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OIC solidarity upholds justice and peace



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in a group photo at the Opening of the 13th Session of the OIC Summit with fellow monarchs, head of state and government of the OIC members and non-member states.

ISTANBUL, REPUBLIC OF TURKEY, April 14 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam consented to attend the Opening of the 13th Session of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Summit at the Istanbul Congress Centre, Republic of Turkey.

The arrival of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam at the Istanbul Congress Centre was greeted by His Excellency Recep Tayyip Erdogan (Er-Do-An), President

of the Republic of Turkey and Chairman of the 13th Session of the OIC Summit.

His Majesty was then invited to take part in a group photo session with fellow monarchs, head of state and government of the OIC members and non-member states.

The Opening for the 13th Session of the OIC Summit commenced with an Opening Statement by His Excellency Abdel Fattah al-Sisi, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt as Chairman of

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Enhance the reading of the Al-Quran

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, April 21 - 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 attend the Finals of the National Musabaqah Al-Quran for Adults 1437 Hijrah/2016 Masihi, which took place at the International Convention Centre (ICC).

The arrival of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was welcomed by Yang Berhormat Pehin Udana Khatib Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Badaruddin bin Pengarah Dato Paduka Haji Awang Othman, Minister of Religious Affairs as the Chairman of the Executive

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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 delivering a *titah* (royal speech) at the Finals of the National Musabaqah Al-Quran for Adults 1437 Hijrah/2016 Masihi, held at the International Convention Centre.



3. His Majesty receives audiences



4. Her Majesty receives audiences



5. His Royal Highness receives audiences



6. Brunei - Saudi Arabia holds bilateral meeting



7. Bilateral meeting with the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran



8. Sovereign's Parade of 14th Intake OCS



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11. Double efforts in Tilawah Al-Quran Youth Scheme



12. Hikmat Bersatu Lima Exercise



14. Working visit to the Business Support Centre (BSC)



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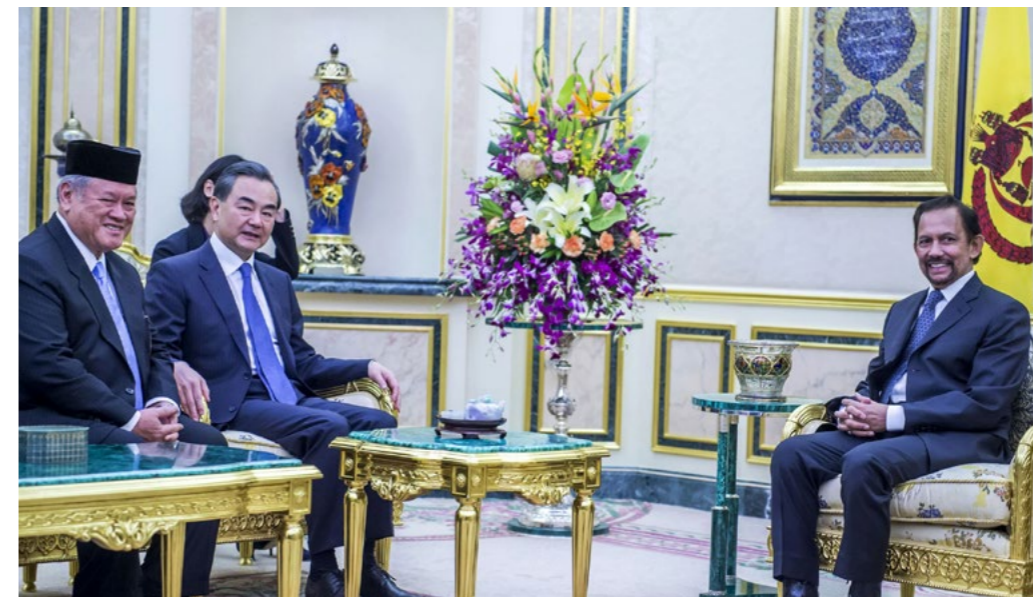
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His Majesty receives audiences

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



Admiral Scoot Swift, Commander of the United States Pacific Fleet on April 11.



His Excellency Wang Yi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China on April 21.

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 from:



Her Excellency Loan Forgeron, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of France to Brunei Darussalam on April 5.



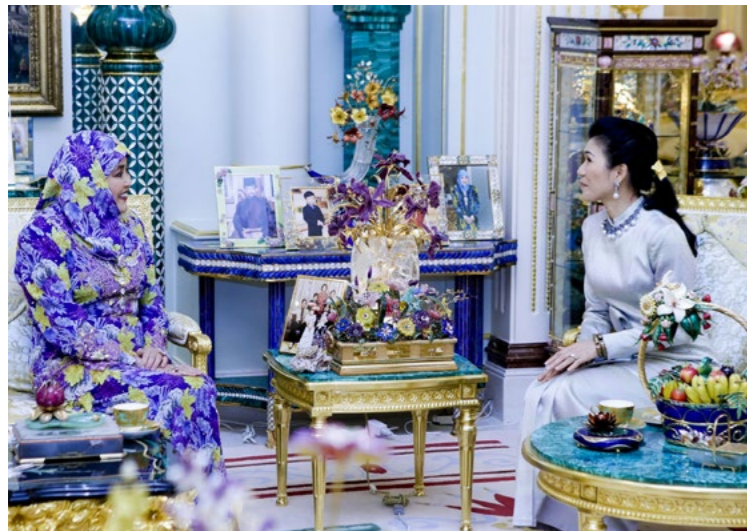
Yang Berbahagia Datin Rusziah binti Haji Ghulamdin, spouse of the High Commissioner of Malaysia to Brunei Darussalam on April 5.



Datin Dayang Hajah Samsiah binti Haji Abdul Rahman, spouse of the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Brunei Darussalam to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on April 5.



Mrs. Patricia Swift, spouse of the Commander of the United States Pacific Fleet on April 11.



Mrs. Supinya Suwanpradhes, spouse of the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Thailand on April 11.



Mrs. Nayyara Malik, spouse of the High Commissioner of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to Brunei Darussalam on April 23.

His Royal Highness receives audiences

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



His Excellency Datuk Ghulam Jelani bin Khanizaman, High Commissioner of Malaysia to Brunei Darussalam on April 11.



His Excellency Biravij Suwanpradhes, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Thailand on April 11.



His Excellency Alexey Vedeve, Deputy Minister of Economic Development, Russian Federation on April 19.



His Excellency Retired Brigadier Muhammad Zareef Malik, the Outgoing High Commissioner of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to Brunei Darussalam on April 26.

His Majesty sends congratulatory messages

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

- His Excellency General Tran Dai Quang, following his new appointment as the new President of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on April 2.
- His Excellency Nguyen Xuan Phuc, following his appointment as the Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on April 7.
- His Excellency Bounnhang Vorachit and His Excellency Dr. Thongloun Sisoulith, following their appointment as the new President and Prime Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic respectively on April 21.

His Majesty sends message of condolences

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

- His Excellency Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan, following the devastating earthquakes in Kumamoto Prefecture on April 18.

OIC solidarity upholds justice and peace (continued)

From front page

the 12th Session of the OIC Summit, which was delivered by His Excellency Sameh Hassan Shoukry, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

This was followed with a statement by His Excellency Iyad Ameen Madani, Secretary General of the OIC and statement by the President of the Republic of Turkey as Chairman of the 13th Session of the OIC Summit.

At the First Working Session of the 13th Session of the OIC Summit, His Majesty consented to deliver a *titah* (royal speech) stressing the importance of unity and solidarity amongst member states of the OIC in upholding justice and peace in the world.

The meeting was held at the Istanbul Congress Centre, Republic of Turkey.

His Majesty also highlighted the concern on an increasingly complex and more daunting security situation as well as the uncertain global economic outlook that had presented the OIC with both challenges and opportunities.

His Majesty also commended the work done by the OIC in implementing the Makkah Ten Year Programme, and was pleased that such efforts have led to an increase in intra-OIC trade; greater emphasis on health, education, women and children; and the establishment of a human rights commission.

The Monarch further stressed the need for the OIC to continue to intensify its work and effort to overcome challenges such as the core Palestine, terrorism, violence extremism, Islamophobia, poverty, pandemic diseases and natural disasters.

In the *titah*, His Majesty welcomed the OIC-2025 Programme of Action and expressed support for its adoption.

The new blueprint builds upon the OIC's previous programme and addresses new goals such as climate change and poverty alleviation.

The new programme also promotes inter-faith dialogues and moderation, which are keys to addressing concerns on violent extremism and Islamophobia. His Majesty also underlined the concern for the Palestinian people, who have been denied their rightful participation in meaningful socio-economic development and growth, as such that as a result of the geopolitical challenges in the Mideast region.

His Majesty urged the member states of the OIC to continue to strengthen their efforts through all possible channels to resolve the long-standing issue on Palestine, and thus provide unwavering support from Brunei Darussalam for the Palestinian people in their struggle for their legitimate rights to self-determination.

In concluding the *titah*, His Majesty called upon all member states of the OIC to put their hearts and minds together in unity and work hand-in-hand in solidarity, to make the OIC ever more relevant to the people they represent.

The 13th Session of the OIC Summit included the Adoption of the Final Communiqué of the Summit and the Istanbul Declaration by leaders of the OIC.

The 14th Session of the OIC Summit is set to be held in the Islamic Republic of the Gambia in 2019.



Bilateral meeting with the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran

ISTANBUL, REPUBLIC OF TURKEY, April 15 - 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 held a separate bilateral meeting with His Excellency Hassan Rouhani, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, which was held at the Istanbul Congress Centre.

During the meeting, His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei



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 His Excellency Hassan Rouhani, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran during a bilateral meeting, held at the Istanbul Congress Centre.

Darussalam and the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran exchanged views on regional and international matters and also discussed ways to further strengthen the bilateral relations between the two countries.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang

Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran were in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey to attend the Opening of the 13th Session of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Summit, which was held from the 14th to 15th of April 2016.

Enhance the reading of the Al-Quran (continued)

From front page

Committee of the Finals of the National Musabaqah Al-Quran for Adults 1437 Hijrah/2016 Masihi.

At the competition, His Majesty consented to deliver a *titah* (royal speech) stressing that the great attention paid towards the Al-Quran should be continued, so that there are continuous efforts to think, plan and implement appropriate programmes.

"In my view, it is also important to think about how to improve the effectiveness of the Al-Quran as a subject in religious schools. Because in public judgment, the achievement of the reading of the Al-Quran in religious schools is still in need of improvement and refinement," said His Majesty.

His Majesty pointed out that at this stage it is important to make children truly proficient in reading the Al-Quran, as it is crucial to be perfected before understanding the verses.

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Brunei - Saudi Arabia holds bilateral meeting

ISTANBUL, REPUBLIC OF TURKEY, April 14 - 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 held a bilateral meeting with His Majesty King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, the King of Saudi Arabia and the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, at Hamidiye Salon, Istanbul Congress Centre, Republic of Turkey.



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 during the bilateral meeting with His Majesty King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, the King of Saudi Arabia and the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques.

During the meeting, His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and His Majesty the King of Saudi Arabia exchanged views on regional and international matters and subsequently discussed ways to further enhance the bilateral relations between the two countries.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and His Majesty the King of Saudi Arabia were in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey to attend the Opening of the 13th Session of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Summit, which took place from the 14th to 15th of April 2016.



His Majesty presenting a trophy prize to Awangku Muhammad Adibul Amin bin Pengiran Haji Marjuki, Champion of the Finals of the National Musabaqah Al-Quran for Adults 1437 Hijrah/2016 Masihi.

Sovereign's Parade of 14th Intake OCS

TANAH JAMBU, April 28 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, Minister of Defence and Supreme Commander of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) consented to attend the Sovereign's Parade of the 14th Intake of Officer Cadets School (OCS). The event took place at the parade square of the new Defence Academy RBAF in Kampung Tanah Jambu.

Also present was His Royal Highness Lieutenant Prince 'Abdul Mateen ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, Minister of Defence and Supreme Commander of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) during the Sovereign's Parade of the 14th Intake of Officer Cadets School (OCS), held at the parade square of the new Defence Academy RBAF in Kampung Tanah Jambu.

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Enhance the reading of the Al-Quran (continued)

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His Majesty believed that a study on the ability of secondary students in reading the Al-Quran should be carried out, other than refining the reading skills of students of primary level.

His Majesty further highlighted that even though students have learned to read the Al-Quran in religious schools, there are still signs that show that the quality of the students' reading is not as good as expected.

"When the quality of their Al-Quran reading has not reached the desired level, it means that an immediate and realistic study has to be carried out," His Majesty said.

His Majesty therefore reminded of the urgent need to improve the Al-Quran learning system, specifically for religious schools as it is the basis and the core of the national education system as a whole.

His Majesty also hoped that the Finals of the National Musabaqah Al-Quran for Adults 1437 Hijrah/2016 Masihi competition will bring forth the best qari and qariah among the finalists.

After delivering the *titah*, His Majesty was then invited to present prizes, souvenirs and certificates to the participants of the National Musabaqah Al-Quran for Adults 1437 Hijrah/2016 Masihi, judges and invited qari.

Also present at the event were His Majesty's sons and brothers; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien; His Royal

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

The event commenced with the recitation of prayers followed by a welcoming remark from the Minister of Religious Affairs as the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the the Finals of the National Musabaqah Al-Quran for Adults 1437 Hijrah/2016 Masihi.

The Minister of Religious Affairs in his welcoming remarks among others said that the champion of the competition will represent Brunei Darussalam at the International Al-Quran Musabaqah that is to be held on the 2nd until the 7th of May 2016 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

The champion qari of the competition was Awangku Muhammad Adibul Amin bin Pengiran Haji Marjuki with a score of 92.33 per cent, while the first and second runner-up was won by Mohammad bin Ali and Muhd. Zul-Hafiz bin Awang Tengah with a score of 90.83 per cent and 89.91 per cent respectively.

Meanwhile, the champion qariah of the competition was won by Siti Huzaimah Yadey binti Haji Rosli with a score of 83.83 per cent. Hajah Nurfaezah binti Haji Emran won second place with 87.5 per cent and Hajah Nurul Akmalina binti Haji Yahya came in the third place with a score of 86.67 per cent.

The qari and qariah champion brought home a trophy, a cash prize of BND7,000, an accompanying gift and a certificate. Both first runner-ups brought home a cash prize of BND5,000, an accompanying gift and a certificate, whereas the second runner-ups each brought home a cash prize of BND3,000, an accompanying gift and a certificate. The participating qari and qariah also brought home a cash prize of BND1,500 as well as an accompanying gift and a certificate.

Sovereign's Parade of 14th Intake OCS (continued)

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Upon arrival, His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was greeted by Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Datu Pekerma Jaya Major General Dato Paduka Seri Awang Mohd. Tawih bin Abdullah, Commander of RBAF.

Shortly after arrival, His Majesty received the Royal Salute and inspected the Guard of Honour Parade mounted by 34 officer cadets of the 14th Intake of OCS commanded by 860 Lieutenant (U) Awang Muhammad Adif bin Haji Zaman.

Also joining in the parade was 30 Officer Cadets of the 15th intake who are currently undergoing training.

At the ceremony, His Majesty delivered a *titah* (royal speech) and then awarded the commissioning of the officer cadets of the 14th Intake of OCS.

In the *titah*, His Majesty reminded the officer cadets to be aware of geo-strategic and geo-economic developments that involve the country's defence and the Monarch expressed his belief that the officer cadets will be able to perform their responsibilities and to carry out larger roles.

His Majesty emphasised that the Defence Academy of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces carry a huge role in training, educating and guiding the Officer Cadets.

"The training is intended to produce capable and educated leaders who are competent and proficient as well as able to cope with the challenges ahead," said His Majesty.

His Majesty bestowed the Sword of Honour award to 51319 Officer Cadet Muhammad Farasul Wa'ie bin Wadi, Royal Brunei Navy, who graduated with a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Historical Studies from Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD).

51313 Officer Cadet Muhamad Afandi bin Juna received the Best Academic Award, a graduate from Bangor University in United Kingdom with a Bachelor of Science (Hons) Psychology.

While 51322 Officer Cadet (U) Muhammad Khairi Zulfritri Hafizuddin bin Zulkapli, who graduated with Bachelor of Science (Hons) Chemistry from the University of Leicester in United Kingdom was awarded with Best Military Skills award.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, Minister of Defence and Supreme Commander of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) and His Royal Highness Lieutenant Prince 'Abdul Mateen receiving the Royal Salute from the 14th Intake Officer Cadet during the Sovereign's Parade of the 14th Intake of Officer Cadets School (OCS), held at the parade square of the new Defence Academy RBAF in Kampung Tanah Jambu.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam presenting the Sword of Honour to 51319 Officer Cadet Muhammad Farasul Wa'ie bin Wadi.

The Best Physical Fitness Training Award was given to 51314 Officer Cadet Muhammad Ihya'uddin bin Haji Ishak, a graduate with a Bachelor of Arts Tourism (Hons) Management from the Asia Pacific University of Technology and Innovation in Malaysia.

A total of 34 Officer Cadets were commissioned from OCS. 17 Officer Cadets were commissioned as officers at the Royal Brunei Land Forces; 8 were commissioned as Officers at the Royal Brunei Navy and the Royal Brunei Air Force. The commissioning also includes an Officer Cadet with a Doctor of Medicine and two Officer Cadets with Bachelor in Dentistry.

His Majesty was then ushered to the Ceremonial Hall to officiate the new

Defence Academy of RBAF in Tanah Jambu and consented to receive a *junjung ziarah* (meet and greet) from the newly commissioned Officer Cadets and their family.

His Majesty also received a *pesambah* (souvenir) with the theme 'Nur Ukhuwah' (Light of Unity) from the 14th Intake of Officer Cadets and consented to sign a *Lembaran Kenangan Keberangkatan* (commemorative parchment) as well as the '14th Intake Officer Cadets' Journey' book.

The 52-week training which started on the 8th of May 2015 last year involved a variety of exercises and military activities dedicated to improving the quality of leadership, character and intellect as required for each officer of the RBAF.

Official Opening of new ISB building

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, April 19 - The International School Brunei (ISB) recorded history with the establishment of the new ISB building at Jalan Utama Salambigar, Kampung Sungai Hanching, Mukim Berakas 'B', equipped with high quality and modern learning facilities to encourage towards excellence in all aspects of student development.

The inauguration of the new building was officiated 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.

The arrival of His Majesty at ISB was welcomed by Awang Haji Ahmad bin Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Setia Bakti Diraja Dato Laila Utama Haji Awang Isa, Chairman of the ISB Board and Dr. Steven Paul Geraghty, Principal of ISB.

Also present were Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Kerna Dato Seri Setia (Dr.) Haji Awang Abu Bakar bin Haji Apong, Minister of Home Affairs; Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Indera Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Suyoi bin Haji Osman, Minister of Education; and Yang Berhormat Dato Paduka Awang Haji Bahrin bin Abdullah, Minister of Development.

The event commenced with the singing of the national anthem followed by a welcoming speech 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 officiating the new International School Brunei (ISB) building at Jalan Utama Salambigar, Kampung Sungai Hanching, Mukim Berakas 'B'.

the Chairman of the ISB Board who among others said that the inauguration of the new ISB building is one of the historic moments for the school.

He added that ISB is currently over 52 years old and it is time to officially bid farewell to the old campus and to welcome the new campus of ISB. He further stated that as a higher learning institution, ISB will have to ensure that the next generation needs to be ready and in the best position to face any

challenges and changes in the future.

"With this new campus, I believe that ISB will be able to confront the future with confidence as an institution that offers world-class learning facilities of 21st century that will continue to provide excellent education for future generations of Brunei Darussalam," said the Chairman.

His Majesty then began the visit at the

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His Majesty receiving a meet-and-greet from the students of International School Brunei (ISB) during the inauguration of the school's new campus.



His Majesty receiving a *pesambah* (souvenir) from ISB students in the form of photo collection of the Monarch's visit to the campus.

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Swimming Pool and Sports Hall and witnessed the activities and Physical Education of the students followed by a visit to the Canteen Area and Eco Garden.

His Majesty then continued to visit the residential building provided at ISB. The residential building provides students with a harmonious living environment by emphasising the distinctive cultural differences of their students as well as allowing them to learn and explore ideas, values and history based on students' cultural uniqueness. The experience of staying together also teaches students about their shareable equality and educates them to be responsible, productive and ethical citizens with creative thinking skills, critical and effective communication as well as respect for other cultures and environment.

From the residential building, His Majesty then proceeded to the Piano Steps hallway to sign a plaque and subsequently complete the inauguration of ISB's new building.

His Majesty also received a *pesambah* (souvenir) from the students of ISB, in the form of photo collection of the Monarch's visit to the campus and received a meet-and-greet from the students of ISB.

His Majesty's children and grandchildren; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Wakeel; Her Royal Highness Princess Ameerah Wardatul Bolkiah; and Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Muntaqim ibni His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah are also students of ISB.

His Majesty then continued to visit the

Neram Building which houses Pre Kindy and Kindy students, followed by a visit to the New Building for Year 1 and 2 students, as well as religious academic students.

ISB was officiated by Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna binti Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien on the 9th of March 1986. The school offers education for Early Years (students aged 2 to 5), Primary (students aged 5 to 11 years) and Secondary (students aged 11 to 16 years old) as well as International Baccalaureate (for students ages 16 to 19).

The new ISB campus has a total area of 22 acres and has commenced its operation in August last year, where currently ISB has 1,260 students from more than 46 countries. The school is equipped with great facilities and space such as a swimming pool, a weights room, a music room, a theatre room, three canteens area and a field.

ISB carries an eco-school status in an effort to highlight the interesting natural sustainability issues in Borneo, as well as to support existing protection through a national conservation initiative.

The decision to build a green campus is one of ISB's efforts to demonstrate long-term commitment to conservation of environmental sustainability.

In addition to being a pioneer of afforestation initiatives such as the Project Million Trees, ISB also built a recycling centre near the campus area that serves as an educational centre for protecting the planet. ISB not only provides high quality and modern learning facilities but also promotes excellence in all aspects of development of the students and encourages students to a higher level of academic and non-academic.

Double efforts in Tilawah Al-Quran Youth Scheme

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, April 19 - His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office in his *sabda* (royal speech) called upon the community of the country, specifically relevant agencies to multiply their efforts in the Tilawah Al-Quran Youth Scheme.

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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 and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office delivering a *sabda* (royal speech) at the Finals of the National Musabaqah Al-Quran for Adults 1437 Hijrah/2016 Masihi, held at the International Convention Centre.



Hikmat Bersatu Lima Exercise

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, April 5 – The *Hikmat Bersatu Lima* (HB V/2016) Exercise was held from the 1st of April, with the concept from the *Exercise Perisai Kebangsaan* (EPK 4/2015), focusing on Non-Traditional Security Threats.

The HB V/2016 exercise will affect several areas within Brunei Darussalam's Territorial Water as well as rural, residential and commercial areas including various roads in the Brunei-Muara, Belait, Tutong and Temburong District.

His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and General of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) consented to visit and observe the HB V/2016.

The arrival of His Royal Highness at Bolkiah Garisson was welcomed by First

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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 and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and General of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) being welcomed by First Admiral (Rtd) Dato Seri Pahlawan Awang Abdul Aziz bin Haji Mohd. Tamit, Deputy Minister of Defence; and Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Datu Pekerma Jaya Major General Dato Paduka Seri Awang Mohd. Tawih bin Abdullah, Commander of RBAF at Bolkiah Garisson.

Double efforts in Tilawah Al-Quran Youth Scheme (continued)

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His Royal Highness said that we are witnessing the growing involvement of youths in the Al-Quran Reading Musabaqah. In fact, there has been a success in the Al-Quran Reading Musabaqah competition at the national, regional and international levels.

His Royal Highness stated the matter at the official opening of the Finals of the National Musabaqah Al-Quran for Adults 1437 Hijrah/2016 Masihi, which was held at the Plenary Hall, International Convention Centre (ICC).

His Royal Highness also touched on the continuous and various efforts made by the Government of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam through the Ministry of Religious Affairs in bringing the people and the community of the country closer to the Al-Quran.

These efforts include various aspects, from the mastery that begin from the literacy level to the highest level of study and the dissemination of Al-Quran knowledge, specifically the Tilawah Al-Quran Youth Scheme under the Islamic Studies Department started since 1997, aimed at training and guiding youth in Melodic Al-Quran reading method.

His Royal Highness also expressed gratitude that so far the scheme has produced the desired result where the succeeding generations of National Level Quran readers have been produced continuously.

His Royal Highness further said that the success is also due to the success of spiritual development among the country's youths. As the main asset of the nation, we must work hard to produce faithful human capitals in accordance with the teaching of the Al-Quran and As-Sunnah.

"A pro-active mind will further stimulate the motivation and developments in society to mobilise various forms of positive change", said His Royal Highness.

His Royal Highness further stated that capacity-building is more relevant to its role in collectively avoiding negative symptoms and addressing any kind of challenges faced by the nation.

The matter is in line with the miracle of the Al-Quran as a source of reference emphasising the development of mind which dictates from faith and guidance of life. It has clearly proven successful in transforming the life of the Muslim generation in the time of Prophet

Muhammad Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam, especially in developing a civilized country.

His Royal Highness said, among the privileges of the Al-Quran is a book that is easy to understand and clearly defined and suitable for its people.

The arrival of His Royal Highness at ICC was greeted by Yang Berhormat Pehin Udana Khatib Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Badaruddin bin Pengarah Dato Paduka Haji Awang Othman, Minister of Religious Affairs in his capacity as the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Finals of the National Musabaqah Al-Quran for Adults 1437 Hijrah/2016 Masihi and other committee members.

Also present at the event was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah.

The event was followed with a welcoming speech by the Minister of Religious Affairs. The theme for the Finals of the National Musabaqah Al-Quran for Adults 1437 Hijrah/2016 Masihi was 'Al-Quran as a Cure and Remedy for the Spiritual and Physical'.



His Royal Highness Prince General Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah trying one of the weapons at the Field Firing Area, Penanjong Garisson, Binturan.

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Admiral (Rtd) Dato Seri Pahlawan Awang Abdul Aziz bin Haji Mohd. Tamit, Deputy Minister of Defence; Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Datu Pekerma Jaya Major General Dato Paduka Seri Awang Mohd. Tawih bin Abdullah, Commander of RBAF; and Datin Paduka Hajah Suriyah binti Haji Umar, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Defence.

Prior to proceeding to the Briefing Room, Heads of the working groups for Exercise HB V/2016 were also introduced upon His Royal Highness' arrival at the venue.

The event began with recitation of *Doa Selamat* followed by a welcoming address from the Commander of RBAF.

Meanwhile, Colonel Haji Abdul Hadi bin Haji Sain, Director of Personnel from the Ministry of Defence in his capacity as Exercise Director gave a briefing on the Exercise Director of HB V/2016.

His Royal Highness was then presented with an operational HB V/2016 briefing, which was delivered by Brigadier General (U) Dato Seri Pahlawan Haji Hamzah bin Haji Sahat, Joint Force Commander of RBAF.

At the end of the briefing, His Royal Highness had a closer look at the Joint Operation Centre and its components in joint operation planning. Before departing by helicopter to the Field Firing Area,

Binturan Range, His Royal Highness witnessed a media conference at the RBAF Museum as part of the exercise scenario.

Upon arrival at the Field Firing Area of Binturan Range in Tutong District, His Royal Highness was greeted by Brigadier General Pengiran Dato Seri Pahlawan Aminan bin Pengiran Haji Mahmud, Commander of Royal Brunei Land Force (RBLF) and Colonel Haji Abidin bin Haji Abd. Hamid, Commandant of RBAF Training Institute as the Deputy Exercise Director.

The HB V/2016 this year also involved the

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His Royal Highness witnessing the operation of the Royal Brunei Land Forces and the RBAF's Special Force Regiment.



His Royal Highness being briefed by one of the RBAF members about the exercise.

Working visit to the Business Support Centre (BSC)

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, April 14 - The Business Support Centre (BSC) under the Darussalam Enterprise (DARe) officially starts operating today.

His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Deputy Sultan made a working visit to DARe located at the Design and Technology Building, Anggerek Desa Technology Park.



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Deputy Sultan signing a plaque to mark the official operation of Business Support Centre (BSC).

The arrival of His Royal Highness was greeted by Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Singamanteri Colonel (Rtd) Dato Seri Setia (Dr.) Awang Haji Mohammad Yasmin bin Haji Umar, Minister of Energy and Industry at the Prime Minister's Office in his capacity as the Chairman of DARe; Dato Paduka Dr. Awang Haji Mohd. Amin Liew bin Abdullah, Deputy Minister of Finance; and Loo Yau Soon, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of DARe.

At the visit, His Royal Highness consented to hear a briefing on the functions of DARe delivered by Norlela binti Suhailee, representative from DARe.

His Royal Highness then reviewed some of the agencies that provide specialised services to entrepreneurs.

A space with boots was allocated for programmes and services for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) which

features the Industry Business Academy (IBA) operated by DARe, a modular programme designed to suit the training and development needs of individual and enterprises at all levels to help improve their understanding, competencies, capabilities and competitiveness with the aim of promoting effective and resilient business growth.

The space also displayed the Cendana

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Hikmat Bersatu Lima Exercise (continued)

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First Royal Gurkha Rifles, Gurkha Reserve Unit, and Royal Brunei Police Force (RBPF), District Offices as well as several mukims and villages.

His Royal Highness then continued the visit to Bukit Agok.

Upon arrival, His Royal Highness was greeted by Colonel (U) Shahril Anwar bin Haji Ma'awiah, Commander of Royal Brunei Air Force (RBAirF). His Royal Highness was then briefed by Major (U) Peter bin Ulat, Acting Commanding Officer No. 2 Wing of RBAirF.

The Royal Brunei Navy (RBN) is also taking part in the exercise. Upon arrival at the Muara Naval Base, His Royal Highness was greeted by First Admiral Pengiran Dato Seri Pahlawan Norazmi bin Pengiran Haji Muhammad, Commander of RBN. His Royal Highness also witnessed a public demonstration scenario as a part of the exercise.

His Royal Highness then consented to board KDB DARULAMAN to witness the maritime operations.

Before departing to the Royal Navy Officers' Mess for a luncheon, His Royal Highness received a *pesambah* (souvenir) and signed a Commemorative Parchment.



His Royal Highness witnessing the maritime operations on KDB DARULAMAN as part of the exercise at the Muara Naval Base.

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(Sandalwood) from BAG Networks Sdn. Bhd., which is a cloud-based business management suite that gives businesses an integrated control of various business functions. The MBP Marketplace produced by ThreeG Media Sdn. Bhd. act as an e-commerce platform that enables individuals and SMEs to set up online businesses.

His Royal Highness then toured banking institutions comprising of Baiduri Bank and Bank Islam Brunei Darussalam (BIBD) which provides comprehensive banking services to SMEs besides several banking arrangements provided by Standard Chartered and Maybank.

Since the establishment of DARe in January 2016, a total of 332 issues have been reported, of which 194 issues were recorded at the Business Helpdesk, and to date, about 82 per cent of the total issues have been resolved by DARe through close consultation with the relevant agencies.

BCS which was established this year act as an action centre to facilitate and address challenges faced by local enterprises, also serves as a single venue for enterprises to access all key business related processes and information provided by various government agencies including Registration of Company and Business Names (ROCBN), business license renewal, permit and license application, application for industrial land as well as registration of trademark and patent.

At present, BSC covers several services provided by various agencies including the Labour Department, the Municipal Department, ROCBN, Authority for Building and Construction Industry (ABCI), Royal Customs and Excise Department (RCED), Autoriti Monetari Brunei Darussalam (AMBD), Lands Department, Brunei Intellectual Property Office (BruIPO), OneBiz, Department of Water Services, the Department of Electrical Services (DES), Certificate of Origin at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Department of Town and Country Planning as well as District Offices.

In addition to assisting local SMEs, the establishment of BSC can also accommodate and support foreign investor companies and thus facilitate investment and business in the country.

Five of the most common issues frequently shared include access to financing, confusion on business licenses and business registration, land applications, late payments and the Labour Control System.



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah being briefed on the available services at the Business Support Centre.



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah being briefed on the available services and facilities provided by Darussalam Enterprise (DARe) to help the entrepreneurs.



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah being briefed by one of the officers at the Business Help Desk of Darussalam Enterprise (DARe).

Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah graces 18th PRYNOSA



Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatol Bolkiah binti His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Majeedah Nuurul Bolkiah binti His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah at the Awarding Ceremony of the 18th Princess Rashidah Young Nature Scientist Award (PRYNOSA) 2016.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, April 7 - Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatol Bolkiah binti His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah consented to grace the Awarding Ceremony of the 18th Princess Rashidah Young Nature Scientist Award (PRYNOSA) 2016.

The arrival of Her Royal Highness as the Royal Patron of PRYNOSA was welcomed by Yang Berhormat Dato Paduka Awang Haji Ali bin Haji Apong, Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism, as Chairman of the Steering Committee of PRYNOSA.

Accompanying Her Royal Highness was Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Majeedah Nuurul Bolkiah binti His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah.

The Minister introduced the theme of the

18th PRYNOSA, 'Biodiversity Research for National Youth Development', which coincides with the global challenge of biodiversity deficits that is currently faced.

"The understanding of biodiversity through research provides basic information for effective policy formulation which will guide actions towards sustainable forest management," said the Minister.

According to the Minister, the involvement of youths in biodiversity researches is a key measure to prepare them in natural resource management and eventually become competent leaders in shaping the future of the country's social well-being, environmental stability and economic growth.

The Minister also highlighted that we have to revisit the policies in order to provide new opportunities for community livelihood,

carbon trading, payment for ecosystem services, biological prospecting, and ecological tourism development.

The initiative connectivity of PRYNOSA and the Brunei Vision 2035 aims at improving the quality of life through environmental research, support and quality education.

At the event, Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah witnessed the presentation of the 18th PRYNOSA and then proceeded with the awarding ceremony to the winners.

The 18th PRYNOSA was won by Tanjong Maya Secondary School, Tutong with their project titled 'A Study of Stingless Bees in Meliponiculture Area of Brunei Darussalam and the Physicochemical Composition of their Natural Honey'. The champion received a cash prize worth BND4,000.00, a trophy and a certificate.

Chung Hwa Middle School won second place with their project titled, 'The Ecological and Socio-Economic Importance of Water Lily (Genus: Nymphaea) in Brunei Fresh Water Ecosystem' and third place was won by Awang Semaun Secondary School with their project named 'Biological Studies of Mud Crabs (Scylla Serata) at Kampung Sungai Asam'.

The first and second runner-up brought home a cash prize of BND3,000.00 and BND2,000.00 respectively and both school also received trophies and certificates. Meanwhile, Menglait Secondary School and St. John's School, Kuala Belait received consolation prizes.

Prior to leaving the event, Her Royal Highness also toured the mini exhibition of the projects that was presented by the schools involved in the PRYNOSA.



Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatol Bolkiah binti His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah presenting a trophy to the winner of the 18th Princess Rashidah Young Nature Scientist Award (PRYNOSA) from Tanjong Maya Secondary School, Tutong.



Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatol Bolkiah touring the mini exhibition at the event, presented by the school involved in the 18th PRYNOSA.

Ambassador-at-Large visits Singapore

REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE, April 22 - Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna binti Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, was in Singapore for a two-day visit at the invitation of Her Excellency Josephine Teo, Senior Minister of State, Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Transport of the Republic of Singapore.

The arrival of Her Royal Highness was welcomed by Adrian Tan, Director-General for Southeast Asia I at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Singapore and His Excellency Haji Awang Saifulbahri bin Haji Mansor, High Commissioner of Brunei Darussalam to the Republic of Singapore.

The programme started with a visit to Ministry of Trade and Industry, where a briefing on how Singapore tackles the pressure to become regional economic power was delivered by Mr. Rossman Ithnain, Director from Southeast Asia and Oceania Division.

In the afternoon, Her Excellency Josephine Teo hosted a luncheon at Bumbu Restaurant in Jalan Kandahar.

The programme continued with a tour of the National Gallery Singapore where Her Royal Highness had the opportunity to view the exhibition displayed at the gallery.

At the gallery, Her Royal Highness was welcomed and invited for an Afternoon Tea hosted by Her Excellency Grace Fu, Minister for Community, Culture and Youth.



Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna binti Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade with Her Excellency Josephine Teo, Senior Minister of State, Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Transport of Republic of Singapore.

In the evening, Her Royal Highness attended a Banquet at the Corner House, Singapore Botanic Gardens hosted by His Excellency Teo Chee Hean, Deputy Prime Minister and Coordinating Minister for National Security and Madam Teo Poh Yim.

Also present at the banquet were Her Excellency Sim Ann, Senior Minister of State at the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth and Ministry of Finance; and Rahayu Mahzam, Member of Parliament from People's Action Party.

On the second day of the visit, Her Royal Highness visited the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Her Royal Highness was welcomed by His Excellency Chee Wee

Kiong, Permanent Secretary (Foreign Affairs) and was presented with a briefing on Singapore's foreign policy.

After, His Excellency Dr. Mohammad Maliki Osman, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Defence hosted a Luncheon. Also present at the luncheon was His Excellency Chee Wee Kiong and Madam Low Yen Ling, Senior Parliamentary Secretary to Ministry of Education and Ministry of Trade and Industry.

In the afternoon, Her Royal Highness visited the Parliament House of Singapore and was welcomed by Madam Halimah Yacob, Speaker of Parliament, who also hosted an Afternoon Tea.

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Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna, Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade at a Luncheon hosted by His Excellency Dr. Mohammad Maliki Osman, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Defence. Also present was Madam Low Yen Ling, Senior Parliamentary Secretary to Ministry of Education and Ministry of Trade and Industry.

Ambassador-at-Large visits Singapore (continued)

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During the visit, Her Royal Highness was accompanied by Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Lela Cheteria Sahibun Najabah Pengiran Anak Haji Abdul Aziz bin Pengiran Jaya Negara Pengiran Haji Abu Bakar.

In the evening, Her Royal Highness departed from the Republic of Singapore, concluding the two-day visit.



Her Royal Highness viewing the exhibition displayed at the National Gallery Singapore.



9th World Autism Awareness Day

Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Kerna Dato Seri Setia (Dr.) Haji Awang Abu Bakar bin Haji Apong, Minister of Home Affairs officially launching the 4th SMARTER Brunei Charity Garage Sale at the Brunei Tennis Club parking area.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, April 2 - World Autism Awareness Day (WAAD) is celebrated worldwide every 2nd of April since 2008 in an effort to raise public awareness of children with autism among the community.

The Society for the Management of Autism Related Issues in Training, Education and Resources (SMARTER) Brunei has been the leading organisation in Brunei Darussalam to celebrate WAAD since its launch in 2008.

The 9th WAAD celebration this year carried the theme, 'SMARTER's M.O.V.E for Autism' where SMARTER Brunei will continue to provide motivation, opportunities, voice and empowerment to all individuals with autism.

The event was officiated by Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Kerna Dato Seri Setia (Dr.) Haji Awang Abu Bakar bin Haji Apong, Minister of Home Affairs, which took place at Times Square Shopping Complex.

At the event, a total of 14 donation boxes from SMARTER Brunei were handed over to Jollibee Brunei as an effort to win donations and contributions from the public in equally helping those with autism in the country.

Malai Haji Abdullah bin Malai Haji Othman, President of

SMARTER Brunei in his welcoming address among others expressed appreciation to the parties involved who have always supported and contributed to the association thus showing that they also care about children with autism.

The event continued with walking activities circling the shopping complex area and ended at the Brunei Tennis Club parking area, led by the Minister and President of SMARTER Brunei followed by a 10-minute body warming session participated by Individuals With Autism (IWAs).

At the Brunei Tennis Club, the Minister officially launched the 4th SMARTER Brunei Charity Garage Sale, selling a wide range of used goods at low prices for two days.

The SMARTER Brunei association, established on the 9th of September 2001 is a non-governmental organisation committed to providing services to individuals and family members with autism.

Currently, the association has three branches with 120 students with autism namely the SMARTER Autism Early Development Growth Enabling (E.D.G.E) Centre in Kampung Mata-Mata, Gadong and Kuala Belait as well as the SMARTER Brunei Autism Centre for Adults (B.A.C.A) in Kampung Jangsak.

Raise awareness of safety and health at workplace

TUNGKU, April 28 - Psychosocial risks such as increased competition, high hopes of performance and longer working hours are likely to contribute to an increasingly depressing work environment.

Psychosocial hazards are workplace factors that can cause stress including interactions, conditions and cultures that affect the performance of workers, health and job satisfaction.

Some amount of workplace stress is normal, while excessive stress can interfere with productivity and can impact physical emotional health.

Haji Rani bin Begawan Pehin Siraja Khatib Dato Seri Setia Haji Mohd. Yusof, Acting Commissioner of Labour emphasised the matter at the event in conjunction with the 'World Day for Safety and Health at Work 2016' at the Lecture Hall of Pengiran Anak Puteri Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkiah (PAPRSB) Institute of Health Science, Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD).

Haji Rani then called for an effective programme to prevent workplace stress, including proper identification of psychosocial risks and an assessment of work performances. He further said that it is important for everyone to be aware of the causes behind workplace stress and how to prevent it.

The Acting Commissioner of Labour further noted that some of the major causes of workplace accidents and incidents in the country, which mainly occur in the construction industry, involve workers falling from height or being hit by falling objects.

Employers and employees should continuously strive to be aware of the risks and hazards when working at height, and proper training should be given to all workers especially those required to work with height.



Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Kerna Dato Seri Setia (Dr.) Haji Awang Abu Bakar bin Haji Apong, Minister of Home Affairs touring the exhibition at the World Day for Safety and Health at Work 2016 event which took place at Universiti Brunei Darussalam.

Therefore, employers are reminded to make sure that their workers are aware of basic safety and health issues, and have been trained to work safely.

Present as the guest of honour was Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Kerna Dato Seri Setia (Dr.) Haji Awang Abu Bakar bin Haji Apong, Minister of Home Affairs.

The ceremony also featured a briefing delivered by Mr. Clement Tan from Ken Knowledge International Private Limited in Republic of Singapore, who among others explained the importance of communicating in safety and health at the workplace as it can prevent injuries and save lives and instill leadership confidence in employees of an organisation. In addition, it can reduce the cost of healthcare due to injuries and increase morale of employees.

The Minister of Home Affairs then officiated the 'Pameran Keselamatan dan Kesihatan Tempat Kerja' (Workplace

Safety and Health Exhibition) involving private companies and government agencies.

The event was concluded with a talk by Nur Syahirah Chua binti Md. Firdaus Chua, a representative of the Ministry of Health, with the title 'Workplace Stress: A Collective Challenge'. The event was one of the initiatives of the Labour Department and steering committees for the implementation of the Workplace Safety and Health Order 2009, in conjunction with 'World Day for Safety and Health at Work 2016' with the cooperation of the Office of Safety, Health and Environment (OSHE), UBD.

One of the objectives of the event is to support the International Labour Organization (ILO) to commemorate 'World Day for Safety and Health at Work 2016' held annually on the 28th of April. With such a function, it can increase the awareness of workers on the importance of workplace safety and health.

Special Educational Needs accomplish pleasing achievements

BERAKAS, April 14 - The Ministry of Education continues to be committed to paying close attention and providing appropriate infrastructure to special needs students so that they can achieve excellence in school and prepare them for the working environment.

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Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Indera Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Suyoi bin Haji Osman, Minister of Education during the handover donation ceremony to one of the special educational needs students.



Ministers discuss cooperation in sports

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, April 2 - The Preparation for the XVIII Malaysian Games (SUKMA Games XVIII 2016) was among the things that were discussed during the courtesy call from Yang Berhormat Tan Sri William Mawan Ikom, Minister of Social Development and Responsible Minister for Sports Affairs to Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi Haji Mohd. Yusof, Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports (MCYS).

During the courtesy call, both sides exchanged views to further strengthen cooperation between the two countries in the field of sports. The courtesy call took place at the Minister's Office at the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, Berakas.

SUKMA 2016 will be hosted by Sarawak and is scheduled to start from the 21st until the 31st of July, which comprises of 24 sporting events, including 19 major sports events and the remaining are selected events.

The entourage was joined by Yang Berbahagia Datuk Ose Murang, Deputy State Secretary of Sarawak (Operation); Encik Kameri Haji Affandi, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Social



Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi Haji Mohd. Yusof, Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports and Yang Berhormat Tan Sri William Mawan Ikom, Minister of Social Development during the courtesy call held at the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports Building.

Development; Haji Abdul Haris Ishak, Director of Youth and Sports Department of Sarawak; and Encik Affendi Keli, Coordinator of SUKMA Games XVIII 2016 of Sarawak.

Also present during the courtesy call was Dato Paduka Dr. Awang Haji Affendy bin Pehin Orang Kaya Saiful Mulok Dato Seri Paduka Abidin, Permanent Secretary of MCYS and senior officials.

Brunei Darussalam has participated in the SUKMA tournaments nine times since 1996, where in 2014 Brunei Darussalam won a gold medal in karate-do.

After the courtesy call, a briefing was presented by a representative from the SUKMA Games XVIII 2016, Sarawak. The briefing was held at the At-Taufiq Meeting Room of the MCYS building.

Special Educational Needs accomplish pleasing achievements (continued)

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The Ministry of Education (MOE) will continue to provide Special Education Need Assistants (SENA) who are able to help the children with diversified abilities to learn better within their capabilities.

Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Indera Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Suyoi bin Haji Osman, Minister of Education said the matter during the handover donation ceremony held at the Ministry of Education.

The Minister further explained that the ministry will always collaborate and welcome the donors' involvement, either individually or in groups in giving donations to the students.

Since the establishment of Special Education Unit (SEU) in MOE has declared the Special Education Policy in 1997 based on the principles of Inclusive Education. Through Inclusive Education, every student including those with special educational needs will receive education according to their needs.

"This means that every student including those with special needs will be able to participate and understand their lessons in the same class or in the same level with other peers. In other words, Inclusive Education ensures that every student will get education even if they have different abilities," said the Minister.

The Inclusive Education is in line with the Compulsory Education Order 2007 as well as the Brunei National Education Policy, where children aged 6 years old and above are required to go to school and will be given education accordingly.

The Minister further said that currently there are 4,161 students with special needs studying in primary, secondary and higher education institution; 169 in pre-school, 2,935 in the primary level, 973 in the secondary level and 84 in higher education institutions. With the establishment of SEU, a generation of SENAs was also born, who are trained with special skills to assist students with special educational needs.

The Minister also said that according to the SEU record, many students who were provided with resources and learning aids achieved good results in examinations.

The Minister also shared that the achievements of special educational needs students were pleasing, where from the 375 Year 6 students of the Remedial Education Plan (REP), 98 (26.1%) passed in four core subjects (Bahasa Melayu, English Language, Mathematics and Science) in the Primary School Assessment Exam (PSR) 2015. While, 23 (31.1%) special needs students passed the four core subjects of the same examination.

Minister of MCYS receives courtesy call from Royal Jordanian National Defence College

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, April 2 - Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yusof, Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports received a courtesy call from the Royal Jordanian National Defence College delegates, who are in the country for a five-day study tour.

The courtesy call was led by Brigadier General Salah Almajali and took place at the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports (MCYS).

Also joining the delegation were Brigadier General Basem Alalaween, Professor Qasem Al Dweikat, Colonel Khaled Abudalbouh and Captain Raed Alsabbagh.

Also present was Dato Paduka Dr. Haji Affendy bin Pehin Orang Kaya Saiful Mulok Dato Seri Paduka Haji Abidin, Permanent Secretary at MCYS and other senior officials.

During the courtesy call, both sides exchanged views on matters relating to their respective duties and responsibilities in handling welfare issues and the harmony of the people in



Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yusof, Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports (right) with Brigadier General Salah Almajali, Head of delegation of the Royal Jordanian National Defence College during the courtesy call.

addition discussing prospects for further strengthening cooperation between the two countries.

The delegation was then briefed by the Permanent Secretary at MCYS who focused on the four main strategic areas namely social safety, strengthening the identity of the country and resistance as

well as competitive youth in the field of sports.

The study tour aimed to better understand the contribution of work and the programmes and activities of MCYS towards the welfare and harmony of the state.

National Family Day Celebration encourages family spirit

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, April 27 - The National Family Day is celebrated on the first Sunday of May every year to look back and look forward to the journey of the family institution consolidation agenda.

Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yusof, Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports explained the matter during an interview in conjunction with the National Family Day Celebration 2016 which took place at the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports.

According to the Minister, National Family Day Celebration 2016 will commence with a *Majlis Kesyukuran* (thanksgiving ceremony) on the 30th of April in all mosques throughout the country to pray for families, communities and the nation to always be under the protection of Allah the Almighty.

The celebration will continue with a premier talk on enhancing family institutions which is the highlight of the celebration, the Mawaddah Family Gathering and other activities which will be held to enliven the National Family Day Celebration 2016.

"The National Family Day Celebration 2016 marks the beginning of a new cycle of family activities in 2016/2017 which supports the government's initiative."

In this regard, the Minister called for each family member to be present at the *Majlis Kesyukuran* and for those invited to the premier talk as well as the Mawaddah Family Gathering to use this opportunity to gain knowledge.

The Minister highlighted that the success of the initiative depends entirely on a whole of nation approach where each family member is responsible in carrying out their respective roles and

to become a visionary family (*keluarga berwawasan*).

Visionary families often look at things beneficially and this influences them to work hard in order to achieve what is best for their family in terms of health, happiness, and harmony. It also instils good characteristics and values among family members.

According to the Minister, it may still be too early to see what impacts the National Family Day Celebration has brought.

However, we can still see the effects through indicators such as the decrease in family problems, the close relationship between family members, the increase in economy; parents supporting the success of their children, elders not being neglected by their children and more family gatherings held.

Pakistani Arts and Culture Exhibition

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, April 23 - The Pakistani Arts and Culture Exhibition will be opened to public from the 24th until the 30th of April 2016. The event will take place at the Royal Wharf Art Gallery in the capital.

The exhibition was launched by Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof, Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports.

At the event, Dr. Farhan Aftab, Exhibition Director in his welcoming speech among others stated that the main objective of the exhibition is to introduce the beautiful culture of the Pakistan community. He added that the exhibition features artwork from Pakistan and a variety of handicrafts produced by Pakistani people living in Brunei Darussalam.

The exhibition organised by the High Commission of Pakistan in Brunei Darussalam and the Brunei-Pakistan Friendship Association is the first of its kind to be held in the country.

Also present at the event was His Excellency Brigadier (Rtd) Muhammad Zareef Malik, High Commissioner of Pakistan to Brunei Darussalam.



Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof, Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports launching the opening of Pakistani Arts and Culture Exhibition.

Brunei - UK, Northern Ireland relationship strengthens

Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof, Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports (middle) and spouse, Datin Hajah Kalshom binti Haji Suhaili together with His Excellency David Campbell, British High Commissioner to Brunei Darussalam during a reception in conjunction with the 90th Birthday of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Island, held at the Empire Hotel and Country Club.



JERUDONG, April 27 - The relationship between Brunei Darussalam and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland has always been close over the years.

The British High Commissioner to Brunei Darussalam hosted a reception in conjunction with the 90th Birthday of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Island at the Empire Hotel and Country Club.

Present as the representative of the Government of His Majesty the

Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam were Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof, Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports and spouse, Datin Hajah Kalshom binti Haji Suhaili.

His Excellency David Campbell, British High Commissioner to Brunei Darussalam in his welcoming speech among others highlighted the particular strengths in the relationship between the two countries.

The British High Commissioner also

congratulated Brunei Darussalam for the steps and efforts taken in promoting the ease of commerce in a challenging economic situation.

The celebration was also followed with the commemoration of the 400th anniversary of the death of the English poet, William Shakespeare.

The event was further enlivened with abridged versions of Shakespeare's plays by students from Jerudong International School.