



## His Majesty receives in audience Heads of Delegation of the 11<sup>th</sup> China-ASEAN Prosecutors-General Conference



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 His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office in a group photo with Heads of Delegation attending the 11<sup>th</sup> China-ASEAN Prosecutors-General Conference.

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, August 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 received in audience eleven Heads of Delegation attending the 11<sup>th</sup> China-ASEAN Prosecutors-General Conference.

The ceremony was held at the Istana Nurul Iman.

Also present at the Audience Ceremony was His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office.

At the audience ceremony, His Majesty received:

His Excellency Zhang Jun, the Procurator-General of the People's Republic of China; Her Excellency Madam Chea Leang, the Prosecutor-General of the Kingdom of Cambodia; His Excellency Wong Yuen Kuai Lucien, Senior Counsel (S.C.), Attorney General of the Republic of Singapore; His Excellency Xaysana Khotphouphone, the Deputy Supreme People's Prosecutor of the Lao People's Democratic Republic; His Excellency Win Myint, the Deputy Attorney-General of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar; His Excellency Doctor Arminskyah, the Vice Attorney-General of the Republic of Indonesia;

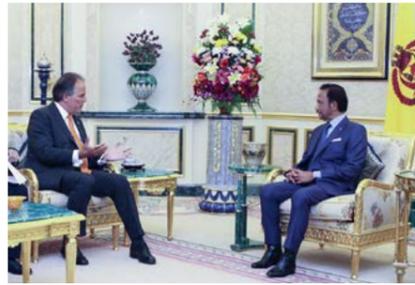
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## Reception in Conjunction with His Majesty's 72<sup>nd</sup> Birthday Celebration

**JERUDONG, August 18** - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamad Alam attended a reception hosted by the resident Heads of Diplomatic Missions assigned to Brunei Darussalam in conjunction with His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam's 72<sup>nd</sup> Birthday Celebration.

Accompanying Their Majesties at the reception were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, 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, Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna, Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Lela

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3. His Majesty receives audiences



5. Her Majesty receives audiences



7. 72 Times Khatam Al-Quran Ceremony



9. Monarch's participation in regatta race brings back nostalgia



11. National Housing, a priority for His Majesty's Government



13. 1,543 graduates celebrated at UBD's 30th Convocation



15. 13th National Youth Day Celebration



17. Their Majesties present sacrificial meat at Hari Raya Aidiladha celebration



18. Launching of Pesta Konvo UBD 2018



20. Mindplus Education Sdn. Bhd. claims BICTA 2018 Royal Patron's Award



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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 consented to receive in audience at the Istana Nurul Iman:



The Right Honourable Mark Field MP, Minister of State for Asia and the Pacific at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, United Kingdom on August 20.



Yang Berhormat Dato' Saifuddin bin Abdullah, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia on August 13.



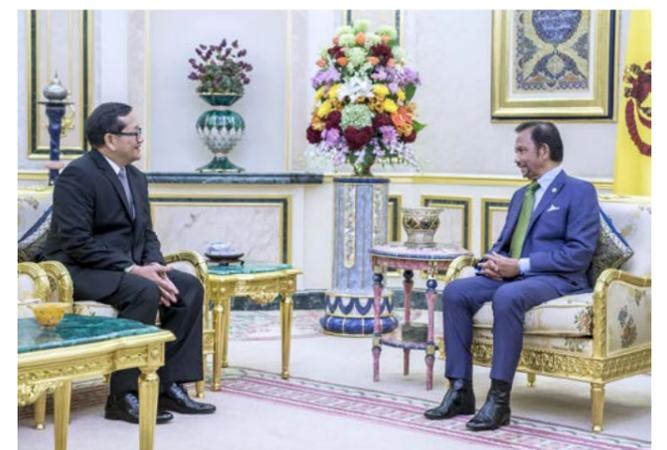
His Excellency Lieutenant-General Melvyn Ong, Chief of Defence Force of the Singapore Armed Forces on August 30.



Her Excellency The Right Honourable Patricia Scotland, Secretary-General of the Commonwealth on August 6.



His Excellency Dr. Fahad Mashary Al Thafiri, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the State of Kuwait to Brunei Darussalam on August 30.



His Excellency Biravij Suwanpradhes, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Thailand to Brunei Darussalam on August 30.

## Her Majesty receives audiences

Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam consented to receive in audience at the Istana Nurul Iman:

Madame Hnin Hnin Ko, spouse of His Excellency U Htin Lynn, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to Brunei Darussalam on August 14 (right).



Mrs. Nicole Lynn McCully, wife of His Excellency the Chief of Defence Force of the Singapore Armed Forces on August 30.



Mrs. Supinya Suwanpradhes, wife of the outgoing Ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand to Brunei Darussalam on August 30.

## His Royal Highness the Crown Prince 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 audience at Qashr Al-Meezan from:



His Excellency Dr. Fahad Mashary Al Thafiri, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the State of Kuwait to Brunei Darussalam on August 20.



His Excellency Biravij Suwanpradhes, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Thailand to Brunei Darussalam on August 20.

## His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah receives audience

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

His Excellency U Htin Lynn, the new Ambassador of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to Brunei Darussalam on August 18.



## His Majesty's ASEAN Day Message

**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, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in a *titah* (royal speech) in conjunction with ASEAN Day said, "commemorating ASEAN Day is an opportunity for Brunei Darussalam to look at how much ASEAN countries have achieved and to celebrate the development of the region and the people of ASEAN over the past 51 years.

Throughout during this period, ASEAN has experienced significant economic progress and technological advancements as well as growing support from external partners for ASEAN's community-building process. Our region has benefitted from these developments through improvements to our education and health systems as well as the expansion of infrastructures that have raised the living standards for our people.

Nevertheless, developmental challenges to the region still remain and coupled with other issues of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century such as disruptive technology, climate change and the threat from terrorism and violent extremism, require the collective efforts of countries to overcome.

In this regard, ASEAN continues to provide a platform for

its member states and partners to cooperate and work with each other to achieve common goals.

With the ASEAN Community Vision 2025, we are committed to realising a region that is politically cohesive, economically integrated and socially responsible for its people. This involves a broad range of cooperation including addressing cybersecurity, promoting micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), protecting the natural environment and developing our youth for the future.

At the same time, ASEAN will continue to enhance cooperation with its regional and international partners to ensure peace, security and prosperity in Southeast Asia and the wider region.

We fully support Singapore and their work as ASEAN Chairman in 2018 under their theme 'Resilient and Innovative ASEAN'. Brunei Darussalam will continue working with Singapore as well as with other ASEAN members and regional partners in achieving our common goals for the benefit of all its people.

My best wishes for a very happy ASEAN Day and our continued hope for a bright future for ASEAN and its people."

## 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 has consented to send congratulatory messages to:

1. Her Excellency Madam Halimah Yacob, President of the Republic of Singapore and His Excellency Lee Hsien Loong, Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore as well as the Government and people of the Republic of Singapore on the occasion of the 53<sup>rd</sup> National Day of the Republic of Singapore on August 9.
2. His Excellency Dato Laila Utama Joko Widodo, President of the Republic of Indonesia as well as the Government and the people of the Republic of Indonesia on the occasion of the 73<sup>rd</sup> Independence Day Anniversary of the

Republic of Indonesia on August 17.

3. His Excellency Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia following the recent victory on the Cambodian People's Party (CPP) at the 6<sup>th</sup> General Elections on August 18.
4. The Honourable Scott Morrison, MP, on the occasion of his recent appointment as the Prime Minister of Australia on August 25.
5. His Majesty Sultan Muhammad the Fifth, Yang Di-Pertuan Agong of Malaysia and Yang Amat Berhormat, Tun Dato Laila Utama Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamad, Prime Minister of Malaysia, Government and the people of Malaysia on the occasion of the 61<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of the Independence of Malaysia on August 31.

## 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 has consented to send a message of condolences to:

1. His Excellency Dato Laila Utama Joko Widodo, President of the Republic of Indonesia, following an earthquake in Lombok, West Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia on August 6.

In the message, His Majesty expressed his sadness to learn about the earthquake which caused the loss of life and damages to properties. His Majesty, the Government and the people of Brunei Darussalam send their deepest sympathy and condolences to His Excellency, the Government and the people of the Republic of Indonesia especially to the bereaved families affected by the natural disaster. In ending the message, His Majesty hope that the affected families would be strong and patient in facing this tragedy and may Allah the Almighty bless the soul of all the victims.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkhiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddin Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam with His Excellency Ip Son Sang, the Prosecutor-General of Macao Special Administrative Region (left) and His Excellency David Leung Cheuk-Yin, Senior Counsel (S.C.), Director of Public Prosecutions, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (right). Also present was His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office.

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Her Excellency Datin Paduka Zauyah Be Binti T.Loth Khan, the Second Solicitor General of Malaysia; His Excellency Nattachak Pattamasinh Na Ayuthaya, Inspector General of the Kingdom of Thailand; His Excellency Tran Cong Phan, the Deputy Prosecutor-General of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam; His Excellency David Leung Cheuk-Yin, Senior Counsel (S.C.), Director of Public Prosecutions, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region; and His Excellency Ip Son Sang, the Prosecutor-General of Macao Special Administrative Region.

Also present at the ceremony were Yang Berhormat Dato Paduka Awang Haji Hairol Arni bin Haji Abdul Majid, the Attorney General; and Dayang Zuraini binti Haji Sharbawi, the Solicitor General.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and His Royal Highness with His Excellency Wong Yuen Kuai Lucien, Senior Counsel (S.C.), Attorney General of the Republic of Singapore and other delegates.

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Cheteria Sahibun Najabah Pengiran Anak Haji Abdul Aziz bin Pengiran Jaya Negara Pengiran Haji Abu Bakar.

Their Majesties' arrival at the Royal Berkshire, Royal Brunei Polo and Riding Club in Jerudong was greeted by Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Erywan bin Pehin Datu Pekerma Jaya Haji Mohd. Yusof, Second Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade; His Excellency Doctor Fahad Mashary Al-Thafiri, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the State of Kuwait to Brunei Darussalam as the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps; High Commissioners and Ambassadors of friendly nations to Brunei Darussalam and wife.

His Excellency Doctor Fahad Mashary Al-Thafiri in his welcoming address expressed his appreciation to His Majesty for kindly consenting to grant the Diplomatic Corps the opportunity to extend their greetings at the reception.

At the reception, His Majesty received a *pesambah* (souvenir) from the resident Heads of Diplomatic Missions assigned to Brunei Darussalam.

The *pesambah* was in the form of an "Ancestry Chart" or genealogy of the Sultans of Brunei on sandblasted Glass decorated with colourful LED.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkhiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddin Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamad Alam in a group photo with resident Heads of Diplomatic Missions assigned to Brunei Darussalam in conjunction with His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam's 72nd Birthday Celebration.

## 72 Times Khatam Al-Quran Ceremony



Their Majesties at the 72 Times Khatam Al-Quran Ceremony by Mukim and Kampung Consultative Councils and school students nationwide in conjunction with the 72nd birthday celebration of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam for 2018.

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, August 2** - 1,790 participants took part in the 72 Times Khatam Al-Quran Ceremony as special manifestation of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkhiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddin Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam's 72nd birthday. The ceremony was held at Istana Nurul Iman.

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkhiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddin Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam graced the 72 Times Khatam Al-Quran Ceremony by Mukim and Kampung Consultative Councils and school students nationwide in conjunction with the 72nd birthday celebration of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam for 2018.

The arrival of Their Majesties was greeted by Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Lela Cheteria Sahibun Najabah Pengiran Anak Haji Abdul Aziz bin

Pengiran Jaya Negara Pengiran Haji Abu Bakar, Yang Di-Pertua of Adat Istiadat Negara; 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 Udana Khatib Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Badaruddin bin Pengarah Dato Paduka Haji Awang Othman, Minister of Religious Affairs; Datin Seri Paduka Doctor Hajah Romaizah binti Haji Mohd Salleh, Acting Minister of Education; Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Seri Maharaja Dato Paduka Seri Setia (Dr.) Ustaz Haji Awang Abdul Aziz bin Juned, the State Mufti; Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Shahbandar Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Mohd Nawawi bin Pehin Orang Kaya Shahbandar Haji Awang Mohd Taha, the Private and Confidential Secretary of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam; and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Penggawa Laila Bentara Istiadat Diraja Dalam Istana, Pengiran Haji Alauddin bin Pengiran Paduka Tuan Pengiran Haji Abu Bakar, the Grand Chamberlain as Co-Advisors of the Executive Committee.

Also present were His Majesty's

children and siblings; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Raabi'atul 'Adawiyah; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Wakeel; Her Royal Highness Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Zariah; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkhiah and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Bini Hajah Faizah; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkhiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkhiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Majeedah Nuurul Bolkhiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Hafizah Sururul Bolkhiah; and Her Royal Highness Princess 'Ameerah Wardatul Bolkhiah. Also in attendance were Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna, and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Amal Umi Kalthum Al-Islam as well as other members of the royal family.

This year, His Majesty's son, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Wakeel, and His Majesty's grandchildren, Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Abdul Hafeez bin Pengiran Anak Khairul Khalil and Yang Amat Mulia

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His Majesty's son, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Wakeel and His Majesty's grandchildren, Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Abdul Hafeez bin Pengiran Anak Khairul Khalil and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Raihaanah Hanaa-ul Bolkiah binti Pengiran Anak Khairul Khalil participating in the Khatam Al-Quran ceremony.

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Pengiran Anak Raihaanah Hanaa-ul Bolkiah binti Pengiran Anak Khairul Khalil were among the ceremony's participants.

The ceremony commenced with the mass reading of Surah Al-Fatihah led by the State Mufti, continued with the mass reading of Khatam Al-Quran by the participants which began with Surah Adh Dhuhaa until Surah Al-Masad, led by Muhammad Azib bin Muhammad Azim, Junior Al-Quran Tilawah Scheme Student from Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Tahfiz Al-Quran Institute (ITQSHHB).

The Takhtim was read by female officers and teachers from the Islamic Studies Department. The tahlil was read by officers from the Mosque Affairs Department and religious teachers from the Islamic Studies Department.

To bless the ceremony, a *Doa Selamat* was read by the State Mufti.

Prior to leaving the ceremony, His Majesty and His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince received a *junjung ziarah* (meet and greet) from the male participants.

Meanwhile, Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri and Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah received a *junjung ziarah* (meet and greet) from the female participants.

The participants of the ceremony comprised of Mukim and Kampung Consultative Councils from the 4 districts as well as selected youths representing the villages and mukims, including students from the Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Tahfiz Al-Quran Institute, Arabic Schools and Junior Tilawah Al-Quran Scheme.

Other than receiving rewards and blessings from Allah the Almighty, the participation of grassroots and public especially students reflects loyalty to the Monarch, religion and country.



Among the participants of the 72 Times Khatam Al-Quran Ceremony by Mukim and Kampung Consultative Councils and school students nationwide in conjunction with the 72<sup>nd</sup> birthday celebration of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam for 2018.

## Monarch's participation in regatta race brings back nostalgia



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 presenting the trophy to Olahraga Dayung Seluruh Indonesia Kalimantan Barat (PODSI Kalbar) team, the champion for the Marathon 30 Paddlers Traditional Boat Race, in conjunction with the 72<sup>nd</sup> birthday celebration of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam.

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, August 12** - The Royal Wharf in the capital once again became the focal point for the public to watch the Brunei Darussalam Regatta 2018, one of the favoured sport of 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 people of Brunei.

The Brunei Darussalam Regatta 2018 was held in conjunction with the 72<sup>nd</sup> birthday celebration of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam.

His Majesty's involvement in the regatta added liveliness to the atmosphere of the event, where His Majesty took part and led the 'Raja Wali' boat for the 15 Paddlers Fibre Glass Boat Special Race in the afternoon.

Upon arrival, His Majesty was greeted by Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Kerna Dato Seri Setia (Dr.) Haji Awang

Abu Bakar bin Haji Apong, Minister of Home Affairs; Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Abdul Motalib bin Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Setia Dato Paduka Haji Mohd Yusof, Minister of Communications who is also the Acting Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism; and Yang Berhormat Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Aminuddin Ihsan bin Pehin Orang Kaya Saiful Mulok Dato Seri Paduka Haji Abidin, Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports as Co-Advisor of the Brunei Darussalam Regatta 2018 Executive Committee.

Also in attendance were His Majesty's sons and brother; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Wakeel; and His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah.



His Majesty's team on the 'Raja Wali' boat (left) and His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah's team on the 'Kitang' boat (right).

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At the event, His Majesty's sons and brother also participated in the 15 Paddlers Fibre Glass Boat Special Race, where His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah led the 'Punai' boat, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik led the 'Penjulong' boat and His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah led the 'Kitang' boat.

After the race, His Majesty proceeded to the Royal Dais to watch other races; the Under-30 Youth 20 Paddlers Fibre Glass Boat Race, the Inter-Higher Education Institution 15 Paddlers Fibre Glass Boat Race, the Inter-School and Colleges 15 Paddlers Fibre Glass Boat Race, and the Youth Open 20 Paddlers Fibre Glass Boat Race.

His Majesty then flagged-off the Marathon 30 Paddlers Traditional Boat Race; the highlight of the regatta, which began at Pulau Si Bongor.

His Majesty and members of the royal family then took a closer look at the Regatta Exhibition 2018: Sungai Brunei - Pengubung Budaya Warisan Brunei at the Royal Wharf Art Gallery.

After touring the exhibition, His Majesty presented prizes to the winners of the races.

The team led by His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah won the 15 Paddlers Fibre Glass Boat Special Race and received cash prize worth three thousand dollars, a trophy and medals. Meanwhile, His Majesty's team took second place, whereas the team led by His Royal Highness the Crown Prince placed third.

The Olahraga Dayung Seluruh Indonesia Kalimantan Barat team won the Under-30 Youth 20 Paddlers Fibre Glass Boat Race and brought home 800-dollars-cash prize, a trophy and medals.

Meanwhile, Universiti Teknologi Brunei team took first place for the Inter-Higher Education Institution 15 Paddlers Fibre Glass Boat Race and received 500 dollars, a trophy and medals.

Cash prize worth 500 dollars, a trophy and medals were also presented to the Sultan Omar 'Ali Saifuddin College



His Majesty and His Royal Highness observing a group of year 4 students from Chung Hwa Secondary School producing and crafting a souvenir in the form of a paddle and keychain at the Regatta Exhibition 2018.

for winning the Inter-School and Colleges 15 Paddlers Fibre Glass Boat Race.

Tamoi Bersatu team, winner of the Youth Open 20 Paddlers Fibre Glass Boat Race, brought home 550-dollars-cash prize, a trophy and medals.

The winner of the Marathon 30 Paddlers Traditional Boat Race, Olahraga Dayung Seluruh Indonesia Kalimantan Barat team received the Challenge Trophy donated by His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, as well as cash prize worth six thousand dollars.

The Brunei Darussalam Regatta 2018 was further enlivened by the presence of tourists, introducing the nation's sport to the world.

The race received participation of teams from overseas; Lawas, Sarawak, the Federal Territory of Labuan, Republic of Indonesia and the People's Republic of China.

The regatta race has the potential to be developed not only in the aspect of sports, but also in strengthening communities within and outside the country, as well as tourism attraction, generating economic activity.



Boats of other teams during the event.

## National Housing, a priority for His Majesty's Government



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 presenting a house key to a recipient.

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, August 15** - Ever since Brunei Darussalam achieved independence under the leadership of 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, the residents and citizens of the country have continuously enjoyed privileges with one of them being home provision.

This clearly reflects His Majesty's concern and care towards the people residents of Brunei Darussalam, at the same time proving the government's commitment in supporting His Majesty's

desire and aspirations, especially in providing resilient and sustainable housing, in line with the objectives of the National Housing Scheme to improve the quality of life of the people.

The House Keys Presentation ceremony is proof of His Majesty's concern for the citizens and residents in the country to live in comfortably.

During the ceremony, His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam consented to present house keys to 869 recipients under the National Housing Scheme and Landless Indigenous Citizens Housing Scheme for the Brunei-Muara District.

The arrival of His Majesty at the Plenary Hall, International Convention Centre (ICC) in Berakas was greeted by the Minister of Development, Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Suhaimi bin Haji Gafar who is also the Acting Minister of Home Affairs; the Minister at the Prime Minister's Office, Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Abdul Mokti bin Haji Mohd. Daud; and the Second Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Erywan bin Pehin Datu Pekerma Jaya Haji Mohd. Yusof who is also the Director of Brunei Economic Development Board (BEDB).

The ceremony began with the reading of Surah Al-Fatihah led by Brunei Muara District Syari'ah Subordinate Court Judge, Pengiran Doctor Haji Badaruddin bin Pengiran Abd. Rahman.

Acting Brunei Muara District Officer, Awang Haji Ali bin Haji Matyassin in his welcoming remarks among other things expressed gratitude on His Majesty's presence at the ceremony to present the house keys.

At the ceremony, out of 860 recipients, 140 were awarded semi-detached houses, 716 were awarded terrace houses under the RPN Panchor Mengkubau and four were awarded terrace houses under the STKRJ Kampung Tungku (Katok 'A') and Kampung Mata-Mata (Katok 'B').

To bless the ceremony, a *Doa Selamat* was read by Brunei Muara District Syari'ah Subordinate Court Judge.

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Some of the recipients at the House Keys Presentation ceremony for semi-detached houses and terrace houses in Panchor (Mengkubau) and terrace houses in Kampung Tungku (Katok 'A') and Kampung Mata-Mata (Katok 'B') for Brunei-Muara District.





His Majesty during the visit to Pusar Ulak Primary School.

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After the presentation of house keys, His Majesty made a visit to Pusar Ulak Primary School, which is one of the oldest schools in Bandar Seri Begawan, built in 1965.

His Majesty then continued his visit to Sultan Muhammad Jamalul Alam (SMJA) Secondary School and Raja Isteri Fatimah Primary School.

During the visit to the schools, His Majesty received a *junjung ziarah* (meet and greet) and interacted with teachers, staff, and students of the school.

His Majesty also toured the classrooms, showing His Majesty's

concern for the welfare and needs of the school, teachers, staff, and students. This ensures that the students of the school receive comprehensive education not only limited to academic achievement but also life skills, creativity, and religious knowledge.

From Raja Isteri Fatimah Primary School, His Majesty made a visit to the house of the Head of Village of Kampung Sungai Akar, Awang Haji Ramlee bin Haji Md. Zain in Sungai Akar, Mukim Berakas 'B'. Kampung Sungai Akar currently has a total of 6,620 residents in an area of 28 square kilometres.

In ending the series of visits, His



His Majesty mingling with teachers and students during the visit to Sultan Muhammad Jamalul Alam (SMJA) Secondary School.



Happiness can be seen on the faces of the students as they get the opportunity to mingle with His Majesty during the visit to Raja Isteri Fatimah Primary School.

Majesty visited the houses of the recipients of house keys under the Kampung Panchor (Mengkubau), Mukim Mentiri National Housing Scheme.

With an area of 121.5 square kilometres, each semi-detached housing unit in the Kampung Panchor (Mengkubau) National Housing Scheme area has three bedrooms, a bathroom, and a kitchen.

A budget of BND 300 million was used for this area's National Housing Scheme, and out of 4,000 units, 2,400 units are terrace houses whereas the rest are semi-detached houses, built in an area of 309 hectares.

This national housing area is a comprehensive housing development concept which includes land space for future public amenities such as schools, mosques, commercial facilities, community centres, parks, recreational areas, and playgrounds.

The National Housing Scheme has provided more than 29,000 housing under the National Housing Scheme and Landless Indigenous Citizens Housing Scheme in the country, where 27,379 houses have been awarded to those eligible and from the total, more than 18,000 recipients are from the Brunei-Muara District.

The people and residents of the country are fortunate for the provision in the well-being and importance of quality of life, in terms of housing provision which remains a priority for His Majesty's Government, ever since the reign of Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien in the early 1950s.

## 1,543 graduates celebrated at UBD's 30<sup>th</sup> Convocation



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, Chancellor of Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD) delivering a *titalah* (royal speech) at UBD's 30th Convocation Ceremony, at the Chancellor's Hall, UBD.

**TUNGKU LINK, August 29** - Universiti Brunei Darussalam's (UBD) 30<sup>th</sup> Convocation ceremony saw 1,543 graduates from the 6<sup>th</sup> GenNext group receive their Doctor of Philosophy, PhD, Masters and Bachelor's degrees and diplomas in various disciplines.

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, Chancellor of UBD conferred the PhD and Bachelor's degrees to eight hundred and seven (807) graduates who have completed their studies, in the morning session.

The ceremony commenced with the reading of Surah Al-Fatihah read by the State Mufti, Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Seri Maharaja Dato Paduka Seri Setia (Dr.) Ustaz Haji Awang Abdul Aziz bin Juned.

His Majesty's arrival was greeted by the Minister of Education, Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Hamzah bin Haji Sulaiman, and the Vice Chancellor of UBD, Datin Doctor Hajah Anita Binurul Zahrina binti Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Wijaya Dato Seri Setia Haji Abdul Aziz, accompanied by a hadrah group of about 20 graduates.

Also gracing the convocation ceremony was His Royal Highness Prince (Dr.) Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office, as the Pro-Chancellor of UBD.

The reading of Surah Al-An'aam was read by Dayangku Fauziah Nadhirah binti Pengiran Haji Jofri, a Bachelor of Arts graduate. Dayangku Fauziah Nadhirah won the National Youth Al-Quran Reading Competition in 2011, 2012 and 2013, is runner-up for Southeast Asian Youth Al-Quran Reading Competition in the 2011 and 2013 and is also runner up for this year's National Al-Quran reading competition for adults.

This was followed by welcoming remarks by the Vice Chancellor of UBD.

His Majesty then delivered a *titalah* (royal speech) consent to confer the degrees and diplomas to the graduates. His Majesty conferred PhD and Bachelor's degrees to eight hundred and seven graduates of which 37 received their PhD and 770 received their Bachelor's degrees.

The PhD recipients included international students who received their PhD in various disciplines including

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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, Chancellor of UBD conferring PhD and Bachelor's degrees in the morning session. Also gracing the ceremony was His Royal Highness Prince Doctor Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office, as the Pro-Chancellor of UBD.



His Majesty conferring a Bachelor's degree in Art and Creative Technology to the daughter of His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah, Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Ajeerah Firdausul Bolqiah.

His Majesty conferring a PhD to a graduate at UBD's 30th Convocation Ceremony.

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Anthropology, Sociology, Linguistics, Computer Science, Mathematics, Applied Physics, Biology, Chemistry, Public Policy, Economics and Business Administration.

Among the graduates who received their Bachelor's degree was the daughter of His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah, Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Ajeerah Firdausul Bolqiah.

To bless the ceremony, a *Doa Selamat* was read by the State Mufti.

His Majesty then toured the Convocation Exhibition, featuring a diversity of UBD entrepreneurs, which range from classical business models to technology and patent start-ups.

Each exhibitor was connected by three factors: the first is the ability to generate sustainable income, the second is the ability to show growth and expansion strategies, and lastly, the graduate must provide employment opportunities to locals and graduates.

His Majesty first visited 'Smart Coating Technologies', a graduate-owned business that has effectively commercialised the university's research into an internationally recognised product. It is also the first company to be granted licensing by UBD to manufacture and export its research.

His Majesty then toured the second exhibit, 'Solar Brunei', a local company that specialises in the installation of solar power to homes and industries.

The next four exhibits were known as the "UBD Entrepreneurs", each demonstrating their business models and acumen that has not only provided self-employment but also the commendable ability to hire local students and graduates.

Among the exhibits showcased under the category was Al-Raed, a regionally known fashion company that was founded by a graduate of UBD's incubation programme; Ae.bn, a videography and photography company made successful by the passion and personal philosophy of UBD's graduate and founder; Malai Ezzan Enterprise, a snack and candy catering service that has expanded beyond Brunei borders

and now also operates in Malaysia; and Educhamp, which is an academic tuition school that has one of the largest number of tuition centres in the country, employs over 70 staff and supports more than 300 students across the Brunei-Muara district.

Prior to leaving the convocation ceremony, His Majesty received a *junjung ziarah* (meet and greet) and interacted with the celebrated graduates.

This year, UBD is placed at 323 in the world according to the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings. In the QS Top 50 Under 50 world rankings, UBD rose up three places to 34. Among small universities based on QS World University Rankings, UBD is ranked 16th in the world, 5th in Asia and 1st in ASEAN.



Some of the graduates who have received their Bachelor's degree during the ceremony.

## 13<sup>th</sup> National Youth Day Celebration

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, August 1** - 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 graced the 13th National Youth Day Celebration 2018, held at the International Convention Centre (ICC) in Berakas.

Accompanying His Majesty 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 'Abdul Malik, His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah and His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah.

His Majesty's arrival was welcomed by Yang Berhormat Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Aminuddin Ihsan bin Pehin Orang Kaya Saiful Mulok Dato Seri Paduka Haji Abidin, the Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, as the Chairman of the National Youth Day Celebration Executive Committee and Dato Seri Paduka Awang Haji Matsatejo bin Sokiaw, the Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Energy (Energy and Manpower) and Industry, as the Deputy Chairman of the Celebration's Executive Committee.

The celebration commenced with the reading of Surah Al-Fatihah and *Doa Selamat* led by Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Seri Maharaja Dato Paduka Seri Setia (Dr.) Ustaz Haji Awang Abdul Aziz bin Juned, the State Mufti.

The Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports in his welcoming remarks said that His Majesty's presence shows His Majesty's valuable care as a strong motivation for the youth to continue to strive in contributing to the country to achieve Brunei Vision 2035.

The Minister further added that the youth have actively stepped forward in a variety of fields such as entrepreneurship and volunteerism, in line with His Majesty's *titah* (royal speech) regarding high-quality youth.

His Majesty then consented to deliver a *titah*.

"The I-Usahawan programme will give opportunities to local entrepreneurs for their business start-ups, not only in the oil and gas industry, but extended to other sectors as well," said His Majesty.



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 13<sup>th</sup> National Youth Day Celebration 2018, held at the International Convention Centre (ICC) in Berakas.

"With the new and modern technology available, as well as a bigger opportunity in 'Agribusiness', His Majesty urged that the Young Farmers Programme to be revived with a new approach. In my opinion, if all available and planned initiatives are made to full use, it is not impossible to produce hundreds of entrepreneurs and thousands of job opportunities," His Majesty added.

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His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik, His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah and His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri at the event.





His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam awarding the Excellent Youth Award to Awang Haji Syed Mohammad Yassin bin Haji Syed Anaytullah Shah (left) and The Youth Services Award to Dayang Nurul Hadina binti Haji Alias (right).



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam awarding the Young Youth Leader Award to Awang Abdul Azim bin Pengiran Yusof (left) and the Excellent Project For Youth Award to a representative of the Teachmeguru / Youth Transformation Community Club (right).

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His Majesty further said that recently, there have been a number of positive developments among the youth, especially in the areas of entrepreneurship and community, whether individually or in association, not only in the country but also in the region and overseas.

His Majesty also stated that His Majesty's Government is reorganising and improving the 'Youth Entrepreneurship Eco-System' to help the youth become successful entrepreneurs, at the same time, is updating the capacity building programmes, the preparation of physical and digital

infrastructure facilities as well as financial and market access facilities.

In concluding the *titah*, His Majesty congratulated all the youth in the country who have contributed to the country and people.

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His Majesty receiving an explanation by one of the participants involved.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam trying out the piano at the one of the exhibits.

## Their Majesties present sacrificial meat at Hari Raya Aidiladha celebration

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, August 22** - 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 graced the Hari Raya Aidiladha celebration.

This year, a total of 158 cows and 14 goats were contributed by Their Majesties and members of the royal family and the sacrificial meat was distributed to 7,567 poor and underprivileged people selected from across the country.

The arrival of Their Majesties and other members of the royal family were greeted by the Co-Chairmen and members of the working committee for the Rites of Sacrifice for 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 as well as His Majesty's family and the Hari Raya Aidiladha Celebration at Istana Nurul Iman for this year.

Also in attendance were His Majesty's children, brothers and sisters; His Royal



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 presenting the sacrificial meat to selected recipients at the Rites of Sacrifice for 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 as well as His Majesty's family and the Hari Raya Aidiladha Celebration at Istana Nurul Iman for this year.

Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, 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; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Raabi'atul

'Adawiyah binti Pengiran Haji Bolkiah; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Wakeel; His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkiah; Her

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## 13<sup>th</sup> National Youth Day Celebration (continued)

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This was followed by the reading of The Youth Oath by the participating youth, led by Pengiran Haji Ahmad Fadillah Akhbar bin Pengiran Haji Sellahuddin, Head of the Department of Information's Belait District Branch and Co-founder and Advisor of the Ukwah Building Project.

A choir performance by 34 youths from youth associations and special needs persons highlighted the important role of the young people in driving, shaping, helping and improving the country's prosperity and development.

The event continued with a video presentation which showcased several youths who have achieved excellence in entrepreneurship as well as youths

who have established new industries, to share their experiences and to inspire other youths to continue their efforts and to never give up in achieving success, especially in entrepreneurship.

After, the event saw a choir performance by 34 youths from youth associations and people with special needs.

His Majesty and members of the royal family then proceeded to the Youth Get-Together and Assembly, which showcased two main components namely the Entrepreneurship and Leadership Exhibition and the Entrepreneurship Ecosystem Exhibition.

The Youth Get-Together and Assembly highlighted 34 youth who have achieved excellence in entrepreneurship.

The Entrepreneurship and Leadership Exhibition focused on several areas such as agriculture, oil and gas, petrochemical, service provision, food and beverages, information and technology, medical, sports, education and fashion.

The Entrepreneurship Ecosystem Exhibition highlights His Majesty's Government's efforts in assisting the youth to become successful entrepreneurs. Among those who participated in the exhibitions were Kindy Kare International, Mumtaz Collections and Covered by Annisa.

## Launching of Pesta Konvo UBD 2018

**TUNGKU LINK, August 16** – To celebrate the graduates who have worked hard their entire academic session and have gained and acquired knowledge to earn their scrolls, Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD) held the 'Pesta Konvo' 2018 or Convocation Festival 2018 in conjunction with UBD's 30th Convocation.

His Royal Highness Prince (Dr.) 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, as Pro-Chancellor of Universiti Brunei Darussalam, UBD officially launched the Pesta Konvo 2018.

The arrival of His Royal Highness at the UBD Botanical Research Centre (UBD BRC) was greeted by Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Abdul Mokti bin Haji Mohd. Daud, the Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; Yang Mulia Datin Seri Paduka Doctor Dayang Hajah Romaizah binti Haji Mohd. Salleh, Acting Minister of Education; and Datin Doctor Hajah Anita Binurul Zahrina binti Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Wijaya Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Abdul Aziz, Vice Chancellor of UBD.

The ceremony commenced with the reading of Surah Al-Fatihah and *Doa Selamat* led by Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Paduka Seri Utama Dato Paduka Seri Setia Haji Awang Salim bin Haji Besar.

His Royal Highness then launched the ceremony and signed the plaque signifying the launch of the Pesta Konvo 2018.

His Royal Highness was then invited to plant the Resak Kerangas Tree (the *Dipterocarpus borneensis* V Slooten) which is an original Bruneian species that is at a threat of extinction in Borneo due to logging and agricultural activities.

After, His Royal Highness toured the exhibition which showcased the abilities, creativity, skills, entrepreneurship and innovation of the UBD graduates as well as UBD alumni.



His Royal Highness Prince (Dr.) 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, as Pro-Chancellor of Universiti Brunei Darussalam, UBD launching the Pesta Konvo 2018 in conjunction with UBD's 30th Convocation.

His Royal Highness then proceeded to tour the Botanical Research Centre's Green House which exhibited high technology based crops for modern agriculture that includes urban agriculture, no land-based agriculture, and does not depend on premium land quality as well as weather factors.

The UBD Student Representative Council (PMUBD) then presented a *pesambah* (souvenir) to His Royal Highness before the group photo session with members of the PMUBD before proceeding to Simpur Café and signing the commemorative parchment.

Prior to leaving the event, His Royal Highness received a *junjung ziarah* (meet and greet) with UBD students.

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## Their Majesties present sacrificial meat at Hari Raya Aidiladha celebration (continued)

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Royal Highness Princess Hajah Majeedah Nuurul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Hafizah Sururul Bolkiah and Her Royal Highness Princess Ameerah Wardatul Bolkiah.

Also present were, Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Amal Umi Kalthum Al-Islam and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Noor Ehsani as well other members of the royal family.

Prior to the event, sounds of the Hari Raya Takbir resonated Istana Nurul Iman, performed by 100 individuals comprising representatives from government departments, religious school teachers, students of institutes of higher learning, uniformed personnel and members of youth groups and associations.

Holy verses of the Al-Quran was read by Mohd. Marzuqi bin Haji Anuar, a first-year undergraduate of 'Aliyah Qiraat Diploma, who represented the country in the Mohammed VI International Prize for the Al-Quran

Reading Competition held in Casablanca, Morocco in 2015 and the interpretation of the Al-Quran verses was read by Mohd. Najib bin Haji Aliakbar, a lecturer at Institut Tahfiz Al-Quran Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah.

Their Majesties then presented the sacrificial meats to 100 selected recipients, comprising underprivileged individuals from all four districts.

To bless the ceremony, a *Doa Selamat* was read by the State Mufti, Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Seri Maharaja Dato Paduka Seri Setia (Dr.) Ustaz Haji Awang Abdul Aziz bin Juned.

About 6,000 people attended the Hari Raya Aidiladha celebration comprising government ministries and departments, institutes of higher learning and students from religious schools, uniformed personnel and members of youth groups and associations.

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The Pesta Konvo is an annual event to celebrate UBD graduates involving a number of activities such as the Khatam Al-Quran and Doa Kesyukuran Ceremony in conjunction with UBD's 30th Convocation, Healthy Living Week, Graduates Appreciation Night and World Wide Week.

This year's convocation festival carries the theme 'I.L.M' (Innovation. Leadership. Mastery). The theme highlights the importance of innovation that has a valuable advantage to society.

The theme is also in line with the launching of Pesta Konvo 2018 since UBD BRC is a test bed for research and innovation across disciplines of engineering, internet of things, artificial intelligence, renewable energy and health sciences to humanity and entrepreneurship, as well as conducting botanical-related research.

His Royal Highness planting the Resak Kerangas tree (the *Dipterocarpus borneensis* V Slooten) at the UBD Botanical Research Centre.



His Royal Highness touring the Botanical Research Centre's Green House.



His Royal Highness receiving a briefing and taking a closer look at the honey produced at the Botanical Research Centre.

## His Royal Highness awards graduation certificates

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, August 29** - His Royal Highness Prince (Dr.) 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 Pro-Chancellor of Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD) consented present graduation certificates to the fresh graduates of this year's UBD Convocation Ceremony.

A total of 736 graduates received their scrolls during the afternoon session of UBD's 30th Convocation Ceremony.

The arrival of His Royal Highness at Chancellor's Hall of UBD was greeted by Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Hamzah bin Haji Sulaiman, Minister of Education and Datin Doctor Hajah Anita Binurul Zahrina binti Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Wijaya Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Abdul Aziz, Vice-Chancellor of UBD.

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His Royal Highness Prince (Dr.) 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 Pro-Chancellor of Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD) awarding a graduation certificate to one of the graduates during UBD's 30th Convocation Ceremony.

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At the ceremony, His Royal Highness presented the Master's Degree to 355 students, the Bachelor's Degree to 366 graduates, Advanced Diploma certificates to seven graduates and Diploma certificates to eight students.

To bless the ceremony, a Doa Selamat was read by Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Imam Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Abdul Hamid bin Bakal.



Joyful faces can be seen as the graduates gather to take the opportunity for a group photo with His Royal Highness.

The event celebrates the graduates' success in their studies at UBD.

Other than preparing the graduates for the working world, it is hoped that the graduates have acquired a sense of identity and holistic empowerment throughout their course of study at one of the highest institutions in Brunei Darussalam and are able to compete in the outside world.



## Mindplus Education Sdn. Bhd. claims BICTA 2018 Royal Patron's Award

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, August 30** - The Brunei Info-Communications Technology Award 2018 (BICTA 2018) provides opportunities for competition and to recognise the creative talents of individuals, students and local companies in creating innovative ICT products.

His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkhiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office, as the Royal Patron of BICTA, consented to officiate BICTA 2018. The ceremony took place at the International Convention Centre in Berakas.

The arrival of His Royal Highness was greeted by Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Abdul Mutalib bin Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Setia Dato Paduka Haji Mohammad Yusof, Minister of Communications; Yang Mulia Dato Seri Paduka Awang Haji Matsatejo bin Sokiaw, Deputy Minister of Energy (Energy and Manpower) and Industry, as the Chairman of Authority for Info-Communication Technology Industry (AITI); Haji Azhar bin Haji Ahmad, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Communications, as the Co-Chairman of BICTA 2018 Steering Committee; Sheikh Haji Abbas Sheikh Mohamad, Chairman of InfoCom Federation of Brunei (IFB), as the 2nd Co-Chairman of the BICTA 2018 Steering Committee.

The event commenced with the reading of Surah Al-Fatihah and *Doa Selamat* led by Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Imam Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Abdul Hamid bin Bakal.

The Minister of Communications in his welcoming address, expressed gratitude upon the presence of His Royal Highness in presenting the prizes and the Royal Patron's Award, which is a source of motivation for local ICT industry players and youths to continue to enhance the spirit of competitiveness, skills and



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkhiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office, as the Royal Patron of BICTA, presenting the Royal Patron's Award to Mindplus Education Sdn. Bhd. for their 'Mindtrex' application.

innovation.

His Royal Highness then presented Certificates of Appreciation to 16 judges and to the BICTA 2018 workshop speaker, followed by the presentation of prizes in respective categories.

For the Schools Project Category, Saint John's School from Kuala Belait won with their 'Hope Mental Health' application, followed by the 'BruLife' application by the Chung Ching Middle School from Seria. Third place was won by Chung Hua Middle School, Kuala Belait with their 'Instant Health Aid' application.

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Meanwhile, Universiti Teknologi Brunei (UTB) emerged as winners in first place for the Higher Studies Project category with their project 'MechSim'; a virtual reality technology product capable of running mechanical installation simulation, Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD) won second place with their 'Droplet' application, whereas third place was also won by UTB with their project 'GoBacker'.

The ICT Industry Project Category was won by Mindplus Education Sdn. Bhd., at the same time winning the Royal Patron's Award BICTA 2018 with their 'Mindtrex' application, which aids in providing concentrated learning system using artificial intelligence technology to students all over the world. Second place was won by TechBru Solution (B) Sdn. Bhd. with their 'WasapPay' application whilst Rotuku Sdn. Bhd. came in third place with their project 'Rotuku.com'.

His Royal Highness then presented three special Awards; The Project Research and Development Award, which was won by UTB with its 'Smartfarm' which uses technology to detect, determine and treat plants diseases; The Internet of Things (IOT) Award, which was won by UBD with their 'Droplet' application, which measures and records rainfall; The Start-Up Award, which was won by Aqli Enterprise with their 'Aqli' application, which is a Smart Search application capable of searching for and finding entrepreneurs in the customers' areas.

Prior to leaving the event, His Royal Highness consented to tour the BICTA 2018 Exhibition, with carried the theme 'Visionary Digital Generation'.

BICTA is an annual ICT competition organised by the Ministry



His Royal Highness presenting the prize for the Higher Studies Project category to Universiti Teknologi Brunei (UTB) for their 'Mech Sim' application.

of Communications in collaboration with AITI and IFB.

Introduced in 2004, BICTA is a platform where individuals, students and local companies can compete in the ICT arena and winners of BITCA will have the opportunity to represent Brunei Darussalam in the Asia Pacific ICT Alliance Awards (APICTA), which is also participated by Australia, Bangladesh, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Macau, Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand and Viet Nam.

Among the objectives of BICTA is to stimulate innovation and creativity in the ICT industry among individuals, students and local enterprises, as well as benchmarking for the development of local ICT products.

## 5<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Children's Forum Gala Night

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, August 8** - His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Wakeel ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkhiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah and Her Royal Highness Princess Ameerah Wardatul Bolkhiah binti His Majesty Sultan

Haji Hassanal Bolkhiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah graced the 5<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Children's Forum Gala Night, at the Serambi Suluh, Tarindak D'Seni.

Upon arrival, His Royal Highness

and Her Royal Highness were greeted by Yang Berhormat Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Aminuddin Ihsan bin Pehin Orang Kaya Saiful Mulok Dato

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His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Wakeel ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkhiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah and Her Royal Highness Princess Ameerah Wardatul Bolkhiah binti His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkhiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah in a group photo at the 5<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Children's Forum Gala Night, at the Serambi Suluh, Tarindak D'Seni.

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Seri Paduka Haji Abidin, the Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports (MCYS); Awang Haji Amer Hamzah bin Pehin Orang Kaya Amar Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Zakaria, Acting Permanent Secretary at MCYS, as representative of Senior Officials Meeting on Social Welfare Development Brunei Darussalam; and Dayang Rostinah binti Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Sura Pahlawan Dato Paduka Haji Mohd. Tahir, Acting Director of Community Development.

His Royal Highness and Her Royal Highness watched the 'Senandung Budaya' cultural performances by Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports and Yippie Music School.

In his welcoming remarks, the Acting Permanent Secretary (MCYS) explained that the 5<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Children's Forum carried the theme 'Our Children, Our Future, Our ASEAN' and discussed on four main issues, firstly peace, safety (cyberbullying), respect for all and, care for the environment and for a healthy lifestyle.

He further added that the forum was held for three days where delegates shared their experiences in related issues and identified the causes as well as the national initiatives that have been implemented in their respective countries. The delegates also came up with suggestions which contained a set of action plan which can be brought forward by each country in different levels; individual, institutions, and community.

Cultural dance performances by delegates from each ASEAN



His Royal Highness and Her Royal Highness during the junjung ziarah (meet and greet).

country further enlivened the event.

His Royal Highness and Her Royal Highness then consented to receive a *pesambah* (gift) in the form of an artwork produced by each ASEAN member states.

Prior to leaving the event, His Royal Highness and Her Royal Highness received a *junjung ziarah* (meet and greet) from participating delegates.



His Royal Highness and Her Royal Highness receiving a *pesambah* (souvenir) in the form of a painting by one of the delegates and from each ASEAN Member State (left and right).



Cultural dance performances during the 5th ASEAN Children's Forum Gala Night.



## Her Royal Highness graces flag-handing over ceremony

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, August 29** - The Brunei Darussalam National Netball Team, Royal Bees will be participating in the 12<sup>th</sup> Asian Netball Championship 2018 in the Republic of Singapore from the 1<sup>st</sup> until the 8<sup>th</sup> of September 2018.

A flag-handing over ceremony to the Royal Bees for the championship was held at the Green Room of the Hassanal Bolkiah National Stadium.

Her Royal Highness Princess Fadzilah Lubabul Bolkiah binti His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah consented to attend the ceremony.

The arrival of Her Royal Highness was greeted by Yang Berhormat Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Aminuddin Ihsan bin Pehin Orang Kaya Saiful Mulok Dato Seri Paduka Haji Abidin, the Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports.

The ceremony commenced with the reading of Surah Al-Fatihah led by Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Orang Kaya Paduka Setia Raja Dato Paduka Seri Setia Haji Awang Suhaili bin Haji Mohiddin.

The Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, then handed over the national flag to Her Royal Highness as the Captain of the Brunei Darussalam Netball Team at the 12<sup>th</sup> Asian Netball Championship 2018 in the Republic of Singapore.

To bless the event, a *Doa Selamat* was read by Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Orang Kaya Paduka Setia Raja Dato Paduka Seri Setia Haji Awang Suhaili. This was followed with a group photo session.

As many as 12 countries will be participating in the championship; Brunei Darussalam, the Republic of Singapore as



Handing over of Brunei Darussalam's flag by Yang Berhormat Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Aminuddin Ihsan bin Pehin Orang Kaya Saiful Mulok Dato Seri Paduka Haji Abidin, the Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports to Her Royal Highness Princess Fadzilah Lubabul Bolkiah binti His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah as the Captain of the Brunei Darussalam Netball Team at the 12<sup>th</sup> Asian Netball Championship 2018 in the Republic of Singapore.

the host country, Malaysia, Japan, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Chinese Taipei, the Republic of India, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Hong Kong, Thailand and the Republic of the Philippines.

The opening of the championship will see the Royal Bees against the Republic of Singapore National Team on the 1<sup>st</sup> of September 2018.

## Speaker of the Legislative Council receives farewell visit

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, August 30** - Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib, the Speaker of the Legislative Council yesterday received a farewell visit from His Excellency Doctor Fahad Mashary Al Thafiri, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the State of Kuwait to Brunei Darussalam at the Dewan Majlis Building.

Also present was Dayang Rose Aminah binti Haji Ismail, Deputy Clerk of the Legislative Council.

During the farewell visit, both sides expressed high appreciation for the good working relationship during His Excellency's service in the country and hopes that the good relationship will continue to prosper and strengthen between the two countries.



Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib, the Speaker of the Legislative Council (right) with His Excellency Doctor Fahad Mashary Al Thafiri, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the State of Kuwait to Brunei Darussalam.

## Second Minister of Defence makes official visit to the Republic of Singapore

**REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE, August 14** - Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof, the Second Minister of Defence of Brunei Darussalam is in the Republic of Singapore for an official visit upon an invitation by His Excellency Dr. Ng Eng Hen, the Singapore Minister for Defence.

The visit began with a courtesy call on the Prime Minister of Republic of Singapore, His Excellency Lee Hsien Loong, on Monday, August 13, during which the two expressed deep satisfaction on the state of bilateral relations especially in the field of defence.

The visit continued the day after with the Second Minister of Defence calling on His Excellency Dr. Ng Eng Hen at the Singapore Ministry of Defence. Prior to the courtesy call, the Second Minister of Defence reviewed and inspected the Guard of Honour mounted by the personnel of the Singapore Armed Forces.

During the call, both sides mutually reaffirmed the excellent and long-standing bilateral defence ties between Brunei Darussalam and Singapore. Both Ministers also exchanged their views on a range of current security issues, highlighting the growing importance of working closely together to address these challenges. They then discussed matters on Singapore's chairmanship of the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM), where the Second Minister of Defence expressed Brunei Darussalam's wholehearted support for the upcoming ADMM and ADMM-Plus meetings in the month of October.



Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof, Second Minister of Defence of Brunei Darussalam with the Prime Minister of Singapore, His Excellency Lee Hsien Loong.

The Second Minister of Defence also had the opportunity of meeting key political figures and senior officials of the Republic of Singapore on the sidelines of the visit. These include the Deputy Prime Minister and Coordinating Minister for National Security, His Excellency Teo Chee Hean; the Senior Minister of State for Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Foreign Affairs, His Excellency Dr. Mohamad Maliki bin Osman; and the Deputy Secretary (Special Projects), Mr. David Koh Tee Hian.

## Singapore's Chief of Defence Force makes Introductory Visit to Brunei Darussalam

**BOLKIAH GARRISON, August 30** - Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof, the Second Minister of Defence, today received a courtesy call from Lieutenant General Melvyn Ong, the Chief of Defence Force, Singapore Armed Forces, who is in the country for his introductory visit to Brunei Darussalam from the 28<sup>th</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup> of August 2018.

Upon arrival at the Bolkiah Garrison, Lieutenant General Melvyn Ong was accorded with a Guard of Honour comprising of personnel from the Royal Brunei Land Force.

During the call, the Second Minister of Defence and Lieutenant General Melvyn Ong highlighted the close and long-standing bilateral relationship bolstered through regular exchange of visits, dialogues, meetings, military exercises, courses, defence exhibitions and the various forms of development and interaction programmes.

Both defence establishments have cooperated extensively over the decades. The Second Minister of Defence also congratulated Lieutenant General Melvyn Ong on his appointment and expressed hopes to progress both countries' defence relationship further.

Lieutenant General Melvyn Ong also called on the Commander of Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF), Major General Pengiran Dato Paduka Seri Aminan bin Pengiran Haji Mahmud.



Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof, the Second Minister of Defence, with Lieutenant General Melvyn Ong, Chief of Defence Force, Singapore Armed Forces.

Both armed forces interact regularly through bilateral and multilateral exercises, professional exchanges, and courses, which has enhanced the professionalism and interoperability of both armed forces.

Lieutenant General Melvyn Ong was appointed as Singapore Army's Chief of Army on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March 2018.

Prior to his appointment, Lieutenant General Melvyn Ong was the Chief of Army, Singapore Army.