



بروني دارالسلام

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

newsletter

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Be on equal footing with well- established foreign educational institutions: HM Sultan

Brunei Darussalam moved one step closer to meeting its need in professional manpower on 16 September, when nearly 300 students graduated from Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD) - presently the country's only university.

The latest group of students graduated during the university's fifth convocation ceremony, at which His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam who is UBD's Chancellor, called on the university to strive forward so as to be on equal footing with other well-established educational institutions elsewhere.

His Majesty said that UBD was born at a time when the world was

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His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam enters the main hall of the Brunei International Convention Centre in a procession led by the macebearer and included members of university senate and academic staff for Universiti Brunei Darussalam's fifth graduation ceremony on 16 September.

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM NEWSLETTER

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YOUR TURN

The next issue of the Brunei Darussalam newsletter will appear on 15 October, 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.



His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Haji Mohamed Bolkiah and His Majesty King Mswati III engage in a private conversation during a dinner at the Royal Swaziland Convention Centre.

Foreign Minister attends celebrations in Swaziland

Holds meetings in South Africa

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Haji Mohamed Bolkiah has represented His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam at the 25th birthday celebrations of the King of Swaziland, His Majesty King Mswati III and Silver Jubilee celebrations of the country's independence.

Representatives from 26 other countries were present at the colourful celebrations held in the Swazi capital of Mbabane on 6 September, and they included His Royal Highness Prince Edward of England and the Crown Prince of Morocco.

Swaziland's Prime Minister, The Rt. Hon. Obed M. Dlamini and Home Affairs Minister, His Royal Highness Prince Sobandla and thousands of flag-waving schoolchildren greeted the arrival of His Royal Highness and delegation which included his eldest son, Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Muda Abdul Qawi, brother-in-law Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Maharaja Lela Sahibul Kahar Pengiran Anak Haji Mohd. Yusof and the Permanent Secretary of the Foreign Affairs Ministry, Dato Paduka Awang

Lim Jock Seng.

During the celebration, the Swazi King entertained his guests to a banquet and a dinner at the Royal Swaziland Convention Centre in Mbabane, and a tea party at Lozitha Palace, 43 kilometres from the capital.

The celebrations culminated in an eight-hour display at the Somhlolo National Stadium in the capital which showed an array of the rich, some unique, cultures of the Swazi people.

After the celebrations, His Royal Highness Prince Haji Mohamed Bolkiah held meetings with South African leaders.

During a meeting in Pretoria, the Brunei Darussalam Foreign Affairs Minister was briefed on the current political and economic developments of the country by the South African Foreign Minister, His Excellency Mr. Roelf Frederik (Pik) Botha.

The meeting took place at the South African Foreign Ministry.

His Royal Highness later held a meeting with the Chairman of the African National Congress (ANC), Mr. Thabo Mbeki at the ANC Headquarters in Johannesburg.

The ANC Chairman also briefed His Royal Highness on the current developments in South Africa.



His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Haji Mohamed Bolkiah with other guests including Britain's Prince Edward at a state banquet in conjunction with the 25th birthday of the King of Swaziland and the country's Independence Silver Jubilee.



Above right: With the King's mother and other VIPs, His Royal Highness watches the celebrations at the Somhlolo National Stadium in Mabanae, which were highlighted by various cultural dances, in some of which King Mswati III, dressed in traditional costumes, also participated (above left).



Above left: The South African Foreign Minister, His Excellency Mr. Rieff Frederik (Pik) Botha briefs His Royal Highness on current developments in his country. Above right: His Royal Highness and the African National Congress' (ANC) Chairman, Mr. Thabo Mvuyelwa Mbeki share a light moment at the start of their meeting in Johannesburg.



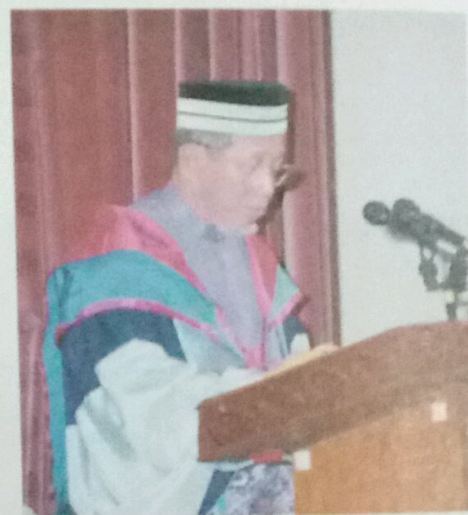
Above: His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, who is Chancellor of UBD, sitting on the dais with members of the university's senate and academic staff and state dignitaries shortly before he presented degrees and certificates to the university's latest graduates.



One of the graduates receives his degree from the Brunei monarch (above), while others (below) await turn anxiously.



UBD's fifth Convocation



Above: Speaking before receiving his honorary Doctorate degree from His Majesty is the Head of the History Centre, Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Jawatan Dalam Seri Maharaja Dato Seri Utama (Dr.) Haji Awang Mohd. Jamil Al-Sufri.

experiencing rapid changes including the pursuit of knowledge needed by mankind.

All learning centres in the world are working actively towards this goal though they [had to] face [various] obstacles. Achieving excellence in education has become the norm of those learning centres in particular in the face of competition and challenges, His Majesty added.

Establishment of twin educational programme

In his 'titah' (royal address), telecast 'live' over radio and television, the Brunei Monarch further noted the "twinning programmes", now popular among universities.

His Majesty said he was pleased that UBD has already participated in such a programme. Courses for the programme would no doubt be extended and it would further strengthen UBD's relations with renowned universities abroad, His Majesty stressed.

However, upgrading the quality [of education and courses offered] should be the focus of attention, not blindly adopting foreign influences which are inappropriate for us, His Majesty advised.

In this regard, UBD should not be merely concerned with importing skills and expertise. It should also be capable of exporting [its own] in the future, he stressed.

The Brunei Monarch also welcomed UBD's plan to review its academic programme as a preparation before it moves to its permanent campus.

As the only university in the country, UBD should be sensitive with the [needs and] way of life of the "rakyat" (citizens) to guide not the students but also to be exemplary to the society in the fields of leadership, way of thinking and its role in producing educated and religious people, capable of leading the development [of the country] in the future, His Majesty highlighted.

Importance of involvement of the community sector

His Majesty also spoke on the importance of the involvement of the community towards creating an influential university. The ruler expressed his appreciation to the Brunei Shell Petroleum Company Private Limited and several other firms for their commitment in UBD's development and research activities.

The monarch also noted Mitsubishi Corporation Company's contribution in the construction of the main lecture hall at the permanent campus of UBD. He hoped other firms and individuals in the country would follow such example.

His Majesty was also pleased to note that for the first time UBD has produced graduates with a Masters degree in Public Policy and Education Management.

Vice-Chancellor underlines UBD's developments

Dato Seri Liala Jasa Awang Haji Abu Bakar bin Haji Apong, UBD's Vice-Chancellor, in his speech, among others, said that since its Fourth Convocation, Universiti Brunei Darussalam has made several achievements in the academic field including research and development.

Formation of the Faculty of Islamic Studies

The Faculty of Islamic Studies was established this year, thus making it the fifth faculty in the university. Apart from assisting the Faculty of Education, the Faculty of Islamic Studies is offering courses with the Arabic language as its medium of instruction.

Twin courses extended in accounting

Touching on the reason for the establishment of twin educational programmes with other foreign universities, the UBD's Vice-Chancellor said it is appropriate in view of

the small number of students in the university and due to the higher cost of implementing new programmes.

A twin course has been further extended this year in the field of accountancy in collaboration with the University of Birmingham.

Relevance of courses with current needs

Dato Seri Laila Jasa Awang Haji Abu Bakar further underlined the objective of evaluating continuously, the relevance of courses offered in accordance with the current needs.

He said that effort has been made in strengthening the education course especially in primary education, adding that several amendments have been carried out in the Bachelor of Arts Primary Education programme this year.

The vice-chancellor also disclosed that beginning this year a course on "Early Childhood" has been organised especially for pre-school teachers and would be extended to the degree level in the future with the availability of suitable and capable teaching resources.

Increasing interest in research

The vice-chancellor further noted the increasing interest in the field of research conducted by the university's academicians. Research interest at the international level towards the Field Study Centre in Kuala Belalong was obvious, the vice-chancellor stressed, adding that UBD would continuously work in collaboration with the Royal Geographical Society and together, they have already identified the fields to be [further] developed.

The vice-chancellor also noted that research fellowship offered by UBD each year has attracted the interest of researchers in ecology, environment, management and language fields.

Besides, UBD is also able to offer fellowship for Bruneians and those

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His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam is flanked to his right by the Yang Dipertua Negeri of Sarawak, His Excellency Tun Datuk Patinggi Haji Ahmad Zaidi Adruce (second from left) and to the left by Sarawak's Chief Minister, Yang Amat Berhormat Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Haji Abdul Taib Mahmud at a state banquet in His Majesty's honour. To the Chief Minister's left is His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Digadong Sahibul Mal Pengiran Muda Haji Jefri Bolkiah.



Above: His Majesty looks at a souvenir which has just been presented by the Yang Dipertua Negeri of Sarawak. Below: Sarawak's medal of merits, the Darjah Yang Amat Mulia Bintang Sarawak, Panglima Negara Bintang Sarawak, PNBS, being bestowed on His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Digadong Sahibul Mal Pengiran Muda Haji Jefri Bolkiah by the Yang Dipertua Negeri.



Exchange of visits reaffirm relations

The Rulers of Brunei Darussalam and Malaysia traded visits this month, thus further reaffirming the existing strong relations between the two countries, both of which are members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, ASEAN.

His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam made a three-day visit to the East Malaysian State of Sarawak from 6 to 8 September.

The Brunei Monarch was accompanied by a brother, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Digadong Sahibul Mal Pengiran Muda Haji Jefri Bolkiah and a brother-in-law, Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Indera Setia Sahibul Karib Pengiran Anak Haji Idris.

His Majesty and party arrived to



In full traditional costumes, a group of one of Sarawak's...
aces welcomes His Majesty and his brother as they
lk about at Kampong Budaya Sarawak (Sarawak Cul-
in the capital, Kuching. Above: His Majesty took part in
aces of the Sarawak Regatta 1993, which he had
lier.

From page 5 (UBD Convocation)

who had previously served in the country to write about their experiences and skills and share them with the university, the vice-chancellor said.

Touching on the post-graduate course, the vice-chancellor said UBD will start the Master of Science course in Petroleum Geoscience, to be conducted with the University of Aberdeen.

The vice-chancellor later expressed appreciation to the Brunei Shell Petroleum Company Private Limited for its contribution in financing the appointment of Petroleum Geoscience Professor and the management cost for the programme.

He said early management on the appointment of the professor was carried out and if it works smoothly, the programme will start to recruit its first batch of students in the academic year of 1994/1995.

The vice-chancellor also spoke on the latest programme namely the Academic Review Programme of Universiti Brunei Darussalam in order to determine its relevance with current needs.

Private sector contribution

Touching on private sector contribution to UBD, the vice-chancellor also expressed gratitude and appreciation to the Mitsubishi Corporate Company in financing the construction of the main lecture hall at the permanent university campus.

He also commended the Islamic Bank of Brunei and the Standard Chartered Bank which will offer scholarships to students to study in the university and described such

initiative as "most welcome in bearing the country's high cost of education."

Ceremony

The ceremony began with the recital of the verse of the Al-Quran by Mohd. Aslenan bin Haji Metusin, a student of the Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Tahfiz Al-Quran Institute.

His Majesty also consented to confer an honorary doctorate of literature to Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Jawatan Dalam Seri Maharaja Dato Seri Utama (Dr) Haji Awang Mohd Jamil Al-Sufri bin Begawan Pehin Udana Khatib Dato Seri Paduka Haji Awang Umar at the ceremony.

The 72-year-old Yang Dimuliakan Pehin is the Head of the History Centre since 1982. He has a wide variety of knowledge such as in history, language, literature, Islam and education.

He had previously served in several posts in education from 1939 to 1964, as Director of the Language and Literature Bureau from 1965 to 1975 as well as Chairman of the Brunei Education Council. He was also responsible in the formation of Universiti Brunei Darussalam.

Yang Dimuliakan Pehin is also a writer of books, and articles in journals on various topics.

In 1967, Yang Dimuliakan Pehin was awarded Honourary Degree of Doctor of Literature (Litt. D) from the American Institute of Science, Indianapolis, College of Liberal Art, USA and an "ASEAN Cultural Award" in the field of literature from the ASEAN-COCI (Committee on

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pet welcome at the Kuching (Sarawak State capital) International airport, where they were greeted by the Yang Dipertua Negeri His Excellency Tun Datuk Patinggi Haji Ahmad Zaidi Aduce and Chief Minister, Yang Amat Berhormat Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri ul Taib Mahmud and other state dignitaries.

Majesty was entertained at a state banquet in his honour hosted by the Yang Dipertua Negeri of Sarawak. The Chief Minister also hosted in honour of the Brunei Monarch.

Majesty launched the Sarawak Regatta 1993 and took part in one of the events.

Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam's visit was preceded a week earlier by a three-day visit from I er to Bandar Seri Begawan of Malaysia's Paramount Ruler, His Majesty Seri Paduka Baginda Yang Dipertuan Agong Sultan Azian ddi Shah, accompanied by Her Majesty the Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Bainun.

Review programmes to avoid wastage: Minister

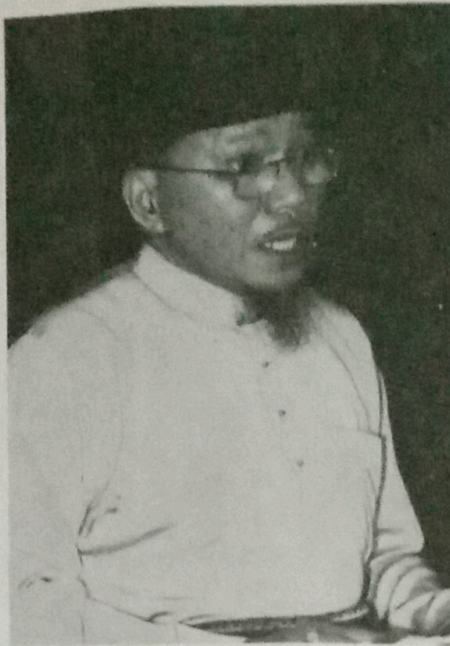
In order to ensure that education reaches everyone in the country, countries need to systematically review all programmes to make sure that the education sector meets its objectives with the minimum wastage.

Efficiency, in short, needs to be tied with equity, the Education Minister said to more than 200 representatives from participating countries who were in Bandar Seri Begawan for the international conference entitled "Education for all", on 19 September.

In his speech at the opening ceremony at the ICC to representatives from Africa, Australia, Europe and North America and the Asia Pacific region, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Wijaya Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Abdul Aziz explained.

"Brunei Darussalam, of course, recognises that the development process varies considerably among our countries. We are a small country and have a special interest in the measures taken by small states to meet their particular circumstances. Small states are not only faced with the problems of scale, especially in the delivery of all social services including education, but are vulnerable to many other physical, economic and political constraints that are often beyond their control."

Whether as large or small nations,



The Minister of Education, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Wijaya Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Abdul Aziz.

he went on, we all exist in a world wherein budgetary constraints weigh heavily in social services expenditure - and so that increasing resource demands of the education sector have to be tempered with reality.

Need to promote self-reliance

"It is true that in Brunei Darussalam, we have achieved most of our immediate quantity goals and so our priorities now lie with quality control and improving on what we

have achieved - and especially with extending quality provision to special groups, including youth and adults."

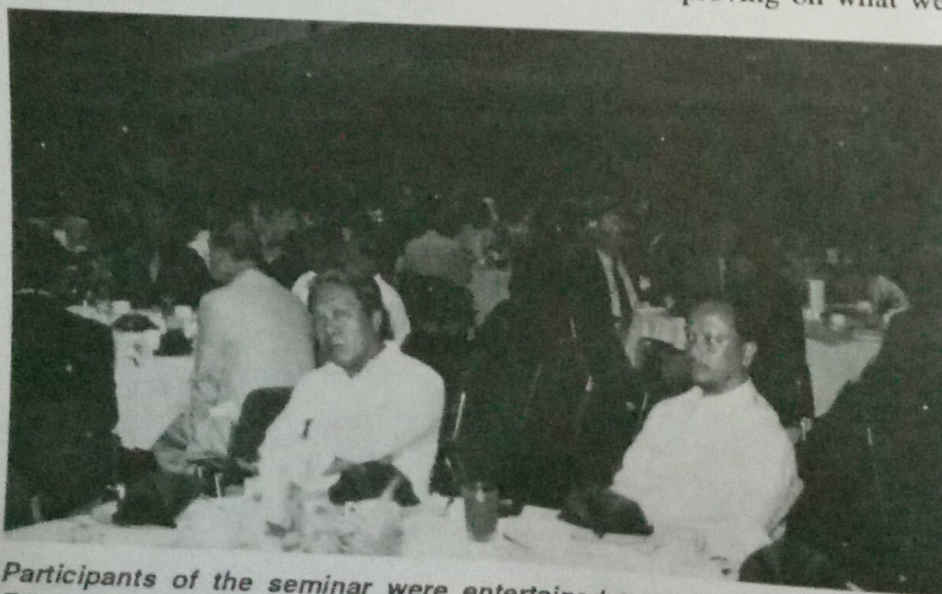
"We are particularly interested in better articulating the world of education with the world of work, so as to better assist in community development and the growth of self-reliance among our people."

We also need to improve the level of literacy among the population and to further extend our early "childhood provision", the Minister said.

Brunei Darussalam is always willing and ready to work and share experiences with other states whether bilaterally or through various global organisations, such as SEARRAG (The Southeast Asian Research, Review and Advisory Group), SEAMEO (Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organisation), ISESCO, The Commonwealth Secretariat and others, Yang Berhormat added.

Some problems in education

The Minister also posed some questions to those who may have already achieved some quantitative objectives, yet still faced some problems in education such as, to what extent the school systems, as presently conceived, are achieving the minimum learning requirement of making the children truly literate?, can a child learn enough through basic education to reach the self-sustaining level needed to maintain and use [the acquired] knowledge and skills, and continue to learn on his or her own for a lifelong education?, how does basic education directly and immediately contribute to improving the everyday life to people and what is basic with basic education?, why do some learn and acquire useful skills and liabilities whilst others fail to meet even the minimal tasks and what can be done to those "deemed failures by the education



Participants of the seminar were entertained to a dinner given by the Education Minister.

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His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam pins the Darjah Paduka Keberanian Laila Terbilang Yang Amat Gemilang - First Class (D.P.K.T.-Kehormat) medal on the Chief of the Royal Malaysian Police. The award gives him the title 'Dato Paduka Seri'



Yang Amat Berbahagia Toh Puan Datin Hamidah being granted an audience at Istana Nurul Iman by Her Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajjah Saleha (above left) and at Istana Nurul Izzah by Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajjah Mariam (above right).



Brunei honour for Malaysian Police Chief

His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanah Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam has bestowed honour on the Chief of the Royal Malaysian Police, Yang Amat Berbahagia Tun Haji Mohammed Hanif bin Omar.

At an audience ceremony on 15 September at Istana Nurul Iman, the Brunei monarch awarded the visiting police chief the "D.P.K.T. - Kehormat" first-class medal, which brings the title of Dato Paduka Seri.

Yang Amat Berbahagia Dato Paduka Seri Tun Haji Mohammed Hanif was in Brunei Darussalam on a three-day goodwill visit before his retirement at the end of this year.

He was accompanied by his wife, Yang Amat Berbahagia Toh Puan Datin Hamidah binti Abdul Hamid, who was herself granted separate audiences by Her Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajjah Saleha and Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajjah Mariam. Also in the delegation were two senior officials of the Royal Malaysian Police.

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system"?

While participants would be discussing many effective and innovative ways in meeting basic learning needs, Yang Berhormat continued, "we will still be faced in most of our countries with the awesome task of mobilising energy, resources and skills to achieve our goals."

The obstacles are many - political, economic, administrative, socio-cultural factors can help or inhibit

our progress, he added.

Already the 1990s have seen the world's political landscape taking irreversible steps towards peace - a deceleration of the arms race and a change in nuclear strategies which have given the world some hope for a more just, equitable, humane and rational world order.

And yet, said Yang Berhormat, we still see the forces of violence at work, with religious intolerance and the worsening world economic order, giving rise to recession and

the grave debt burdens of many countries.

"This is truly a time when there is a great need to use education to carry a message of peace and multi-cultural co-existence."

Education for all is ambitious, the Minister stressed, not only in terms of the financial resources required for its implementation, but also in terms of human resources development necessary to cope with a new

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From page 7 (UBD Convocation)

Culture and Information).

The Brunei monarch later consented to present degrees to 173 graduates including a Master degree of Public Policy, the Master of Education, Bachelor of Science Education and Bachelor of Arts Primary Education.

His Majesty also consented to present some 116 certificates namely Post-Graduate Certificate in Education, Certificate in Educational Management, Certificate in Teaching Malay Language and Certificate in Education.

Universiti Brunei Darussalam was formed in 1985. To date it has produced more than 800 graduates. It has five faculties namely the Faculty of Arts and Social Science, Faculty of Education, Faculty of Management and Administration Studies, Faculty of Science and Faculty of Islamic Studies.

B\$4 million from firm for UBD's main lecture theatre

Universiti Brunei Darussalam this month received a donation of B\$4 million from the Mitsubishi Corporation, for the building of the main lecture theatre of the university's new campus.

This donation, said the Education Minister who is also UBD's Chairman, reflects its cooperation in the search for knowledge.

Even though Brunei Darussalam

is rich, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Wijaya Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Abdul Aziz added, "His Majesty's Government will not close the door to receive any beneficial donation, especially that related to knowledge."

In his speech thanking Mitsubishi Corporation for its donation to UBD, and hoping that other companies would make a similar move, Yang Berhormat Pehin noted that Volkswagen in Germany, Toyota in Japan and Esso in the United States, have provided funds "which can be used by anybody around the world" to conduct academic research and projects.

Donations are welcome in particular in cases involving research which normally takes a long time and a lot of people, the Minister said. If the money needed for research is

taken from the current administration budget, "then implementation always" have to be deferred, Yang Berhormat observed. Donations are therefore welcome as they help smoothen the completion of such research, he added.

The Minister also said on 11 September that UBD welcome organisations or agents including public companies who wish to help create "professorial chairs".

"As a young university in this part of the world there are so many academic fields which have not been studied in depth." One of these is Brunei studies which covers many aspects of life of the people in the country, and the other, is Islamic studies in the Brunei context. In this connection, several professorial chairs must be created from now," he said.



The Minister of Education, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Wijaya Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Abdul Aziz, who is also UBD's Chairman, receives donation cheque for B\$4 million from the Managing Director of Mitsubishi Corporation, Mr. I. Yokose. The money will be used for building UBD's main lecture theatre at its new B\$170 million campus adjacent to the Muara-Tutong highway at Tungku, about eight kilometres from the capital.

From page 9 (Review programme)
vision of education to meet the challenges of the year 2000 and beyond.

The previous world conference on Education for All, which Brunei Darussalam also participated in, was held in March 1990 in Thailand. It was a historic occasion bringing together government ministries, non-governmental agencies, development agencies and world and regional financial institutions.

Two texts were adopted by the 1990 Conference, namely the world declaration on education for all which identifies the principles and objectives used in seeking education for all, and the framework for action to meet basic learning needs, which outlines methods by which the objectives can be achieved.

These two texts expressed a worldwide consensus on the necessity of education for all and on an expanded

vision of basic education as well as a renewed commitment to ensure that the basic learning needs of all children, youth, and adults are met in all countries.

The international conference being held in Brunei Darussalam evaluated the progress made since 1990, assessed the degree to which members have achieved their objectives and sought new directions for future progress.

Former UN Chief on two-day visit to Brunei Darussalam

The former Secretary General of the United Nations, His Excellency Mr. Perez De Cuellar has given a talk at Universiti Brunei Darussalam, UBD, on the topic: "Present Global Turmoils: Remedies to Achieve Peace, Harmony and Prosperity".



His Excellency Mr. Perez De Cuellar, former UN Secretary General, giving a talk at Universiti Brunei Darussalam.

He touched on current world problems and the efforts towards their resolutions in order to achieve peace, harmony and prosperity.

More than one hundred people from many sectors including senior government officials and foreign diplomats in Brunei Darussalam attended the talk.

His Excellency Mr. Perez De Cuellar who was UN Secretary General for two five-year term from 1982, was in Bandar Seri Begawan for a two-day visit from 9 September.

Enjoying warm, close relations



His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Haji Mohamed Bolkiah and the Malaysian High Commissioner to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Dato' Haji Mustaffa bin Haji Mohammad at Malaysia's National Day celebrations in Bandar Seri Begawan.

Brunei Darussalam and Malaysia have been enjoying very close relations, especially in recent years, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Haji Mohamed Bolkiah, Minister of Foreign Affairs, has said.

He was speaking when he represented His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam at a reception in conjunction with Malaysia's 36th National Day. The celebration was hosted by the Malaysian High Commissioner to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Dato' Haji Mustaffa bin Haji Mohammed at the Brunei International Convention Centre on 31 August.

His Royal Highness expressed admiration for the achievements which Malaysia has attained, especially in the field of industries, saying that Malaysia had set an example to other developing countries for a brighter future.

The Brunei Darussalam Foreign Affairs Minister also spoke of Malaysian Prime Minister Dato Seri Dr. Mahathir's recent visit to Brunei

Darussalam, at which bilateral issues were discussed, bringing about an understanding which can benefit both countries in the future.

The Malaysian Premier made his latest visit to Bandar Seri Begawan for three days from 1 August, when he led a 37-member delegation that included his Foreign Minister and the Chief Minister of Sarawak.

Out of the visit came a memorandum of understanding (MOU) which is expected to be signed soon between the two countries on the establishment of a Joint Commission designed to further enhance cooperation between them.

Brunei Darussalam and Malaysia have already signed MOUs in defence, air services, education and training, and in information and broadcasting.

Speaking earlier, the Malaysian High Commissioner in Bandar Seri Begawan also spoke of the very close and warm relations between the two ASEAN neighbours.

He said the two countries did not only enjoy good relations on bilateral basis, but also through ASEAN and various international fora.



Frontal view and inset, side view of the Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajjah Masna Secondary School at Kampong Lambak Kanan

School's name in honour of princess

The intensive drive to improve the standard of education in Brunei Darussalam has seen many new and modern school buildings being built in the past two decades. One of them is one formerly known as the Lambak Kanan Secondary School at Kampong

Lambak Kanan, about 10 kilometres from the capital. The country's first all-girls school, it was renamed recently as the Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajjah Masna Secondary School after one of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam's sisters. The naming of

the school after The Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajjah Masna was in honour of the princess' achievement in obtaining a Bachelor of Arts Honours degree at Universiti Brunei Darussalam last year.

Brunei in Brief

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

PRIME LENDING RATE

August 5.75%
(quoted by Bankers' Association)

Brunei Malay in a minute

In each edition of the Brunei Darussalam Newsletter, we present a new Brunei Malay word to our readers. As the name suggests, the word is unique to the country.

Now we bring you the word **akun**. **Akun** (mangakun) is to admit or confess to something. Its equivalent in standard Malay is mengaku.

In a sentence.....Dia **mangakun** telah mencuri buku perpustakaan itu.

He admitted that he had stolen the library book.

**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.**