malai Othman told the gathering that the government is giving foremost attention to both physical and spiritual development so that Islam, the official religion in the country, becomes the true way of life.

"Islam requires its followers to pursue knowledge to support nationbuilding efforts", the official said. He stressed the need to observe development according to Islamic principles.

In this context, he went on, the government is making concerted efforts to develop the country's economy so as to reduce its dependence on oil and gas. Hence, the Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources has identified various categories of economic potentials in the private sector that would create more job opportunities.

These potentials, he explained, are in the categories of food safety the use of local resources, and domestic market and exports.

"Approaches taken by the ministry to develop these areas include promoting the industrialisation and investment climate to enable not only locals to engage in business ventures but also to attract foreign investors to these business types", Dato Paduka Malai Ali said.

Elements, such as knowledge,

need to be upgraded from time to time as the economic scene become ever so competitive, he pointed out.

Knowledge and know-how are the basic requirement which will enable the parties concerned to implement effective strategies and activities in the economic field such as industry, investment and trade, he concluded.

## **Deputy Minister to employers: bridge gap between local and foreign workers in private sector**

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs, Dato Paduka Haji Awang Abidin pointed out recently that foreign workers comprise 42 percent of the workforce in the country, even though 5,000 locals are seeking employment. This number is likely to increase as more students leave schools each year.

Speaking shortly before he opened the Fourth Career Exhibition on August 21, he urged employers to bridge the gap between the number of foreign and local workers in the private sector.

He also noted that some employers in the private sector already provide in-service training and sponsor students in educational institutions. Yet still a lot needs to be done, and the Deputy Minister said he hoped that employers would come forward with more programmes.

The Deputy Home Affairs Minister also urged employers to provide incentives to attract locals into the private sector. These should include promotion opportunities, determining the working hours, and giving

*Continued on page 10*





Above: His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, Her Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajjah Saleha (extreme left) and Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajjah Mariam received His Majesty Seri Paduka Baginda Yang Dipertuan Agong of Malaysia Sultan Azlan Muhibuddin Shah (second from right) and Her Majesty Seri Paduka Baginda Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Bainun (second from left) at Istana Nurul Iman. The Malaysian royal visitors made goodwill calls soon after their arrival and shortly before they returned home.

Below - from left to right: His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Duli Pengiran Muda Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Haji Mohamed Bolkiah and His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Digadong Sahibul Mal Pengiran Muda Haji Jefri Bolkiah and other members of the Brunei and Malaysian royal families at the goodwill call.



## Making a visit of goodwill

Malaysia's Paramount Ruler, His Majesty Seri Paduka Baginda Yang Dipertuan Agong Sultan Azlan Muhibuddin Shah and Her Majesty Seri Paduka Baginda Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Bainun have made a three-day goodwill visit to Brunei Darussalam, from 1 September.

A red-carpet welcome awaited them at the Brunei International airport, where they were greeted by His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Haji Mohamed Bolkiah as a personal representative of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-

*Continued on page 5*



Above: The Malaysian King's daughter, Yang Amat Mulia Raja Dato' Sri Eleena (far right) with to her right Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajjah Zariah, Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajjah Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkiah, Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajjah Masna, Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajjah Nor'ain, Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajjah Amal Umi Kalthum Al-Islam and Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Amal Rakiah (second from left) were also present at the goodwill call.





Above: His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, Her Majesty The Raja Isteri and Her Royal Highness The Pengiran Isteri with Their Majesties The Yang Dipertuan Agong and Raja Permaisuri Agong of Malaysia at a dinner in honour of the Malaysian royal couple.



Above - from right to left: His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Duli Pengiran Muda Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar and his wife, Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajjah Zariah, Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajjah Masna, Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Amal Umi Kalthum Al-Islam and other members of the royal family also attended the dinner.

From left to right in picture on right: His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Digadong Sahibul Mal Pengiran Muda Haji Jefri Bolkiah, Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajjah Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkiah, Yang Amat Mulia Raja Dato Sri Eleena and Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajjah Nor'ain (sideways to camera) at the dinner.

From page 4

Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, and Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajjah Masna.

They were introduced to a long line of Brunei dignitaries, who included pengiran-pengiran cheteria, cabinet ministers, members of councils, deputy ministers and senior government officials.

Accompanied on the visit by an entourage that included their daughter, Yang Amat Mulia Raja Dato' Sri Eleena, the royal couple proceeded to



Istana Nurul Iman for a goodwill call on His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanul Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, Her Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajjah Saleha and Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajjah Mariam. The

Malaysian royal visitors made a similar call before they returned home.

While in Brunei Darussalam, the Malaysian King played in a golf tournament vying for the Sultan Azlan Shah trophy against His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam's team, which emerged the winners.





His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam (above) meets each leader of the more than 170 teams from ministries, government departments, colleges, schools, commercial bodies and private organisations and associations taking part in the procession around the capital (below).



Above: The Brunei Monarch warning Muslims against deviationist Islamic teachings in his speech at the Prophet Muhammad's birthday celebration.



Left: The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources, Dato Paduka Malai Ali bin Haji Malai Othman being greeted by team leaders in Tutong Town.

Below: A part of the five-kilometre procession around Tutong Town, with about 11,000 Muslims taking part.





# Prophet's birthday observed nationwide



Above: The Permanent Secretary of the Finance Ministry, Dato Paduka Awang Haji Yaakub bin Abu Bakar leading the procession in Kuala Belait, in which some 13 Muslims participated including school bands (left).



Right: Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Udana Pehin Dato Paduka Ustaz Haji Awang Muhammad Daruddin bin Pengarah Dato Paduka Haji Othman, Permanent Secretary in the Prime Minister's Office, has informal chats with team leaders before the start of the procession around Bangar town in Temburong District, which saw some 4,000 Muslims turn up for Prophet Muhammad's birthday celebration there (bottom right).





## Women urged to support government's efforts in environmental protection



Above: The wife of Indonesian Ambassador to Brunei Darussalam, one of many who had put up flowers for display, receives a souvenir from Her Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajjah Saleha. Right: With the French Ambassador's wife close by, Her Majesty looks at some of the exhibits displayed by the French Embassy in Bandar Seri Begawan.



Left: Her Majesty tours the exhibition as the President of the Brunei Women's Institute, Dayang Hajjah Marhani binti Abdul Latif follows closely behind.



**H**er Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajjah Saleha has called on Brunei women to play an active role to support government's efforts in the preservation and protection of a clean and beautiful environment.

This includes creating awareness among the community, children in particular, of the importance of a clean and beautiful environment for healthy living. Such awareness would help contribute to producing Brunei citizens who really care for the environment, said Her Majesty.

Delivering her "titah" (address) at a Flower Exhibition held at the International Convention Centre (ICC) on August 8, Her Majesty underlined the government's effort towards environmental protection including the conservation of natural forest, which still covers about sixty percent of the country's area, as well as continuous efforts to beautify town areas and their surroundings.

Her Majesty said that the environment is closely related to the well-being of mankind. Hence, the world is alarmed by the negative effects

brought about by the deterioration of the environment caused by various forms of human activities.

Her Majesty pointed out that Brunei Darussalam is fortunate because the government continues to give due attention towards environmental protection.

The flower show was organised by the Brunei Women's Institute (WI) as one of the numerous celebration events to mark the 47th birthday anniversary of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam.





## *Brunei Darussalam needs to uphold and develop family values based on Islam and Malay culture*

**H**er Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajjah Mariam highlighted recently the role of government agencies, organisations and parents to safeguard and strengthen the noble virtues of family life in the country.

In her "sabda" (speech) at a children's concert at the International Convention Centre (ICC), on 31 July, Her Royal Highness also stressed the need for Brunei Darussalam to uphold and develop family values based on Islam and the Malay (culture). This is important in view of today's external influences which run contrary to religion, custom and culture.

Her Royal Highness further underlined the importance of national resilience in order to ensure the survival of the country and the people. This depends on the way we shape (the character and personality of) our younger generation, she stressed.

Her Royal Highness further pointed out to the need for our children to understand the virtues of affection, respect, appreciation and obedience in family life so as to become rational and responsible citizens.

She also highlighted the need for parents to have farsightedness in educating their children by stressing the virtues of good and noble character.

The Children's Concert, with its theme "Terima Kasih Ayah, Terima Kasih Ibu" or "Thank You Father, Thank You Mother" was organised by the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports. The event is aimed at creating awareness among children about the need to appreciate, respect and love their parents.



*Top: Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajjah Mariam officially declares The Children's Concert 1993 underway at the Brunei International Convention Centre on 30 July. Above: Helping to convey the concert's theme was an exhibition of posters, which Her Royal Highness toured. Left: Her Royal Highness chatting to a young artiste before presenting her a souvenir.*



*From page 3 (Career exhibition)*

suitable salaries in line with those given to foreign workers.

Dato Paduka Haji Awang Abidin also highlighted the significance of a harmonious relationship between employers and employees, so that the latter would be committed to their work.

"As the working world changes and becomes more challenging, employers in industries and the economic sector need highly-skilled workers who are able to adjust to industries' requirements," he said.

He pointed out that local workers should be aware of this situation and should be able to compete with foreign workers.

He further stressed on the importance of a highly-skilled workforce in a small country like Brunei Darussalam in order to boost high-technology industry.

"Our workforce should be skillful, qualified and robust and we should not continue to rely on foreign workers."



*The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs, Dato Paduka Haji Awang Abidin (centre) toured the Fourth Career Exhibition after he had declared it officially opened.*

Dato Paduka Haji Awang Abidin later urged locals to equip themselves and upgrade their skills, so that they can be accepted (and be able to compete with others) for employment opportunities in the ever challenging job market.

Some 400 job opportunities in various fields were offered to locals

by several industrial and business organisations during the Fourth Career Exhibition.

Dato Paduka Haji Awang Abidin hoped that this reflects the seriousness of the private sector in providing employment opportunities to locals, and in guiding them in their career development.

## *Use unleaded gas to protect environment: Minister*

**T**he Development Minister has urged the motoring public to support the use of unleaded gas (ULG) for a healthier and cleaner environment.

Protecting the environment is a joint responsibility. Using petrol with a high lead content has adverse consequences, Yang Berhormat Pengiran Dato Seri Paduka Dr. Hj Ismail said shortly before opening a renovated Shell Service Station on August 25, at Kampung Bunut, just outside the capital.

In this connection, he commended Brunei Shell Marketing's efforts in



*The Minister of Development, Yang Berhormat Pengiran Dato Seri Paduka Dr. Haji Ismail delivering his speech while Brunei Shell's Marketing Managing Director, Dato Paduka Awang Mat Suny looks on.*

promoting ULG and in creating awareness on the importance of protecting the environment.

The Minister also said that although petroleum business is a monopoly in this country, it is often easy

to think about profit instead of customers' needs.

"I understand that in Brunei Shell Marketing's retail rejuvenation

*Continued on page 11*



From page 10 (ULG)

programme, apart from upgrading petrol station and their facilities, the company also provides station dealers with basic management skills. Emphasis is also being placed on dealers giving quality customers service to motorists and, in line with the nation's aspirations, Brunei Shell Marketing is encouraging young Bruneians to be involved in the retail service business."

#### New business development

In his speech, Brunei Shell Marketing's Managing Director, Dato Paduka Awang Mat Suny said that Brunei Shell Marketing has focused on the new business development and progress of service station concept equal to those in the region. Efforts on the introduction of multi-services continue, and the Bunut Shell Service Station is the evidence of this new development, he added.

Besides encouraging locals to be involved in the retail service business, Brunei Shell Marketing is also encouraging the use of ULG in the country to ensure a cleaner and healthier environment, said Dato Paduka Mat Suny.

The Brunei Shell Service Station is the third to be completed under Brunei Shell Marketing's retail rejuvenation project which started in 1990, with the objective of enhancing the petroleum product.

## Immediate steps needed to meet rising passenger-airfreight traffic

The Senior Special Duties Officer of the Ministry of Communication said this month that members of the ASEAN International Airports Association would face problems in the future if immediate steps are not taken to meet demands brought by rising passenger and airfreight traffic.

"The prominence gained in aviation in this part of the world through the tremendous growth and potential of both passenger and air cargo traffic seem now to strengthen over the last few years."

The International Civil Aviation Organisation forecasts an 11 percent and 13 percent increase in passenger and airfreight respectively. Some countries have exceeded these figures and steps have to be taken to meet this demand, he said.

One implication is the congestion in many areas of airport operations. It is unfortunate if the limitations in our airport handling capacity hinders this tremendous growth, said Dato Paduka Haji Puasa in an opening address at the 12th Annual Meeting of the ASEAN International Airports Association on 6 September.

"The function of an airport and its facilities is undeniably of paramount importance in the socio-economic development of any country."

To an outsider, an airport is the



*The Special Duties Officer at the Ministry of Communication, Dato Paduka Awang Haji Puasa calling for urgent measures to meet demands of increasing passenger and airfreight traffic in the Southeast Asian region.*

main door of entry to a country, said the Senior Special Duties Officer.

"In this connection your task is not only to furnish the technical requirement but also to make your airport as convenient and comfortable as possible to passengers as well as to the general public," he told delegates.

"I appreciate your efforts over the years to enhance passenger safety, comfort and convenience and in adding aesthetic touches in many aspects of the airport operation. This

task" he stressed "is a never ending task. New technology ensues time after time and the airport operator is challenged to modernise his airport time and again."

Concerted and coordinated effort has to be focused in considering and achieving common goals, he said. The success in airport development and its spin-offs lie partly in the hands of members of the ASEAN International Airports Association, he stressed.





## Audiences for religious ministers

His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam granting audiences to Indonesia's Religious Affairs Minister, Yang Terhormat Dr. Haji Tarmizi Tahar (above right) and to the Minister in the Prime Minister's Department of Malaysia, Yang Berhormat Dato' Abang Haji Abu Bakar bin Datu Bandar Abang Haji Mustaffa Mohammad, picture above left. The two ministers were in Brunei Darussalam for the Informal Meeting of Religious Ministers of Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore held in Bandar Seri Begawan on 6 and 7 August, 1993. Ibu Tjoesma Tarmizi, wife of the Indonesian Religious Affairs Minister and Tungku Maziah binti Tungku Mustapha, wife of the Minister in the Prime Minister's Department of Malaysia with Her Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajjah Saleha who granted them an audience at Istana Nurul Iman (below left). The wives of the visiting Indonesian and Malaysian Ministers also had an audience at Istana Nurul Iman with Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajjah Mariam, picture below right.



### Brunei in Brief

Capital : Bandar Seri Begawan  
Land size : 5765 sq. km  
Population : 260,000 (1991)  
Official Language : Malay  
Official Religion : Islam  
August rainfall : 71.2mm  
(annual 2,818mm)

#### PRIME LENDING RATE

August 5.75%

(quoted by Bankers' Association)

### Brunei Malay in a minute

Each month we introduce readers to a common Brunei Malay word as used in the State.

This month the word selected is **ampul**.

**Ampul** means light in weight. In standard Malay **ampul** means

ringan.

Let us use the word **ampul** in a sentence.

Kapas **ampul** jika dibanding dengan batu.

Cotton is light compared to stone.

**THE TRAFFICKING IN AND THE ILLEGAL IMPORTATION OF CONTROLLED DRUGS ARE VERY SERIOUS OFFENCES IN BRUNEI DARUSSALAM AND THE PENALTY FOR SUCH OFFENCES IS DEATH.**