



برونى دارالسلام Brunei Darussalam

newsletter

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Glorify Ramadan, preserve religious dignity

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, August 8 – His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam yesterday hailed the end of the month of fasting as 'a great victory' for Muslims who observed and completed the obligatory Ramadhan.

His Majesty believed that it is not easy to achieve this great victory and only those who stood firm on the righteous path deserve this victory. "As Muslims we must aim for this victory from Allah the Almighty and disregard the whispers of *Syaitan* (the devil). When we claim our great victory, it will earn us the respect and be among the companions of Allah the Almighty," said His Majesty in a *titah* (royal speech) to mark the first day of Syawal 1434 Hijrah.

His Majesty was quick to remind that there is nothing wrong in pursuing this great victory, as it is encouraged in Islam but he cautioned that this pursuit to victory is not merely for the benefit of the world, but also for the afterlife.

"Everyone in this world wants to achieve victory, be it for a top job, in terms of education or in the form of wealth. But why are such pursuits limited to this world and not for the afterlife?" His Majesty asked.



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* in conjunction with Hari Raya Aidilfitri 1434 Hijrah / 2013 Masihi.

His Majesty pointed that the worldly joys will come to an end but all the joys in the afterlife are forever. However to earn that sacrifices have to be made.

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Titah in conjunction with 46th ASEAN Day 2013

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, August 8 – Association of the Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), which strives to offer hope and confidence for more than six hundred million people in the Southeast Asian region, marked its 46th anniversary.

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam emphasized this in his *titah* in conjunction with ASEAN Day 2013.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam stated that ASEAN has made significant progress in meeting its objectives and each year His Majesty is happy to see ASEAN member states revitalise efforts to make the region more diplomatic, integrated economy and socially responsible.

His Majesty addressed that the theme, 'Our People, Our Future Together', where ASEAN

emphasized the role of the people within the region in an effort to build the ASEAN community by the year 2015 with organized programmes for youths so as to equip them with the qualities and values to meet the challenges in the future because they are the future leaders of ASEAN.

His Majesty further urged to remember the early founders of ASEAN after the achievements of ASEAN currently, where the ASEAN Bangkok Declaration signed in 1967 is an important document that paved the way for other agreements and declarations of ASEAN.

According to His Majesty, ASEAN needs to work with intelligence, vision and spirit and make the early founders of ASEAN as an inspiration for the future.

In concluding the message, His Majesty wished Hari Raya Aidilfitri to his Muslim counterparts.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam consented to deliver a *titah* in conjunction with ASEAN Day 2013.



7. His Majesty performed the Hari Raya Aidilfitri Prayer



8. Istana Nurul Iman opens for three days



9. Tahlil Ceremony at Royal Mausoleum



10. 67 times Khatam Al-Qur'an ceremony



11. His Majesty officiates 10th ASEAN Business & Investment Summit



12. His Majesty attends Yayasan SHHB Hari Raya Aidilfitri Celebration



14. His Majesty's personal gifts received by the underprivileged



15. His Royal Highness The Crown Prince and DPM of Singapore visit Tasek Lama Recreational Park



16. His Royal Highness The Crown Prince watches Brunei DPMM FC-Tampines Rovers FC match



17. Brunei-China bilateral relations thrives



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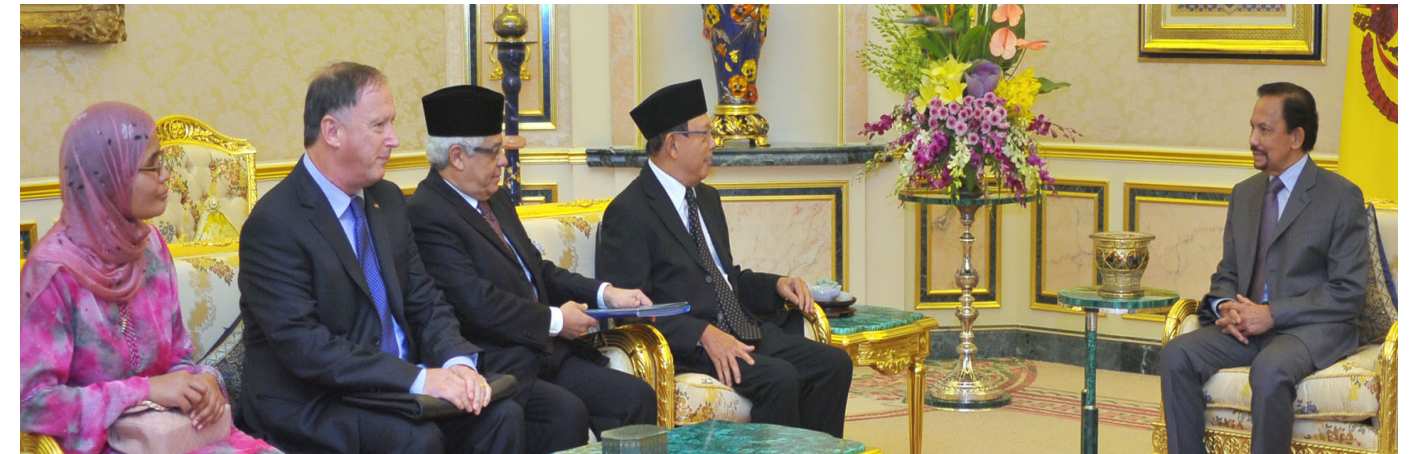
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His Majesty receives audiences

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 received in audience at the Istana Nurul Iman from:



Yang Amat Berbahagia Tun Musa Hitam, Chairman of the World Islamic Economic Forum (WIEF) accompanied by Tan Sri Ahmad Fuzi bin Hj Abdul Razak, Secretary-General of the WIEF; Dr Stephen Phillip, Acting British High Commissioner to Brunei Darussalam; and, Cik Haznah Md Hashim, Acting High Commissioner of Malaysia to Brunei Darussalam on August 14.



His Excellency Teo Chee Hean, Deputy Prime Minister of Singapore who is also the Coordinating Minister for National Security and Minister for Home Affairs on August 19.



Yang Terhormat Laksamana TNI Dato Paduka Seri Agus Suhartono, S.E Panglima Tentera Nasional Indonesia (TNI) on August 21.



Yang Berhormat Dato' Seri Hishammuddin Tun Hussien, Minister of Defence, Malaysia on August 26.

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 received in audience at the Istana Nurul Iman from:



ASEAN Ministers of Defence attending the Asean Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) and 2nd Asean Defence Ministers Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus). The ministers were Australia's Minister of Defence, His Excellency Stephen Smith; Deputy Prime Minister & Minister of Cambodia National Defence, His Excellency General Tea Banh; State Councilor & Minister of People's Republic of China National Defence, His Excellency General Chang Wanquan; Minister of State for Defence, India, His Excellency Jitendra Singh; Indonesia's Minister of Defence, His Excellency Dr. Purnomo Yusgiantoro; Minister of Defence, Japan, His Excellency Itsunori Onodera; Minister of National Defence, Republic of Korea, His Excellency Kim Kwan-Jin; Deputy Prime Minister & Minister of Defence, People's Republic of Lao, His Excellency Lieutenant General Douangchay Pichit; and Minister of Defence, Malaysia, Yang Berhormat Dato' Seri Hishammuddin bin Tun Hussein on August 29.



Economic Ministers of ASEAN and Dialogue Partners attending the 45th Asean Economic Ministerial Meeting and its related meetings on August 20.



Ministers and heads of delegates of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) member countries on August 22.

Her Majesty receives audiences

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



Madam Teo-Chew Poh Yim, the spouse of the Deputy Prime Minister of Singapore on August 19.



Datin Ibu Tetty Agus Suhartono, the spouse of S.E Panglima Tentara Nasional Indonesia (TNI) on August 21.



Tengku Datin Seri Marsilla binti Tengku Abdullah, the spouse of Minister of Defence, Malaysia on August 26.



Spouses of the defence ministers - Mrs Dualismi Pumomo Yusgiantoro, spouse of the Minister of Defence, Republic of Indonesia; Tao Toeum, spouse of the Deputy Minister and Minister of National Defence, Kingdom of Cambodia; Mrs Onodera Yoshie, spouse of the Minister of Defence, Japan; and Madam Tran Thi Loc, spouse of Minister of National Defence, Socialist Republic of Vietnam on August 29.

Their Royal Highnesses receive 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, and Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah binti Pengiran Haji Salleh Ab Rahaman received in audience at Qash Al-Meezaan from:



His Excellency Teo Chee Hean, Deputy Prime Minister of Singapore who is also the Coordinating Minister for National Security and Minister for Home Affairs and spouse, Mrs. Teo-Chew Poh Yim on August 19. Also in attendance were His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna.



Yang Berhormat Dato' Seri Hishammuddin Tun Hussien, Minister of Defence, Malaysia and spouse, Tengku Datin Seri Marsilla Tengku Abdullah on August 26.

His Royal Highness Prince Haji 'Azim ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah received in audience at Istana Nurul Izzah from:



His Excellency Teo Chee Hean, Deputy Prime Minister of Singapore who is also the Coordinating Minister for National Security and Minister for Home Affairs on August 20.

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 Hassan Rohani, following his election as the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran on August 6.
- His Excellency Dr. Tony Tan Keng Yam, President of The Republic of Singapore and His Excellency Lee Hsien Loong, the Prime Minister of The Republic of Singapore on the occasion of Singapore's 48th National Day on August 9.
- His Excellency Dato Laila Utama Dr. Haji Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, President of Republic of Indonesia on the occasion of Indonesia's 68th National Day on August 17.
- His Majesty Al-Sultan Almu'tasimu Billahi Muhibbuddin Tuanku Alhaj Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah ibni Almarhum Sultan Badlishah, the Yang Di-Pertuan Agong of Malaysia and Yang Amat Berhormat Dato Laila Utama Dato' Sri Mohd. Najib bin Tun Haji Abdul Razak, the Prime Minister of Malaysia on the occasion of Malaysia's 56th Independence Day on August 31.

His Majesty names new grandson



Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Muhammad Za'eem bin Pengiran Anak Haji Muhammad Ruzaini.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, August 6 - By command of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, the Grand Chamberlain announced that Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Hafizah Sururul Bolkiah binti His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the spouse of Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Haji Muhammad Ruzaini bin Pengiran Dr. Haji Mohd. Yakub, safely gave birth to a prince on Saturday, the 25th of Ramadhan, 1434 Hijrah corresponding to August 03, 2018, at 2.45 am.

Following royal tradition, a 17-gun salute was fired at the vicinity of Istana Nurul Iman.

The Grand Chamberlain later announced that His Majesty named His Majesty's grandson as Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Muhammad Za'eem bin Pengiran Anak Haji Muhammad Ruzaini.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam as well as other members of the royal family sincerely thanked all those who were involved during the birth and who had conveyed their messages of congratulations and greetings on the birth of Their Majesties' grandson.

Glorify Ramadan, preserve religious dignity

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"We should not stand idle and just dream. Allah the Almighty has promised beautiful dwellings (in the afterlife) for those who do righteous deeds. If we do so, it will not only benefit us, but also the whole community. So let us be steadfast in performing righteous deeds, and by God's will, our community as well as the nation will be always at peace and enjoy prosperity," pointed out His Majesty.

Talking about righteous deeds, His Majesty said Muslims serving food or drinks to Muslims or non-Muslims during fasting hours is discouraged in Islam and seen as a mockery because by doing so "we will compromise the dignity of our religion".

His Majesty reminded his subjects that during Ramadhan, a Muslim must refrain from consuming food or drinks, and if a Muslim breaks the rule he or she could be penalised in court.

"This law is meant solely to glorify the month of Ramadhan which also acts as a reminder and educates Muslims to maintain their dignity and that of the religion."

His Majesty was citing the new directive on Muslim eateries, which are barred from serving food or drinks to patrons during the fasting hours.

His Majesty added that non-Muslims are allowed to consume food and drinks at their own private premises unless there is a specific reason to do otherwise.

Earlier in the titah, His Majesty said that only by holding true to religion and practising righteous deeds can the country be free of negative traits such as alcoholism, crime, corruption, drug abuse or gambling.

His Majesty cited a report in the news whereby Muslims were caught gambling in the holy month of Ramadhan. He reminded Muslims that conducting such immoral activities in the fasting month is also considered as an insult to the religion as Islam encourages its believers to use Ramadhan as a time of spiritual reflection, improvement and increased devotion and worship.

"For Brunei Darussalam, Islam is the way of life. With Islam, Brunei is not only developing but also maintaining its peace and prosperity for its people.

"What can be more powerful than this when compared to other places whereby sustaining peace is difficult to achieve due to the conflict of ideology. Let us come together and pave the way for continuous peace and sustain it," said His Majesty.

Before concluding the titah, His Majesty and on behalf of the royal family conveyed Hari Raya Aidilfitri greetings to the people of the country wherever they may be.

Hari Raya Aidilfitri Prayer



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Their Royal Highnesses performed the Hari Raya Aidilfitri Prayer.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, August 9 – His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam consented to perform the Hari Raya Aidilfitri prayer at the 'Jame Asr Hassanil Bolkiah mosque in Kiarong.

His Majesty was accompanied by His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah, His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah, His Royal Highness Prince Haji 'Abdul 'Azim, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

Thousands of people had also gathered to join the monarch and the royal family.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Their Royal Highnesses receiving junjung ziarah greetings from the congregants.

The congregation recited the 'Takbir Raya' before performing the Aidilfitri prayer.

His Majesty was greeted upon arrival by the Minister of Religious Affairs and Chairman of the Executive Committee for major Islamic calendar events, Yang Berhormat Pengiran Dato Seri Setia Dr. Haji Mohammad bin Pengiran Haji Abdul Rahman, as well as other committee members.

The Sunat Raya prayer was led by Pehin Datu Imam Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Abdul Hamid bin Bakal, while the sermon was delivered by Pehin Siraja Khatib Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Yahya bin Haji Ibrahim.

His Majesty later received *junjung ziarah* (meet and greet) greetings from the congregants.

Aidilfitri celebration at Istana Nurul Iman



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam mingling with guests.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, August 9 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam consented to receive in audience and *junjung ziarah* (meet and greet) greetings from state dignitaries comprising Pengiran Cheteria; Cabinet Ministers; Deputy Ministers; Legislative Councils Members; diplomats and foreign representatives in the country; Permanent Secretaries; and senior government officials together with their spouses at the Istana Nurul Iman.

Also present were 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 and Her Royal Highness Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Zariah; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Bini Hajah Faizah; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah; Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran



His Royal Highness the Crown Prince mingling with guests.

Anak Isteri Pengiran Hajah Norhayati; His Royal Highness Prince Haji 'Abdul 'Azim; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Wakeel.

Also in attendance were Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Muta-Wakkilah Hayatul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Majeedah Nuurul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Fadzilah Lubabul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Ameerah Wardatul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Amal Umi Kalthum Al-Islam; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Noor Ehsani and His Majesty's grandchildren as well as other members of the royal family.

The *Junjung Ziarah* Ceremony at Istana Nurul Iman is held annually where, the visits from state dignitaries and diplomats to His Majesty is held on the first day of Syawal after performing the Hari Raya Aidilfitri prayer.

Istana Nurul Iman opens for three days



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien and Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam receiving Hari Raya greetings from members of the public during Hari Raya Aidilfitri at Istana Nurul Iman.



Their Royal Highnesses receiving Hari Raya greetings from members of the public during Hari Raya Aidilfitri at Istana Nurul Iman.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, August 9 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam consented to receive Hari Raya greetings from members of the public in conjunction with Hari Raya Aidilfitri at Istana Nurul Iman.

A total of 105,786 members of the public visited Istana Nurul Iman over three days, which started from the second day of Hari Raya Aidilfitri. On the first day, there were 35,387 visitors, and on the second day, there were 39,948 visitors while 30,451 people visited on the last day of the *junjung ziarah* (meet and greet) occasion.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam consented to receive male visitors, while Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri consented to receive the female visitors.

Also present were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at Prime Minister's Office; His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah; His Royal Highness Prince Haji 'Abdul 'Azim; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Wakeel and other members of the royal family.



Visitors waiting for their turn to greet Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam during the *junjung ziarah* occasion.

Also in attendance were Her Royal Highness Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Zariah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatulk Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Muta-Wakkilah Hayatul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Majeedah Nuurul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Fadzilah Lubabul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Ameerah Wardatul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Amal Umi Kalthum Al-Islam and Their Majesties' grandchildren as well as other members of the royal family.

Tahlil Ceremony at Royal Mausoleum



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, and His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah took turns to pour the 'Air Asah-Asahan' (scented water) on the tomb of the late Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien.



His Royal Highness Prince Haji 'Abdul 'Azim, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik and His Royal Highness Prince Haji 'Abdul Mateen took turns to pour the 'Air Asah-Asahan' (scented water) on the tomb of their late grandfather, Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien.



His Royal Highness Prince Haji 'Abdul Wakeel took turns to pour the 'Air Asah-Asahan' (scented water) on the tomb of his late grandfather, Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, August 15 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam consented to attend a ceremonial tribute and tahlil ceremony for His Majesty's late parents at the Royal Mausoleum.

His Majesty was accompanied by His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah, His Royal Highness Prince Haji 'Abdul 'Azim, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Wakeel.

Upon arrival at the Royal Mausoleum, His Majesty and other members of the royal family were greeted by Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Lela Cheteria Sahibun Najabah Pengiran Anak Haji Abdul Aziz bin Pengiran Jaya Negara Pengiran Haji Abu Bakar; the Acting Minister of Religious Affairs, Pengiran Dato Paduka Haji Bahrom Pengiran Haji Bahar and senior officials from Ministry of Religious Affairs.

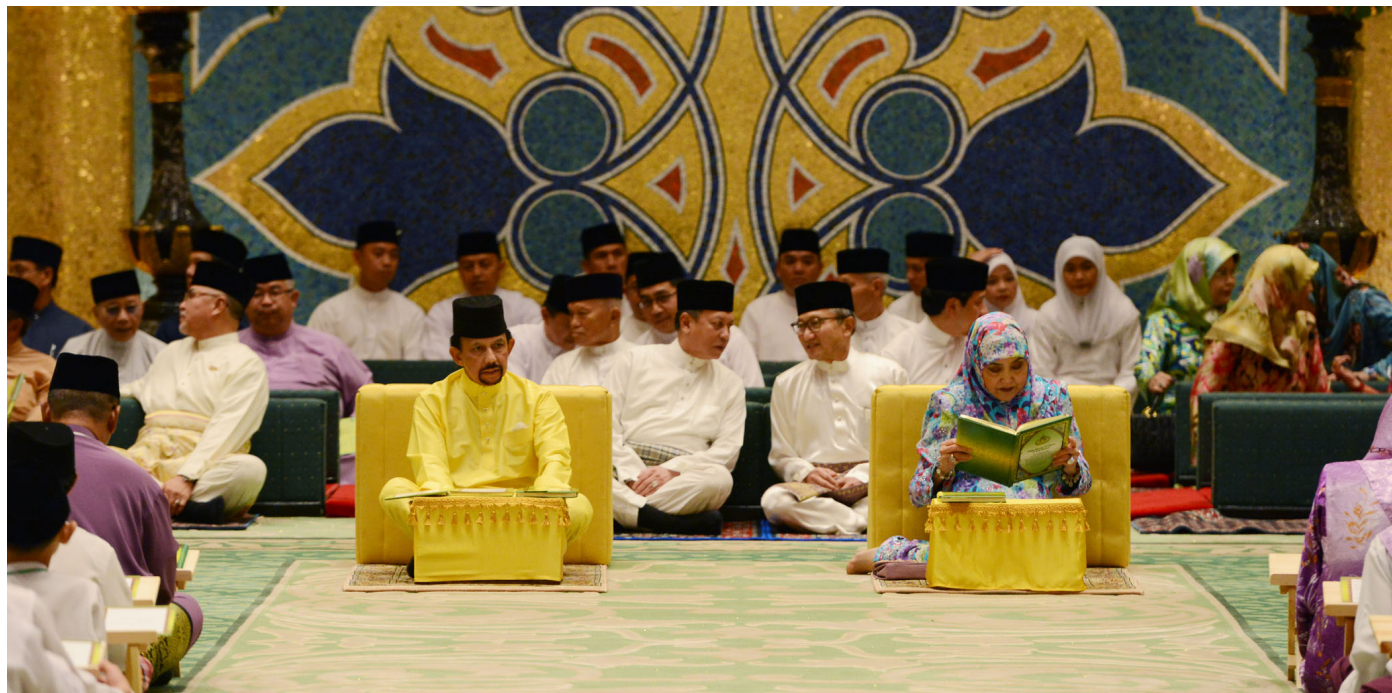
The tahlil prayers were led by the State Mufti, Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Seri Maharaja Dato Paduka Seri Setia (Dr.) Ustaz Haji Awang Abdul Aziz bin Juned.

His Majesty and members of the royal family took turns to pour the 'Air Asah-Asahan' (scented water) onto the tombs of Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien and Al-Marhumah Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Damit, as well as other royal tombs.

Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien passed away on the 7th of September 1986 and Al-Marhumah Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Damit passed away on the 13th of September 1979.

Also in attendance were Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran-Pengiran Cheteria, cabinet ministers, members of the Legislative Council, deputy ministers, Pehin-Pehin Manteri and Manteri-Manteri Hulubalang, permanent secretaries, Commander of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces, Commissioner of Police and senior government officials.

67 times Khatam Al-Qur'an ceremony



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam and members of the royal family at the ceremony.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, August 17

– The 67 times Khatam Al-Qur'an recital in conjunction with the 67th birthday celebration of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam concluded at the Istana Nurul Iman, marking the completion of all 30 Juzu' (Quranic chapters) of the Al-Qur'an.

The Al-Qur'an recital, which started earlier this year, was an event held for the third consecutive year aimed as a Doa (prayer) to Allah the Almighty for the continued good health of His Majesty as the leader of the nation and to gain blessings from Allah the Almighty for the continued peace and prosperity of the nation and the people under the just and pious leadership of His Majesty.

Their Majesties and members of the royal family were joined by a total of 1,608 participants from all the four districts, as well as an addition of 536 students aged under 12 years old from an Al-Qur'an religious school reading scheme.

Also in attendance were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at Prime Minister's Office; Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah binti Pengiran Haji Salleh Ab Rahaman; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah, His Royal Highness Prince Haji 'Abdul 'Azim, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik,

His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Wakeel.

Also present were Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkiah, Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Majeedah Nuurul Bolkiah, Her Royal Highness Princess Fadzilah Lubabul Bolkiah, Her Royal Highness Princess 'Ameerah Wardatul Bolkiah, Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Amal Umi Kalthum Al-Islam.

By submitting to the Al-Qur'an and confiding to the 'Fadhilat' (benefits) of reciting the Al-Qur'an, the event also acts as a prayer to Allah the Almighty to accept and grant the sincere prayers of the citizens of Brunei Darussalam.

The students comprised of 67 male and 67 female participants from every district, chosen from a pool who had completed the 30 Juzu' of the Al-Qur'an. As in previous years, the recitation of the Al-Qur'an until the completion of 30 Juzu' was also participated by 67 male and 67 female youths representing Mukim and Village Consultative Councils from all four districts.

Attended also by state dignitaries, cabinet ministers and VIPs, the ceremony commenced with the recitation of Surah Al-Fatihah following the arrival of Their Majesties.



Students reciting the Al-Qur'an.

His Majesty officiates 10th ASEAN Business & Investment Summit

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, August 20

– The governments of ASEAN countries are committed to providing trade facilities. In this regard, ASEAN strives to foster a stable and predictable environment where members can operate and prosper as an important partner.

Over the last few years, ASEAN countries have recovered from the global financial crisis that has been adapted to the new economic reality.

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, as Chairman of the 10th ASEAN Business and Investment Summit (ASEAN BIS) stated this when delivering a keynote titah during the opening ceremony of the 10th ASEAN BIS at the International Conference Center, Berakas.

ASEAN region has been performing well in times of uncertainty and investor sentiment remains positive, said His Majesty. Looking forward, ASEAN is still committed to enhancing resilience through deep economic integration, sound finance, food and energy security and developing connectivity through the Master Plan that will be implemented in 2015, added His Majesty. His Majesty also stated that regional economic cooperation is an important milestone in the ASEAN agenda, which reinforces the ultimate goal of establishing the ASEAN Economic Community by 2015.

His Majesty further addressed that ASEAN will continue to take on new initiatives that support businesses, especially Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), by addressing obstacles to participation and enhancing business movements.

Touching on regional active involvement with key economies, His Majesty mentioned that ASEAN play an important role in ensuring that it remains an important part of the global economy.

To date, said His Majesty, ASEAN has completed free trade agreements (FTA) with Australia and New Zealand, the People's Republic of China, Japan, Korea, and India that have created new opportunities to expand business and trade networks.

Recently, ASEAN has negotiated a wider and more advanced trade agreement in the proposal of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership, which will bring FTA partners to a free trade area, and ensure more economic integration in East Asia.

His Majesty also called for the spirit of cooperation and friendship of the business community to seize the opportunities provided under these agreements and to create new synergies in the global economy.

ASEAN's efforts in economic integration have enabled it to create a solid foundation in the global economy and increase competitiveness as a region, said His Majesty.

At the same time, ASEAN was also keen on ensuring the continued peace and stability of the region as a prerequisite for supporting economic growth and advancement.

"Today, the potential challenges to the ASEAN economy are broad and complex," said His Majesty.

For example, said His Majesty, ASEAN had seen how natural disasters and epidemics had an impact on the economy in the region. Concerns about getting jobs and food have resulted in political upheavals and in other places nationalist sentiment has threatened regional harmony.

The theme this year, is in line with the theme of the ASEAN Summit, which is to strengthen the important role-play by private sectors in the future growth of ASEAN, revealed His Majesty.

During the same occasion, His Majesty also stated that it is important for ASEAN to step up community development efforts and contribute to the overall security structure of the region, particularly in strengthening regional processes such as the East Asia Summit to ensure good and constructive relationships.

In this regard, His Majesty said that ASEAN leaders have started to discuss the ASEAN Community 2015 to address the changing economic and political environment in the region.

His Majesty mentioned that the Summit, which will be held in October, would provide leaders with the opportunity to present the ASEAN agenda in strengthening regional peace, stability and prosperity. The platform has been set up for the prosperity of ASEAN's trade and should look forward to further reinforcing networking and dialogue between governments and the business community, especially through close government-private partnerships that will provide benefits and opportunities for the region.

"I believe the private sector can play an important role in ASEAN's efforts



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam officiating the ASEAN Business & Investment Summit 2013.

either through projects that promote the participation of youth and women in the economy or those who deal with infrastructure requirements that benefit the region which needs it. Furthermore we have an interest in mutual success," said His Majesty.

As the government, His Majesty mentioned that they will continue to work hard to ensure that ASEAN operates in a stable and evolving economic environment and he urged to think out of box and use industry experience and knowledge in a way that will support the public as a whole, as the initiatives to improve standards of living and create opportunities for our people to contribute towards regional economic development. The 10th ABIS provided an important and unique foundation for achieving this goal, said His Majesty.

His Majesty hoped that the participants would use this opportunity to cooperate with each other as well as the government in preparing ASEAN towards the Asian century.

"Collectively, we can ensure the progress and prosperity of our people and our future together," His Majesty said.

His Majesty then consented to officiate the Opening Ceremony of the 10th ASEAN Business & Summit, themed as 'Moving Forward Together', which was held from August 20 to August 22.

His Majesty attends Yayasan SHHB Hari Raya Aidilfitri Celebration



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam delivering a titah.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, August 27 – His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam consented to grace the Yayasan Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah (YSHHB) Hari Raya Aidilfitri 2013 celebration at the International Convention Centre in Berakas.

His Majesty was accompanied by His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office, His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah, His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Wakeel.

The ceremony began with the recitation of Surah Al-Fatihah and Doa Selamat by the State Mufti, Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Seri Maharaja Dato Paduka Seri Setia (Dr.) Ustaz Haji Awang Abdul Aziz bin Juned, and followed by a welcoming speech from the Chairman of the YSHHB Board of Directors, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Kerna Dato Seri Setia (Dr.) Haji Awang Abu Bakar Haji Apong.

During the occasion, His Majesty consented to deliver a titah highlighting the benefits and power of ICT. His Majesty said in the use and application of ICT technology, we have begun to see the technological development through various programs such as e-Government, e-Commerce, e-Education, broadcasting media and others.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien and members of royal family arriving at the International Convention Centre.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam presenting a prize to one of the video clip competition winners.

Between 2008 and 2010, according to the Network Readiness Index (NRI) said His Majesty, Brunei was ranked 63rd out of 133 economies while in 2012/2013 the country is ranked 57th and this, His Majesty added, is a good sign that the ICT sector is continuously developing.

ICT will advance as the generator of economic growth and on this note, His Majesty pointed out that according to the International Telecommunications Union, there are 6.8 billion mobile-cellular consumers and 40 per cent or 2.7 billion people use the Internet.

His Majesty highlighted that it is not able to predict when this development will reach its climax but the fact is that it will increase significantly while consumers' response has made it truly dominating in the world.

His Majesty also pointed out that the power of ICT is so huge and has the potential to influence all aspects of life and if it is used for the benefit of good, good will be easily accomplished. If it is used otherwise it will prove harmful to all. His Majesty thus reminded everyone to be always cautious towards the negative consequences of using ICT, particularly among the younger generation, especially children. Improper and diverging use of ICT could cause serious harm, regardless if the user is an individual, family or the community.

As for agencies responsible as well as all relevant sectors, His Majesty pointed out that they would need to ensure that ICT serves as a facilitator to increase productivity, effectiveness and efficiency in all matters as well as to generate economic growth. Other than this, anything that is of disadvantage or harmful in nature should be blocked and prevented, emphasised His Majesty.

In this regard, His Majesty expressed interest in knowing about the assistance and encouragement programmes by the Brunei Economic Development Board (BEDB) and Authority for Info-communications



Students of Yayasan Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah School performing at the Hari Raya celebration.

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Technology Industry of Brunei Darussalam (AITI) in generating the development of the ICT industry in the country through the assistance scheme in the form of grants, specially for ICT companies and local digital media, to enable them to further advance in producing products that have the potential to be commercialised in the international market.

His Majesty also expressed his appreciation on the achievements of students and youths in the nation's ICT competitions such as CIPTA, BICTA, IGNITE, INFORAMA as well as regional and international competitions such as APICTA.

He further noted that it is hoped that they will continuously contribute towards a more dynamic economic growth in producing products and Made in Brunei ICT services as well as be able to penetrate into the international market.

In conjunction with the celebration, the foundation in collaboration with the Authority for Info-communications Technology Industry of Brunei Darussalam (AITI) also organised a video clip competition themed 'Raja Prihatin' with the objectives of cultivating a spirit of love for the monarch and inculcating patriotic spirit in developing the nation and country.

The ceremony continued with the announcement of first place winners of the different categories for the video clip competition and a preview of the winning video from each categories as well as prize presentation to the first place winners from each category of the video clip competition by His Majesty.

The celebration also saw YSHHB collaborating with AITI on the showcase of an exhibition themed 'Generating ICT Industry and Local Digital Media' where the organiser provided 22 exhibition booths participated by several local telecommunications companies and ICT companies who have been awarded with AITI and BEDB Grant Schemes. Also participating in the exhibition were schools and colleges that have won awards at ICT competitions locally and internationally as well as several related ICT companies and associations. Among the products exhibited were several local ICT applications ('Brunei-Made ICT Applications').

During the tour around the exhibitions, His Majesty consented to launch an ICT application product produced by Media Hikmah Applications.

The celebration also provided the opportunity for participants to meet up close with the beloved monarch, who gave them the inspiration and motivation in carrying out their respective roles.

With the consent of His Majesty, the foundation brought together about 1,200 participants comprising entrepreneurs, associations, students and individuals who are active in the Information Communications Technology (ICT) sector.

Also present at the ceremony were Pengiran-Pengiran Cheterias, cabinet ministers, Legislative Council members, deputy ministers, permanent and deputy permanent secretaries as well as officers from the government and private sectors involved in YSHHB projects and activities.

His Majesty's personal gifts received by the underprivileged



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; His Royal Highness Prince Haji 'Abdul 'Azim; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkiah and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Majeedah Nuurul Bolkiah consented to handover His Majesty's personal gifts to the recipients at Brunei-Muara, Belait, Tutong and Temburong districts.

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM, August 5 – In conjunction with Hari Raya Aidilfitri celebration, a total of 14,650 recipients received personal gifts from His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam. The recipients consisted of orphans, single mothers, special needs, underprivileged individuals, and people listed under Monthly Welfare Beneficiaries (BKB) and Brunei Islamic Religious Council (MUIB).

In a ceremony held at Royal Reception Hall, Istana Nurul Iman, Brunei-Muara district, a total of 9,916 people received His Majesty's personal gifts from His Majesty's personal representatives; 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, Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkiah and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Majeedah Nuurul Bolkiah.

At Seri Kenangan Hall, Tutong district, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, as His Majesty's personal representative consented to handover His Majesty's personal gifts to a total of 2,119 recipients. 667 recipients were special needs individuals, 742 were orphans, 663 recipients were listed under BKB and 47 recipients were listed under MUIB.

Whereas at Pusat Insani, Seria, Belait district, His Royal Highness Prince Haji 'Abdul 'Azim ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, as His Majesty's representative consented to handover His Majesty's personal

gifts to a total of 1,998 recipients comprising of 705 special needs individuals, 361 underprivileged individuals, 567 orphans, 255 single mothers and 110 recipients who were listed under MUIB.

While at Belalong Hall, Pekan Bangar, Temburong district, a total of 617 recipients comprising of 220 orphans, 235 special needs individuals, 119 recipients listed under BKB and 47 recipients listed under Brunei Islamic Religious Council (MUIB) were handed His Majesty's personal gifts. Consented to grace the ceremony as His Majesty's personal representative to handover the personal gifts was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah.

The ceremonies commenced with the recital of Surah Al-Fatihah and Doa Selamat. Also present during the ceremonies to welcome Their Royal Highnesses at all four districts were cabinet ministers, deputy ministers, permanent secretaries, deputy permanent secretaries and senior officials.

His Royal Highness The Crown Prince and DPM of Singapore visit Tasek Lama Recreational Park



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah and His Excellency Teo Chee Hean during the treeplanting event at Tasek Lama recreational park.



BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, August 20 – 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 the Deputy Prime Minister (DPM) of the Republic of Singapore, His Excellency Teo Chee Hean, went for a morning walk at Tasek Lama recreational park in the capital.

Also present was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik. His Royal Highness and Mr Teo Chee Hean were greeted upon arrival by the Acting Minister of Home Affairs, Pehin Datu Lailaraja Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Hj Awg Halbi bin Hj Mohd Yussof.

His Excellency Teo Chee Hean, who is also the Coordinating Minister for National Security and Minister for Home Affairs in Singapore led a group of delegates from Singapore for three days for the Singapore Young Leaders' Programme. Both His Royal Highness and His Excellency Teo Chee Hean also planted trees to mark His Excellency's visit to the country.

His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah and His Excellency Teo Chee Hean during the morning walk at Tasek Lama recreational park.

Brunei DPMM FC draws against Balestier Khalsa FC



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Her Royal Highness Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah binti Pengiran Haji Salleh Ab Rahaman, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Muntaqim consented to watch the match between Brunei DPMM FC and Balestier Khalsa FC.



BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, August 20 - His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Her Royal Highness Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah binti Pengiran Haji Salleh Ab Rahaman consented to watch the Singapore League match between Brunei DPMM FC and Balestier Khalsa FC which took place at the Hassanal Bolkiah

National Stadium in Berakas.

Also in attendance were His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Muntaqim as well as other members of the royal family.

The match ended with 1 all draw. Brunei DPMM FC's goal was scored by Tales Dos Santos in the 81st-minute of the match.

His Royal Highness The Crown Prince watches Brunei DPMM FC-Tampines Rovers FC match

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, August 25 - His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Her Royal Highness Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah binti Pengiran Haji Salleh Ab Rahaman consented to watch the Singapore (S) League 2013 match between Brunei DPMM FC and Tampines Rovers FC which took place at the Hassanal Bolkiah National Stadium, Berakas.

Also in attendance were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Muntaqim as well as other members of the royal family.

The match ended with Brunei DPMM FC 2, Tampines Rovers 6. Adi Said scored Brunei DPMM FC's first goal in the 59th-minute of the match and second goal was by Tales Dos Santos in the 81st-minute of the match.



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah arriving at Hassanal Bolkiah National Stadium to watch the match between Brunei DPMM FC and Tampines Rovers FC.

His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah attends Celebration of 10th Anniversary of ASEAN-China Strategic Partnership Reception



His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddin Sa'adul Khairi Waddien together with ASEAN Ministers of Foreign Affairs and State Councilor of the People's Republic of China, His Excellency Yang Jiechi attended a reception to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of ASEAN-China Strategic Partnership on August 29.

Brunei-China bilateral relations thrives

BEIJING, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, August 28 - His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddin Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and Her Royal Highness Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Zariah binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam, yesterday evening joined other foreign ministers of ASEAN and their spouses at a welcoming dinner hosted by His Excellency Wang Yi, Minister of Foreign Affairs, People's Republic of China, and Madame Qian Wei at the Wanliutang Diaoyutai State Guest House.

His Royal Highness, as Chairman of the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting, expressed his appreciation to the People's Republic of China for the Special ASEAN-China Foreign Minister's Meeting in Beijing.

His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, Minister of Foreign Affairs & Trade was welcomed by His Excellency Wang Yi, Minister of Foreign Affairs, People's Republic of China.



AEM and ASEAN BIS Gala Dinner



His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah consented to present the ASEAN Business Awards to selected businessmen dan women entrepreneurs from ASEAN countries.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, August 20 – His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, hosted a Gala Dinner to welcome ministerial colleagues and their spouses as well as delegates attending the 45th ASEAN Economic Ministers' Meeting (AEM) and related meetings, the 10th ASEAN Business and Investment Summit and the 5th ASEAN-China Young Entrepreneurs Forum 2013, at the International Convention Centre in Berakas.

Representatives from 19 countries, including the 10 ASEAN member states, as well as delegates from the People's Republic of China, Japan, Republic of Korea, India, Australia, New Zealand, United States of America, Canada and the Russian Federation attended the Gala Dinner, which featured cultural performances.

During the Gala Dinner, His Royal Highness presented the annual ASEAN Business Awards to 21 recipients comprising



His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien consented to attend the Gala Dinner for AEM and 10th ASEAN BIS.



Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna arriving at the International Convention Centre in Berakas for the Gala Dinner.

large companies and Small and Medium Enterprises from the ASEAN region, in recognition of their contributions.

Also present were 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, and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Lela Cheteria Sahibun Najabah Pengiran Anak Haji Abdul Aziz.

His Royal Highness visits People's Democratic Republic of Korea

His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade and Her Royal Highness Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Zariah binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemanha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam were greeted by Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of People's Democratic Republic of Korea, His Excellency Pak Kil Yon upon arrival at Pyongyang, the People's Democratic Republic of Korea on August 30. His Royal Highness was in the People's Democratic Republic of Korea for a four-day official visit.



Flag handover ceremony



BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, August 7 - His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, the President of Brunei Darussalam National Olympic Council, consented to attend a flag handover ceremony for a contingent who will be representing Brunei at the 2nd Asian Youth Games in Nanjing, China.

His Royal Highness handed the national flag over to Dayang Umi Kalthum binti Abdul Karim, Chef de Mission of the Brunei contingent. The 2nd Asian Youth Games will be held from August 16 to 24, 2013.

Brunei Darussalam participated in two sports; fencing represented by four athletes and one in golf.

His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, President of the National Olympic Council of Brunei Darussalam consented to handover the national flag of Brunei Darussalam to Chef de Mission of Brunei Darussalam Contingent, Dayang Umi Kalthum binti Abdul Karim.

Royal Brunei Navy Ship launching



His Royal Highness Lieutenant Prince 'Abdul Mateen ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah in a group photo at the Royal Brunei Navy (RBN) Patrol Vessel DARUTTAQWA.

BERNE, BREMEN, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, August 22 – His Royal Highness Lieutenant Prince 'Abdul Mateen ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah attended the launch and naming ceremony of Royal Brunei Navy's new ship, DARUTTAQWA, at the Fr Lürssen Werft (FLW) shipyard.

Before the ceremony, representatives from FLW shipyard and Royal Brunei Navy briefed His Royal Highness on the construction project of DARUTTAQWA patrol vessel at the conference room of Park Hotel in Bremen followed by a luncheon before leaving for the FLW shipyard.

Upon arrival at the shipyard, His Royal Highness was greeted by the Deputy Minister of Defence, Dato Paduka Awang Haji Mustappa bin Haji Sirat; Brunei

Darussalam Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany, His Excellency Pehin Datu Panglima Colonel (Rtd) Dato Paduka Haji Abdul Jalil bin Haji Ahmad; Commander of Royal Brunei Navy, First Admiral Dato Seri Pahlawan Haji Abdul Halim bin Haji Mohd Hanifah; and Managing Director of FLW, Peter Luerssen.

The ceremony commenced with the recitation of Surah Al-Fatihah, followed by welcoming remarks from the Managing Director of FLW, Peter Luerssen. His Royal Highness later officiated the launching and naming of DARUTTAQWA patrol vessel, which was immediately followed by the call of prayer.

His Royal Highness was then invited to go on board DARUTTAQWA to oversee the development of the ship construction.

DARUTTAQWA patrol vessel will be commissioned into Royal Brunei Navy as an offshore patrol vessel and will also function as the logistics and training ship for Royal Brunei Navy personnel. The patrol vessel is an 80-metre Darussalam class patrol vessel weighing 1,600 tonnes and equipped with a helicopter-landing platform, which began construction in May 2012 and expected to be completed in May 2014.

Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade II attends AEM Meeting



Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade II, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Pekerma Dewa Dato Seri Setia Lim Jock Seng (second, left) in a group photo during the Trans-Pacific Partnership Ministerial Meeting held at International Convention Centre, Berakas from August 22 to August 23.



Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade II, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Pekerma Dewa Dato Seri Setia Lim Jock Seng (middle) in a group photo during the ASEAN +3 Consultations held at International Convention Centre, Berakas on August 20.



Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Pekerma Dewa Dato Seri Setia Lim Jock Seng, Minister of Foreign Affairs & Trade II (fifth, left) in a group photo with the ASEAN Economic ministers during the AEM – 16th AIA Council Meeting held at International Convention Centre, Berakas on August 19.



Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade II, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Pekerma Dewa Dato Seri Setia Lim Jock Seng (middle) in a group photo during the 15th ASEAN-Mekong Basin Development Cooperation Ministerial Meeting held at International Convention Centre, Berakas on August 21.



Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Pekerma Dewa Dato Seri Setia Lim Jock Seng, Minister of Foreign Affairs & Trade II (fourth, left) in a group photo with the ministers attending the 1st Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Ministerial Meeting at International Convention Centre, Berakas on August 19.



Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Pekerma Dewa Dato Seri Setia Lim Jock Seng, Minister of Foreign Affairs & Trade II (middle) in a group photo with the ASEAN ministers during the 45th ASEAN Economic Ministers' Meeting (AEM) at International Convention Centre, Berakas on August 19.

Bilateral issues discussed with New Zealand and China

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, August 19 – In conjunction with the 45th ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting (AEM), Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade II (Second), Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Pekerma Dewa Seri Setia Lim Jock Seng, held a bilateral meeting with the Minister of Trade who is also Minister of Climate Change Issues and Foreign Affairs, New Zealand, His Excellency Tim Groser

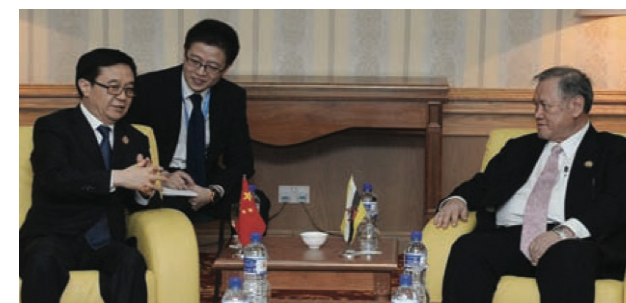
During the meeting, the ministers discussed bilateral issues and exchanged views on regional and international issues.

Brunei Darussalam and New Zealand have a friendly and positive relationship involving cooperation in many areas including trade, investment, education and defense. In the field of education, both countries continue to enhance cooperation including sending Brunei students to New Zealand, as well as hiring New Zealand workforce as teachers in the country.

Following the meeting, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Pekerma Dewa Seri Setia Lim Jock Seng then met with His Excellency Gao Hucheng, Minister of Trade, People's Republic of China. Brunei Darussalam and the People's Republic of China have a long tradition of friendly relations and are reinforced by the signing of diplomatic relations in 1991. Through an emerging friendship, the cooperation of both countries in various fields has made significant progress and benefits for their people, as well as contributing to the regional peace, stability and prosperity.



Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Pekerma Dewa Dato Seri Setia Lim Jock Seng, Minister of Foreign Affairs & Trade II (right) during a bilateral meeting with His Excellency Tim Groser.



Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Pekerma Dewa Dato Seri Setia Lim Jock Seng, Minister of Foreign Affairs & Trade II (right) during a bilateral meeting with His Excellency Gao Hucheng.

Patient Assistance Charity Fund: Take heed of burden of patients

TUTONG, August 3 - A total of 28 patients under the care of the Medical Welfare Division, Pengiran Muda Mahkota Pengiran Muda Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah Hospital (PMMPMHAMB) received donations in the form of daily basic necessities and cash in conjunction with the fasting month of Ramadan.

The Donation Presentation Ceremony which took place at the PMMPMHAMB Hospital Hall was officiated by the Minister of Health, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Johan Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Adanan bin Begawan Pehin Siraja Khatib Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Mohd. Yusof.

The donations were received from individuals, companies and the public through the collection of Patient Assistance Charity Fund, Ministry of Health.

According to Awang Mohammad Sabri bin Haji Anuar, the Acting Chief Executive Officer of PMMPMHAMB Hospital in his welcoming speech, the Patient Assistance Charity Fund has grown since its commencement in 2007 as an effort by the Ministry of Health to jointly help address the social problems associated with health problems. The purpose of the fund was to help ease the burden of patients and families to improve their quality in ensuring comprehensive healthcare towards a caring society in a holistic way. Contributions which are often received include medical equipment, basic food necessities, nutritional food aid and cash donations.

It is hoped that with such a small contribution will help ease the burden and dependence of patients under the Medical Welfare Division especially before the month of Syawal which will also enhance the attitude of caring and a sense of concern for the less fortunate.



Minister of Health, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Johan Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Adanan bin Begawan Pehin Siraja Khatib Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Mohd. Yusof presenting the assistance to one of the recipients.

A motivational talk by a speaker from Islamic Da'wah Centre, Awang Mohd. Adi Zaki bin Haji Metassim was also held during the event, which touched on patience in the face of pain, caregivers as well as nurses and doctors.

Also present at the function were the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Health, Dr. Hajah Norlila binti Dato Paduka Haji Abdul Jalil and senior officers of the Ministry of Health and the PMMPMHAMB Hospital.

Youth as key drivers for national development

The Government of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam gives priority and importance to the youth agenda in the country by recognising the valuable contributions from youths as the key drivers for development, future and the economic growth of the country.

This was stated by Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Pekerma Laila Diraja Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Hazair bin Haji Abdullah, Minister of Culture, Youth & Sports who also urged the Bruneian youths to play an active role in enhancing the bilateral cooperation with the Republic of Singapore during the Brunei Darussalam-Republic of Singapore National Youth Dialogue.

Present at the ceremony were the high-level delegations from the Republic of Singapore, led by the Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore, who is also the Coordinating Minister For National Security and Minister of Home Affairs, His Excellency Teo Chee Hean. Also present were the Minister of Education, His Excellency Heng Swee Keat, Deputy Minister of Culture, Community and Youth and Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Communication and Information, His Excellency Lawrence Wong and Deputy Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Yang Mulia Datin Paduka Dayang Hajah Adina binti Othman.

Yang Berhormat Pehin also stated that upon consent of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, the country has established a National Service Programme called PKBN, which aims to instill a feeling of resilience and entrepreneurship among the young Bruneians.

Yang Berhormat hoped that the youth would take this opportunity to learn from their wisdom in leading a country that has achieved a lot of success over the last few decades.

His Excellency Teo Chee Hean stated that in the world of modern development, building the cooperation and relationship is not only a part of the task for leaders, but each of us at any level in society should also have our own responsibility to help achieve prosperity, shared vision, shared dreams, shared hope and to seek cooperation not only for yourself, but for the country and the needs of all in the region.

The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, Dato Paduka Awang Haji Mohd Hamid bin Haji Mohd. Jaafar chaired the dialogue discussing on several topics on 'Youth Concerns - Global Challenges and Opportunities Towards Broadening and Strengthening Cooperation With Singapore'.



Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Pekerma Laila Diraja Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Hazair bin Haji Abdullah delivering his speech during the Brunei Darussalam-Republic of Singapore National Youth Dialogue.

The focus in the dialogue sessions was not only on youth's concerns on global challenges, but also opportunities to expand and strengthen cooperation existing in the field of youth between Brunei Darussalam and Republic of Singapore.

A various groups of youth attended the dialogue including young professionals, students from higher education institutions, entrepreneurs, volunteers and PKBN, Youth Development Centre and the National Youth Council.

Muhammad Hazri wins third at International Qur'an Competition

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, August 6 - Awang Muhammad Hazri bin Haji Mohd. Hamzani won the third place under the 10 Juz' Al-Qur'an Category at the 21st Hasyimiah Government International Competition for Memorising, Reading and Interpreting of Al-Qur'an for the Male Category in Amman, Jordan.

Awang Muhammad Hazri's return and entourage at the Brunei International Airport were welcomed by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Religious Affairs, Awang Haji Abdul Aziz bin Orang Kaya Maharaja Lela Haji Yusof; Deputy Permanent Secretary, Awang Haji Harun bin Haji Junid, directors and senior officials at Ministry of Religious Affairs.

The competition was held for seven days from July 29 to August 4, 2013 with the participation of 43 Arab and Islamic countries with various categories.



Awang Muhammad Hazri (fifth, left) in a group photo with the Permanent Secretary of Religious Affairs and other senior officials.

Workplace Safety & Health Order



BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, July 31 - With the consent of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam, The Workplace Safety and Health Order, 2009 and the regulations provided under it was enforced effective from the 1st of August 2013. This was announced by the Commissioner of Labour, Awang Ramlee bin Haji Jamudin during a Press Conference held at Labour Department.

The order provides for any person found guilty to be liable to a maximum fine not exceeding BND200,000, jailed for a term not exceeding two years or both.

If the offence is repeated, the offender can be fined a maximum of BND400,000 and a jail sentence. Offences committed by a corporation may be subject to a maximum fine not exceeding BND500,000 and for offences committed on a recurring basis may be imposed not exceeding BND1 million. The order also provides for seven related regulations – Provision Regulations, Building Regulations, Officers and Staff Regulations, Committee Regulations, Reports Regulations, Risk Management Regulations and First Aid Regulations.

In implementing and enforcing the order, the Labour Department will be assisted by Department of Energy,

The Commissioner of Labour, Awang Ramlee bin Haji Jamudin (middle) during the Press Conference at Labour Department.

the Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Development. Subject to Chapter 7 of the Order, the Commissioner of Labour was appointed as the Workplace Safety and Health Commissioner and shall appoint and empower the officers of the relevant government agencies as the competent officers and inspectors to implement and enforce the order in accordance with the prescribed duties.

The Department of Energy, the Prime Minister's Office would assist in implementing and enforcing safety and health matters at the workplace for activities related to the oil, gas and other energy industries. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Health will monitor the implementation and enforcement of health-related matters at the workplace, and the Ministry of Development will assist in implementing and enforcing workplace safety for activities related to the construction and development industries.

In order to streamline the action and the implementation and enforcement of the order among the agencies, the Steering Committee for the Implementation of the Workplace Safety and Health Order 2009 was set up. The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs chaired the committee, while the members consisted of Permanent Secretaries of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Development, Prime Minister's Office (Workflow and Energy Division), Attorney General's representative, Labour Commissioner and several department heads under the ministries.

Brunei students win at APEC Conference

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, August 3 – Two talented students selected by Special Education Unit, Ministry of Education to represent Brunei Darussalam, Lim Chai Tze and Dayangku Umi Kalthum binti Pengiran Haji Muhd. Sazali, has made the country proud in the international arena after winning a gold and bronze medal in the Project Team Competition at the Fifth APEC Future Scientist Conference, Changwon City, Republic of Korea. In addition, Lim Chai Tze was also awarded the Best Performance Award for her research work during the Poster Competition.

The APEC Future Scientist Conference is one of the key projects under the APEC Mentoring Centre for the Gifted in Science (AMGS), which focuses on nurturing the talent and spirit of young scientists.

During the conference, Dayangku Umi Kalthum from Jerudong International School presented her research on 'The Effects of Insect Spraying on Natural Pest Encounters in Laila Rice Paddy Field Brunei Darussalam' while Lim Chai Tze of the Paduka Seri Begawan Sultan Science College presented the preliminary research of 'The Use of Local Medicine Plants in Brunei Darussalam' as a biological agent against Phyto Fungi.

This remarkable achievement reflects the commitment of the Special Education Unit, Ministry of Education, to ensure Brunei's talented students are given the opportunity to attend international talent programs and challenge their extraordinary abilities, as well as to build excellent leadership skills in international forums, in line with



Lim Chai Tze and Dayangku Umi Kalthum binti Pengiran Haji Muhd. Sazali.

Vision 2035 in making Brunei Darussalam to be recognised worldwide for the achievement of highly educated and skilled people.

This year, the conference was attended by member countries: Australia, Brunei Darussalam, People's Republic of China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Republic of Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Republic of Philippines, Russia, Republic of Singapore, Thailand, United States of America, Viet Nam and the Republic of Korea.