

بروني دارالسلام

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

newsletter

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(Inset) His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan takes the salute as the parade staged march pasts in front of the royal dais. Bearing the royal flag as well as those of the RBAF's first and second battalions, soldiers perform the march pasts in slow and quick steps.

Bruneian values must be upheld - HM Sultan

By the grace of Allah the Almighty, Brunei Darussalam has in the past year enjoyed peace and tranquility which has enabled the implementation of various development

programmes, His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-

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Glittering parade launches celebrations

• see page 10 for full story



From left: Her Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha, His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajjah Mariam and His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Duli Pengiran Muda Al-Muhtadee Billah attending His Majesty's birthday banquet at Istana Nurul Iman.

Birthday banquets

His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, Her Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha and Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajjah Mariam have attended a state banquet at Istana Nurul Iman, and a banquet for members of the security forces and personnel of uniformed government departments and uniformed public organisations, also at the palace, in conjunction with His Majesty's birthday.

Also present were His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Duli Pengiran Muda Al-Muhtadee Billah, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Haji Mohamed Bolkiah, the Foreign Affairs Minister and Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajjah Zariah, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Bendahara Seri Maharaja Permaisura

Pengiran Muda Haji Sufri Bolkiah and Pengiran Bini Mazuin, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Digadong Sahibul Mal Pengiran Muda Haji Jefri Bolkiah, the Finance Minister and Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Norhayati, Princess Rashidah Saadatul Bolkiah, Princess Hajjah Masna and Princess Amal Umi Kalthum Al-Islam and other members of the royal family.

A troupe from Sarawak provided cultural and musical presentations at the state banquet, while musical entertainment at the second banquet was provided by the Royal Brunei Armed Forces' band.

Guests at the state banquet included the Yang Di-Pertua Negeri of Sarawak, Singapore's First Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister, the Chief Minister of Sarawak, the President of Malaysian Parliament, the Defence Ministers of Indonesia and Malaysia and the Sarawak State Secretary.

His Majesty was introduced to members of the Sarawak cultural troupe and he presented state honours at both functions.

The State Mufti led the thanksgiving prayers on both occasions.

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Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam has said.

His Majesty hoped that such condition would be maintained so efforts could be further intensified.

Speaking in his birthday address in the Throne room of Istana Nurul Iman on July 15, the Brunei monarch said the development and progress have also been achieved through the cooperation of the people who have lived in unity, respect for one another and understanding.

"In other words, we in this country ought to be proud of the existence of a society which has been able to uphold the values of a firm, progressive and dynamic race," His Majesty said.

He added that the achievement was also due to a social system that anchors on Bruneian values and one that adhere to the teachings of Islam.

His Majesty advised that such characteristics must be preserved so as to guarantee the solidarity of the Brunei race, more so for facing the challenges and tides of change of the future.

"We must be on guard so that our firm and harmonious life-

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM reports on government, social and business events in the country. All money values are expressed in Brunei dollars \$, unless otherwise stated. Any information in this newsletter may be reproduced; a clipping of the publication would be appreciated. For a free subscription write to Broadcasting and Information Department, Brunei Darussalam.



From left: Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Amal Umi Kalthum Al-Islam, Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajjah Masna, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Haji Mohamed Bolkiah and His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Duli Pengiran Muda Al-Muhtadee Billah at the investiture and audience ceremony at Istana Nurul Iman marking the birthday of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan.

style will not be threatened by any form of influence, regardless whether such influence comes from within or outside the country."

The Brunei monarch reminded that it was the duty of every citizen and people of Brunei Darussalam to uphold, "Our existence as a large family which cares about the goings-on around us, a family which does not practise lust or greed."

Youth: future pillars HM Sultan spells out aspirations

The importance of giving the Sultanate's young generation proper guidance and up-bringing has again been stressed by His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan.

Speaking at length on the subject in his birthday message on July 15, His Majesty said that the task of upholding the Bruneian ways of life with its own values and traditions is becoming increasingly difficult because more than half of the country's population is under the age of 20 years.

"Realising this, I have often emphasised the importance of the role of today's youths, who will become future prime-movers of efforts especially in the maintenance of peace and tranquility for the continued well-being of the people."

His Majesty said in order to make this aspiration a reality, today's youths must possess positive attitudes of being dedicated and committed to their responsibilities and tasks, regardless whether they

are still studying or already in employment.

"They must forge the quality of wanting to progress and of self-improvement through the various opportunities provided by the government," His Majesty the Sultan said.

His Majesty went on, "the responsibility of shaping and preserving a solid and united race is indeed a heavy one, and it is only fitting that such responsibility rests on all those concerned including parents and teachers, and on all social institutions."

Government agencies, too, have the responsibility of guiding youths with meaningful activities and programmes so their free time could be filled beneficially.

Furthermore, said the Brunei monarch, "as a nation with a small population, we need to develop the potential of every citizen for useful purposes and we do not want to see wastage in what human resources we have."

"It is only through assured and existence of education and guidance as well as preservation of the young generation can we guarantee permanent peace and tranquility, and increase prosperity and well-being," said His Majesty the Sultan.

The Brunei monarch also gave much attention in his 20-minute ad-

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From left: His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Bendahara Seri Maharaja Permaisua Pengiran Muda Haji Sutri Bolkiah, Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Bini Mazuin, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Digadong Sahibul Mal Pengiran Muda Haji Jefri Bolkiah and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Norhayati attending the investiture and audience ceremony at Istana Nurul Iman in conjunction with His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan's birthday.



Flanked in the throne by Her Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha on his right and Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajjah Mariam on his left, His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam delivers his 20-minute titah to the nation.

Royal birthday honours

His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam has conferred state honours to more than one hundred people for their services to the country.



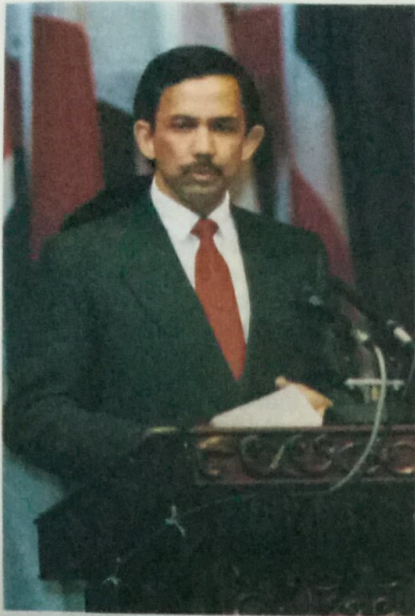
His Majesty presents birthday honours to one of the more than 140 recipients.

The honours were presented during His Majesty's 43rd birthday anniversary which fell on July 15.

At the investiture ceremony held at Istana Nurul Iman, His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah presented 22 people with titles, and leading the list of recipients was Begawan Pehin Siraja Khatib Dato Paduka Haji Awang Abdul Hamid, whom His Majesty bestowed the Darjah Seri Ugama Islam Negeri Brunei Yang Amat Bersinar Darjah Pertama (P.S.S.U.B. First Class), carrying the title of Dato Paduka Seri Setia.

The Brunei monarch also presented the Darjah Seri Paduka Mahkota Brunei Yang Amat Mulia Darjah Pertama (S.P.M.B. First Class) with the title of Dato Seri Paduka. Receiving the honour were Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Kerma Negara Pengiran Anak Haji Wahab, Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Orang Kaya Pekerma Laila Diraja Dato Setia Haji Awang Abdul Wahab, as well as the country's Development Minister, Yang Berhormat

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Youth development and economic harmonies essential for ASEAN's future - HM Sultan

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan delivers his inaugural address at the opening of the 22nd ASEAN Ministerial Meeting and Post-Ministerial Conferences (AMM-PMC) at the newly-opened International Convention Centre in Berakas.



Awaiting the arrival of His Majesty shortly before the opening of the six-day AMM-PMC are from left: the out-going Secretary-General of the ASEAN Secretariat, Mr. Roderick Yong and the foreign ministers of Singapore, Mr. Wong Kan Seng, the Philippines, Mr. Raul Manglapus, Malaysia, Datuk Haji Abu Hassan Omar, Indonesia, Mr. Ali Alatas, Thailand Air Chief Marshall Siddhi Sivetsila and Brunei Darussalam, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Shibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Haji Mohamed Bolkiah.



A continued commitment to ASEAN should be instilled into all the citizens of member nations especially amongst the younger populace, and thus, would ensure that ASEAN continues to have a peaceful region.

His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam reiterated his message at the Manila Summit in his inaugural address at the 22nd ASEAN Ministerial Meeting held at the International Convention Centre in Bandar Seri Begawan last month.

"It is one of our tasks," said the monarch, "to ensure that we all continue to have a peaceful region and it is important that all the people of ASEAN be instilled with a commitment toward ASEAN especially the succeeding generation."

"The young are the ones who will take over the responsibilities of leadership. Various programmes for youth should be devised at all level," His Majesty annotated.

"Through their experience of working together, our young people can, at an early stage begin to build that foundation of neighbourly relations based on friendship, mutual trust and confidence."

He added, "In this way, commitment to ASEAN will be renewed and passed on to future generation, thus ensuring continued stability in our region."

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His Majesty noted that the current political and economic climate poses both a challenge and an opportunity for ASEAN as a regional organisation.

"The six-nation grouping is a vital regional organisation and had been a pillar of stability and harmony in the region. It emphasises good neighbourliness among member states," he added, "It is a source of strength and cohesion in the face of various challenges."

"The grouping must enter a new era of enlarged intra-ASEAN co-operation especially in the economic field," pointed His Majesty in his address that focused largely on the future of ASEAN.

The monarch outlined that economic cooperation between the member nations would inevitably become of central importance as a result of a calmer global situation and growing trade regionalism.

"There are two dimensions to the grouping's economic co-

operation. Through wise policies, ASEAN must prevent the internal aspects of its economic cooperation from developing into economic conflict in whatever disguise," His Majesty continued, "New initiatives must continue to be made in trade, investment and other fields of intra-ASEAN economic cooperation."

"At the same time efforts must be exerted to coordinate and harmonise the ASEAN economies," he added, "On the other hand, the external aspects of ASEAN economic cooperation should bind ASEAN collectively in dealing with other advance economies."

His Majesty said such development would require new areas of cooperation, noting that this is vital in the light of weak world economic trend.

"The decisions, particularly on economic cooperation are certainly important. Indeed the success of ASEAN depends largely on our economic cooperation in the coming century. Therefore, definite progress must be made in this field," he affirmed.

He also called for greater ASEAN unity and cohesion; "As part of an area heralded as the world's most vigorous region, it only reinforces the need for a firmer political commitment in a redoubling of efforts by ASEAN."

The monarch voiced his pleasure as various ASEAN committees had started implementing decisions taken by ASEAN Heads of Government at their Manila Summit in 1987.

Before that, he noted the latest development that had taken place in the region, such as the easing of tension among the superpowers which had gained momentum as shown by the recent Sino-Soviet Summit. And turning to the region, His Majesty stated that efforts by ASEAN to resolve the Kampuchean problem have been continued untiringly.

"In this case, efforts could be concentrated on turning the region from a 'region of conflict' to a region of peace and economic development and cooperation," said the monarch.

Settlement on Kampuchea must be comprehensive

ASEAN has welcomed Vietnam's announcement to withdraw its troops from Kampuchea by September 30, describing it as a 'positive development' in the search for a solution to the Kampuchean question.

Brunei Darussalam's Foreign Affairs Minister, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Haji Mohamed Bolkiah said, however, that while the grouping welcomed the announcement, it must be made clear to the Vietnamese that the withdrawal must be within the context of an overall political solution, otherwise durable peace will always be a dream.

"While there are reasons for optimism, a comprehensive political settlement, as envisaged by all parties, has yet to materialise," he said in his opening address at the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting (AMM) on July 3, and three days later at a Post-Ministerial Conference (PMC) with ASEAN's dialogue partners comprising Australia, Canada, the European Communi-

ty, Japan, New Zealand and the United States.

He added, "The Vietnamese withdrawal must be part and parcel of a comprehensive political settlement to the Kampuchean problem and that the withdrawal must be internationally monitored."

His Royal Highness stressed that only through a comprehensive and durable political solution of the problem will there be peace and security in the region.

"With such a solution, Kampuchean and the rest of Indochina will be able to focus their efforts on economic recovery, nation-building, the establishment of good neighbourly relations and regional cooperation."

The Brunei Darussalam Foreign Affairs Minister emphasised on the need for ASEAN to remind the world community that a durable solution should be found to ensure peace in the Southeast Asian region.

Of the four parties involved in the Kampuchean conflict, His Royal Highness said they need to be encouraged to sit down and

talk, and to be flexible in order to arrive at a solution acceptable to all sides and which can guarantee the peace and sovereignty of Kampuchea in the future.

ASEAN, His Royal Highness Prince Haji Mohamed Bolkiah said, sought continued support from its allies and friends in the search for a settlement in Kampuchea.

In this context, on behalf of ASEAN, His Royal Highness expressed appreciation at the French initiative to convene an international conference on Kampuchea.

He said, "An international conference should be complementary to the efforts made by ASEAN over the last ten years to find a comprehensive settlement to the Kampuchean problem through the United Nations, the Jakarta Informal Meeting (JIM) process and other means."

The Foreign ministers of the six countries which make up ASEAN's dialogue partners supported ASEAN's efforts in its search for peace in Kampuchea.

The American Secretary of State, Mr. James Baker described the conflict in Kampuchea as the chief source of tension and posed the most immediate security challenge.

The United States and ASEAN, he said, shared three main objectives, namely a verified withdrawal of Vietnamese troops, effective measures to prevent the return to dominance of the Khmer Rouge and self-determination for the Cambodian people.

The Japanese Foreign Minister, Mr. Mitsuoka Hiroshi stressed the importance of achieving a comprehensive political solution is not only for internal stability of Kampuchea but also for the stability and security of all neighbouring countries.

Touching on the refugee problem which was yet another topic

of discussion at the AMM-PMC, His Royal Highness expressed ASEAN's concern about the continuing outflow of refugees from Indochina.

He said this outflow has imposed heavy burdens on the countries of first refugee.

"The problem should be addressed at its source. As that source, Vietnam should take the necessary action to take back all its citizens who are not eligible for resettlement," the Brunei Darussalam Foreign Minister urged.

Describing the refugee problem

as another obstacle that lies between ASEAN and Indochina, the Japanese Foreign Minister pledged to call strongly upon Vietnam to take a series of measures necessary to deter the outflow of boat people.

An international conference on Indochinese refugees was held in Geneva in June under the auspices of the United Nations.

His Royal Highness Prince Haji Mohamed Bolkiah said those involved in the conference welcomed its result, which should contribute to the alleviation of the burden of the countries concerned.

ASEAN still hot on ZOPFAN's trail

The six ASEAN nations have pursued their commitment to establish a Southeast Asian zone of peace, freedom and neutrality, or 'ZOPFAN'.

At the twenty-second ASEAN Ministerial Meeting and Post Ministerial Conference in Bandar Seri Begawan last month, the grouping's six foreign ministers of Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, The Philippines and Thailand emphasised on the third ASEAN Heads of Governments Summit's decision in Manila for an appropriate strategy to be drawn up for an early realization of ZOPFAN.

The six ministers directed senior officials to continue considering the concept of a Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon Free Zone, or 'SEANWFZ' as a component of ZOPFAN, with a view to complete the drafting as soon as possible a treaty on the SEANWFZ, taking into account all its implications.

They agreed that ASEAN could undertake consultations with other states on primary elements of SEANWFZ for the purpose of winning their support for the zone.

During the Manila Summit, it was understood that the ZOPFAN concept would involve intensive talks with the superpowers, as the concept would need both their "Consensus and total agreement."

"We can't have neutrality without the superpowers' agreement to respect that neutrality," said one ASEAN foreign minister.

ZOPFAN is one of the key elements in a 30-page joint communique signed by the ASEAN foreign ministers at the end of their two-day annual meeting.

Apart from ZOPFAN, the ministers also discussed other grounds of interests to ASEAN, notably the Kampuchean problem, the Sino-Soviet Summit and a host of other issues ranging from economic cooperation to drugs.

The foreign ministers welcomed the Sino-Soviet Summit which took place in Beijing in May.

"Although it was limited in scope, it is expected to accelerate the improvement in relations among the major powers," the communique said.

The ASEAN foreign ministers agreed that the normalization of Sino-Soviet relations would further reduce international tension, and create favourable atmosphere for settlement of regional problems.

They welcomed the total withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan through the Geneva Accords, but voiced their concern at the continued fighting after the Soviet pull-out.

They hoped the parties concerned in the Afghan conflict would reach a comprehensive political settlement and create favourable conditions conducive to a safe return of Afghan refugees to their homeland.

The apartheid policies of the South African regime has again come under condemnation by the ASEAN foreign ministers. They described it as "inhuman and was

a root cause to the conflict in the region."

They called for a total dismantling of the apartheid system to enable peace and stability to return.

The ministers expressed their solidarity with the African people in their struggle for liberation and justice and demanded the early release of African nationalists in South Africa including Nelson Mandela.

The commencement of the implementation of the United Nations Independence Plan for Namibia was applauded by the ASEAN foreign ministers.

The arms race also came under the ministers' scrutiny, the escalation of which they said, "affects the peace and security of all nations."

"The effectiveness of all efforts to achieve a genuine disarmament requires sincere cooperation among all states, especially the superpowers," they all agreed.

The ministers reiterated ASEAN'S full support for the struggle of the Palestinian people and for the restoration of Arab sovereignty over their occupied territories.

The foreign ministers of ASEAN welcomed last year's Declaration of Independence and the Political Programme adopted by the Palestinian National Council.

As with the Kampuchean issue, they urged the convening of an international conference on the Middle-east with full participation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Reviewing the international economic situation, ASEAN'S

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Above: His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan inspects a guard of honour mounted by a police contingent.



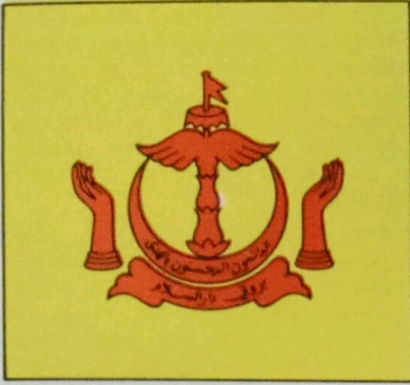
Above: Sultan
Minister
sian State
Darussalam

Left: A

Below: Thousands flocked to the Omar Ali Saifuddien mosque in Bandar Seri Begawan to join in thanksgiving prayers in conjunction with His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan's birthday.



Below: Di-P
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بروني دارالسلام

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

newsletter

A special supplement to mark the forty-third birthday on 15 July, 1989 of His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanah Bolkihah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam.



His Majesty in conversation with an elderly woman during his visit to the Tutong district, one of the numerous visits he has made over the years.

A caring monarch, His Majesty the Sultan places the well-being and prosperous livelihood of his people above all

'It is my desire to keep Brunei Darussalam prosperous and peaceful, and to see my people live in happiness and unity, enjoying ever-improving standards of living'

As the nation salutes His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanah Bolkuah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam on his forty-third birthday anniversary, the ruler can look back to some twenty-two years since he took over the helm of the throne with pride and satisfaction.

Those years have constituted an era in its own right for they have been marked by a chain of successes in every aspect of development, both nationally and on the international front giving birth to a modern Brunei Darussalam - the Abode of Peace.

Over the years since his coronation on August 1, 1968, Sultan Haji Hassanah Bolkuah, in pursuance of some of the policies laid down by his late father Almarhum Sultan Haji Omar Ali Saifuddin, has striven to develop the country in all fields for the interests and benefits of his citizens and people of Brunei alike.

But above all, one of his Majesty's main priorities has always been to improve the well-being and prosperous livelihood of his subjects, a gesture underlining his concern that they should be well-cared for at all times.

To his subjects and people of Brunei, His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan has always been a 'caring monarch' and this fact can clearly be seen through his visits to mukims and kampungs (villages) throughout the country with a view to meeting as many of his subjects as possible, and at the same time to listen at first hand to some of the problems they may have so these problems can be settled promptly to the satisfaction of all parties concerned.

On the eve of Brunei Darussalam's first National Day celebrations on February 23, 1984

"But instead of them coming to me, I am going to their villages", said His Majesty on his efforts to forge direct relationships with his subjects.

following the Sultanate's resumption of full independence barely eight weeks earlier on January 1, His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanah Bolkuah declared his wish for the country and people in the following few words:

"I wish Negara Brunei Darussalam to remain a peaceful and prosperous nation, and to see my people continue to live most happily and united, enjoying ever-improving standards of living".

Further testimony of His Majesty's aspiration to ensure that his citizens live in contentment and harmony in an atmosphere of continued peace, security and tranquility is demonstrated in his foreword at the launching of Brunei Darussalam's fifth National Development Plan for the period 1986-1990 in which he stated: "The fifth National Development Plan has been formulated not only to cater for development of the next five

His latest visits since his previous birthday had been to two mukims in Temburong, where he reminded residents that their interest, well-being and benefits are taken into accounts above all else in the implementation of every project.

And wherever possible, the Sultan calls on the private sector to play a role in contributing to the nation-building process so as to further improve the well-being and prosperity as well as other aspects of development for the people.

But the message of this aim was not directed to the residents of the two villages only - the same message is conveyed to residents of mukims in other districts visited by His Majesty, too.

Less than a month ago, His Majesty went on a special tour of two government departments which dealt closely with members of the public.



Elderly people and children often get His Majesty's personal attention during his many visits to mukims and kampungs.

years but also to prepare for the long-term development up to the year 2,005.

"Similar to the previous five-year National Development Plans, our aspiration is to provide for various services and facilities for the improvement of the standard of living of the people whilst strengthening the economic and social development of the country".

Indeed, one of the objectives of the current National Development Plan is to improve the quality of life of the people, a policy upon which His Majesty insists.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan has continued his series of visits to mukims, kampungs and government departments which he had begun some years before independence.

In his message to those present who had comprised mostly government officials and employees, the Sultan impressed upon them the importance of giving efficient, satisfactory and prompt service to the public at all times.

There is no country comparable to Brunei Darussalam when it comes to the maintenance and application of the 'welfare state' status quo.

Bruneians enjoy the highest per capita income in the region and one of the highest in the world at a staggering US\$17,500 annually, compared with US\$150 annually in some of the world's poorest nations.

In addition, citizens are given free education right from the earliest schooling age up to university level and scholarships

for further overseas study.

Moreover, there is a free national health service for citizens and permanent residents, low interest loans for housing and no levy on personal income tax.

There are also old age pensions, subsistence allowances for widows, and His Majesty has urged that care and attention given to the less fortunate members of the society such as the handicapped and disabled people "should not be given periodically only but continually" so that they, too, can share the joy and comfort of life enjoyed by their more fortunate colleagues.

“We are committed to provide sound housing for all our people; we have a Land for the Landless scheme and we have a full programme of retirement pensions and allowances.”

What more can you ask for, one might ask?

Such is the love and care of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah -the twenty-ninth Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of a truly exemplary dynasty - for his people.

His Majesty believes in his people living in harmony and united.

Undeniable proof of His Majesty's striving for harmony is the co-existence of Brunei Darussalam's variety of ethnic and religious groups, the very essence of country's population of a mere 235,000 people.

Commenting specifically on the different ethnic groups among whom are those still without religions or professing faiths other than Islam, His Majesty expressed happiness at their ability to live in an environment of mutual respect for one another. "Different beliefs should not create disunity and enmity among the people," he said during his visit to Temburong where there are a number of ethnic groups.

He stressed, however, that Islam is the official religion of the country.



Citizens and people of Brunei Darussalam turned out in their thousands to welcome home His Majesty on his return after performing Islam's fifth tenet the Haj in Mecca.

And in this respect, the government has untiringly striven to propagate the religion so that it can be embraced or at least be understood as a religion that advocates living in peace, loyalty as well as obedience to the monarch and the country.

His Majesty is a shining example to his people. His first act after the bells rang in the new year of independence was to attend a commemorative prayer service alongside thousands of his subjects at the Omar Ali Saifuddien mosque and now, as he has done over the decades, he joins his subjects at the mass Friday prayers, going from one mosque to another each week regardless of where the mosques are located.

In this humility and faith, he demonstrates the Islamic religion to be a fountain of life, which it is indeed to every Muslim.

Millions of dollars are spent each year on promoting and strengthening the Islamic religion in Brunei Darussalam on construction of mosques and suraus and other places of worship, sending students overseas for further

Islamic studies, construction of religious schools and colleges.

The number of people embracing or converting to Islam has increased encouragingly and the number is ever-increasing each year.

In line with his desire to raise the standard of religious education in Brunei Darussalam, His Majesty's government last month established for the first time the Institute For Islamic Studies leading to diplomas.

The first batch of thirty two students who obtained grade one and two in their Higher Certificate of Religious Education has been selected to the institute, which at present is housed at the Suri Seri Begawan Religious Teachers' Training College in Bandar Seri Begawan, the Sultanate's capital city.

To ensure that Islam remains firmly the official religion of the country, His Majesty often in his addresses over the years reminded Muslims against deviationist teachings of Islam, and warned his government would not hesitate



His Majesty officiates at a convocation ceremony which was coupled with the upgrading of the former Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Teachers' College to the Institute of Education. With him are from right to left: Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Wijaya Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Abdul Aziz, Brunei Darussalam's Education Minister, HRH Paduka Seri Pengiran Bendahara Seri Maharaja Permaisua Pengiran Muda Haji Sufri Bolkiah, HRH Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Haji Mohamed Bolkiah and HRH Paduka Seri Pengiran Di-Gadong Sahibul-Mal Pengiran Muda Haji Jefri Bolkiah.

to take severe action against deviationsists trying to disunite the people and disrupt the peace through religion.

On the domestic front, education, defence and security, medical and health, economy and social and cultural developments are some of the issues to which His Majesty gives equally as much attention so that his subjects and people of Brunei can reap the benefits in these areas.

On education, the Brunei ruler said recently, "we have allocated nearly three hundred million Brunei dollars to education, which provides free education as well as scholarships for overseas study".

He added that perhaps Brunei Darussalam's most significant development in education would be the opening of the new campus of the University of Brunei Darussalam in 1992.

This will indeed be quite an achievement. University Brunei Darussalam - the Sultanate's first and presently only university, opened its doors to students for the first time in November 1986 and barely two months ago, turned out its first batch of graduates with flying colours.

The university was created to give Bruneians the opportunity to obtain high academic qualifications at home with the hope to meet some of the country's manpower needs while at the same time raise the level of education available within the country itself.

His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah, ruling with wisdom, calculation

and consultation, had envisaged that as the country matures further having left behind the initial euphoria and excitement of independence, it would need to stand firmly on its own feet and to do this, skilled and highly qualified manpower is needed.

Having recognised the enormous importance of human resources development, technical and vocational education has also received His Majesty's careful attention.

While improvements and upgrading of education standards are ever-taking place in Brunei Darussalam itself, large number of Bruneian students continue to be sent overseas.

At present there some 2,000 Brunei students studying at various institutions abroad and the large majority of them are sponsored by His Majesty's government through scholarships or other awards.

In the words of Brunei Darussalam's Education Minister recently, "Brunei is one of the countries in this region which has attained a high standard of education".

His Majesty gives close attention to students studying overseas as well government officials undergoing further training at overseas institutions. On visits abroad, he often looks up these students and officials for informal meetings and to find out the progress they are making.

His Majesty's government has worked year after year to strengthen the communications network within the country. As a result, efforts in this have led to

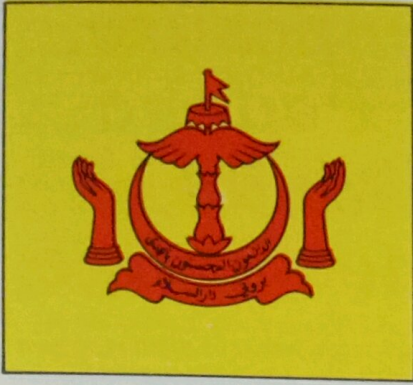
My main aim is to ensure that Brunei Darussalam remains a sovereign, independent, Malay Islamic Monarchy.

the unification of all Bruneians through technology - such as telecommunications, postal services, the press, radio and television.

New roads are being built and old ones being up-graded, and comes the forthcoming sixth National Development Plan, Brunei Darussalam can boast of a dual carriageway highway, with two lanes in each direction, linking both ends of the country.

Excellent air links with the outside world are provided by Brunei Darussalam's own national carrier - Royal Brunei. Though small, the airline's fleet of some of the most up-to-date aircraft are winging their way to new destinations year after year, and in addition, a number of other airlines operate frequent services to Bandar Seri Begawan.

Conscious that his subjects should live in high-standard housing with proper amenities and facilities, His Majesty set out to committing his government into providing housing for all his people, and allocated land for the landless citizens.



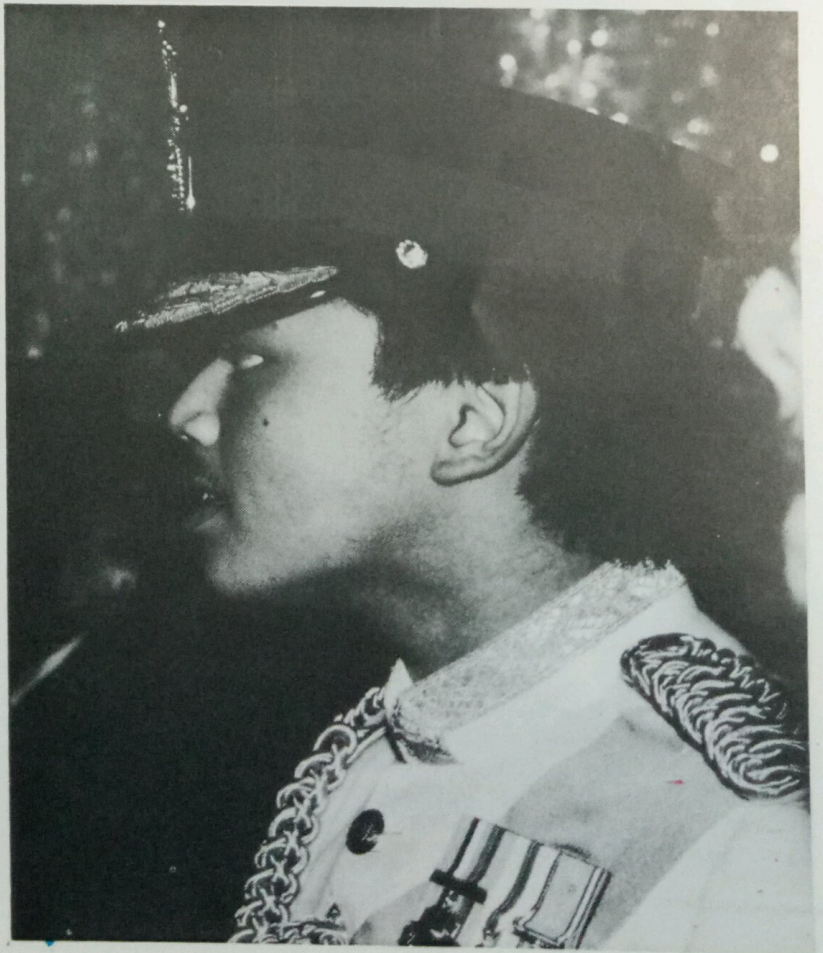
بروني دارالسلام

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

newsletter



*A special issue
in commemoration
of the
'Berkhatan Ceremony'
on 2 August, 1989
of Yang Teramat Mulia
Paduka Seri Duli
Pengiran Muda
Al-Muhtadee Billah
Ibni Kebawah Duli
Yang Maha Mulia
Paduka Seri Baginda
Sultan dan Yang
Di-Pertuan Haji Hassanal
Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin
Waddaulah.*



Regal in stature and composure, Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Duli Pengiran Muda Al-Muhtadee Billah comes of age.

AT the age of fifteen and a half, he has all the Acharisma and aura that live up to his position; that of being the oldest son of a reigning monarch.

Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Duli Pengiran Muda Al-Muhtadee Billah, the eldest son of His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the twenty-ninth Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Her Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha, is in the centre of attention nationally and internationally on these early August

The occasion, apart from being of national importance, will also provide the populace especially the young generations, a rare insight into the intrinsic finery and complexity of these customs, traditions and values.

His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Duli Pengiran Muda Al-Muhtadee Billah was born at mid-morning on Sunday 17 February, 1974, which corresponds with 24 Muharam 1394 in the Muslim calendar, at Istana Darul Hana - the then residence of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan and Her Majesty the Ra-



Like any other youngster, expression of happiness covers the face of the young prince as he greets his father, His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan on His Majesty's return after performing the Haj in Mecca in 1987.

days on the occasion of his 'Berkhatan Ceremony' (Coming-of-age in commemoration of his circumcision ceremony).

Citizens and people of Brunei Darussalam join the royal family in rejoicing and celebration of this once-in-a-lifetime occasion.

The occasion, an auspicious one indeed, will involve numerous ceremonies which will display all the pageantry of a royal court highlighting the richness of religious traditions, customs and culture and all the other aspects of Bruneian values and characteristics which have been respectfully observed and firmly held since the early days of Brunei royalty.

ja Isteri and other members of the royal family.

As with the royal family, citizens and people of Brunei Darussalam rejoiced and celebrated his birth.

Thanks giving prayers and zikir ceremonies were held throughout the country to mark the royal birth and the 'Gendang Berjaga-jaga' ceremony went on for a fortnight in accordance with royal traditions. Salvos of cannon fires rang out twenty-one times.

18 February, 1974, the day after the birth of the prince, was also declared a public holiday in the Sultanate.

His Royal Highness received all the love and attention from his father and mother, their Majesties

Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah and the Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha and his grandfather, Almarhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien and grandmother, Almarhumah Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Damit.

Barely three years old in 1977, the young prince began his education through private tuition at the Royal Putera-Puteri School at Istana Darul Hana, not far from Istana Nurul Iman, the residence of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan and his family and other members of the royal family today.

At the school, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Duli Pengiran Muda Al-Muhtadee Billah together with his two elder sisters Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Rashidah Saadatul Bolkiah and Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Muta-Wakkilah Hayatul Bolkiah and the other royal children were given the guidance and grooming based on Brunei traditional values and customs in accordance with the teachings of Islam.

His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Duli Pengiran Muda Al-Muhtadee Billah is loving and caring towards all his sisters and brothers.

Even at an early age, His royal Highness had

shown the responsibility, discipline and courtesy expected of a prince.

Having received two years private tuition at Istana Darul Hana, it was time for the real academic education to begin and on 8 January, 1979, His Royal Highness enrolled at the Saint Andrew's School in Bandar Seri Begawan.

In 1985 while still at the Saint Andrew's School, the young prince sat his Primary Certificate of Education (PCE) examination, passing it with excellent grades.

His Royal Highness moved on to the Paduka Seri Begawan Sultan Science College in Jalan Muara to begin his secondary education.

Today, he is still at the college where is an upper form four student.

Shortly before he left Saint Andrew's School, teachers there described His Royal Highness, then aged 11 years as a 'thoroughly delightful pupil and never a problem with discipline'.

He was a very obedient student, mixing well with the other children, they said.

And just recently, "He is a bright student indeed", said the principal of the Paduka Seri Begawan Sultan Science College, Pengiran Hajjah Hairani binti Pengiran Muda Haji Kahar.

He is the third of royal children to enrol at the college, and for the college graced by their presence, it is indeed an honour.

Last year in 1988, His Royal Highness obtained excellent grades in his Brunei Junior Certificate of Education (BJCE) examination. Come this time next year, he will sit his General Certificate of Education examination at Ordinary level in no less than seven subjects.

Left: HRH Paduka Seri Duli Pengiran Muda Al-Muhtadee Billah says a few words during a souvenir and certificate presentation ceremony at the Saint Andrew's School in Bandar Seri Begawan, where he was a student for some years. Below: HRH takes a close look at the baggage X-ray scanner during a tour of the Brunei International airport in Berakas in 1987.



"On the basis of his past performance and consistency, he should pass his 'O' level examination equally well", said the college principal.

She went on, "He is industrious and active in his studies and is always giving his utmost in his striving to obtain good results in both his claswork and homework".

Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Duli Pengiran Muda Al-Muhtadee Billah is not only diligent with his academic studies, but he also devotes just as much attention and time to his religious education and other Islamic religious matters.

One of the subjects he passed meritably in his BJCE examination was Islamic study.



He has completed the reading of the Koran and Surah-Surah Lazim in April last year and has studied other aspects of Islamic teachings - through tutors especially assigned to teach His Royal Highness.

In other aspects of religion, His Royal Highness as with his father and other members of the royal family, never misses joining Muslims throughtout the contry in participating in the annual mass rally and procession around the capital marking the birthday anniversary of Prophet Muhammed S.A.W. as well as exchanging greetings with other Muslims during Islamic religious occasions such as Hari Raya Aidilfitri and Hari Raya Aidiladha.

To date, a mosque on Kampong Ayer and a very important educational institution have been named after His Royal Highness.

Formerly known as the Sixth Form Centre in Gadong which groomed or prepared students for further education including places at universities, the institution was changed to the Duli Pengiran Muda Al-Muhtadee Billah College in late 1986; and the mosque in Kampong Sungai Kebun on Kampong Ayer was named after the prince on its completion in 1987.

To date, the young prince has also been conferred the Sultanante's highest honours, 'Bintang Kebesaran Negara Darjah Kerabat Mahkota Brunei - the D.K.M.B. (Family Order of the Crown of Brunei).

Academic and religious education aside, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Duli Pengiran Muda Al-



Clockwise: HRH Paduka Seri Duli Pengiran Muda Al-Muhtadee Billah tours the RBAF complex in 1981 and on the same occasion, gets the feel of the cockpit of a helicopter; HRH inspects a scouts honour guard at the Gadong Scouts Headquarters during an international scouts jamboree in 1986; and with his classmates at a certificate presentation in 1985.

Muhtadee Billah is also active in sports and excels in some of them.

And he never misses out from other extra-curricular activities such as going on educational visits, projects in his subject matters and participating in stage presentations orgnaised by the college such as dramas.

The young prince has taken part in at least two drama productions staged by the college, the first en-

titled 'Cinderella; and the other 'The first patient', which portrayed various aspects of the medical profession.

A member of the Paduka Seri Begawan Sultan College's football club, His Royal Highness seldom misses attending a game involving the Brunei Darussalam national team in the Malaysia Cup series or other tournaments in which the national team participates.

His Royal Highness is also a keen badminton and dart player.

But without doubt, the one game in which Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Duli Pengiran Muda Al-Muhtadee Billah excels and is best known for is the game of snooker.

He has taken part in national and inter-territorial snooker championships and the number of trophies he has won are testimonies of his skill in the game.

Though basically shy in his nature, His Royal Highness is sociable and has many friends in college.

As the college principal termed it recently, "He can mix with anyone, only that the time he has in college each day is limited".

As his father is caring about the welfare of his subjects, so is the young prince with his fellow students.

"He cares about his fellow students and would often enquire about their welfare and about the progress they are making in their studies", said the principal.

Well aware that classroom teaching can be further aided by educational visits for the development of education, His Royal Highness always takes part in such visits to various institutions and places of interest in Brunei Darussalam.

His college principal said the prince is often among the first students to register to join college visits.

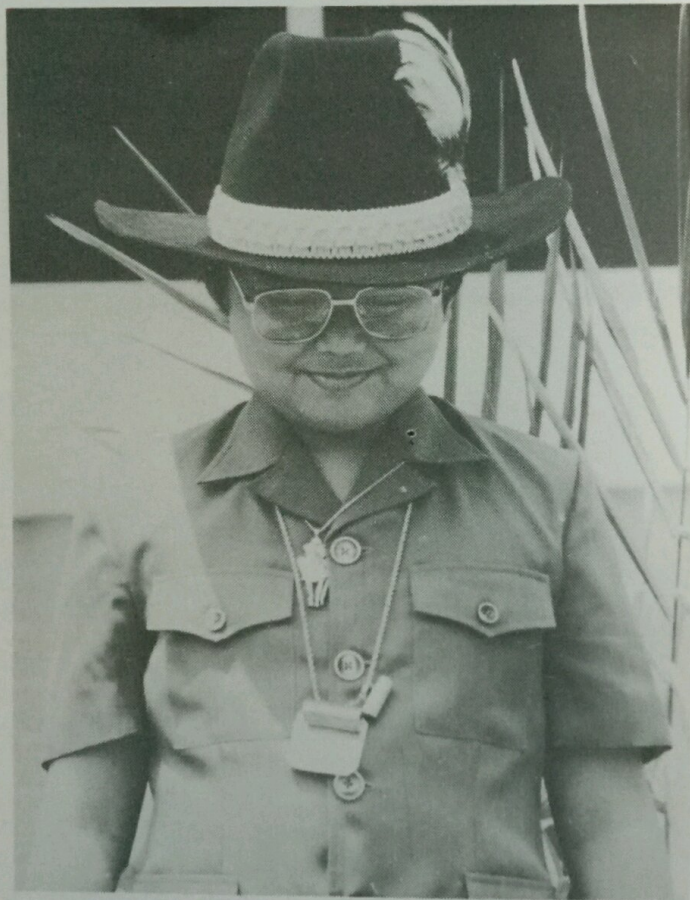
Having special likings for science subjects, in particular Biology, His Royal Highness also never misses out on contributing his share to any science project set up by the college or his class.

His Royal Highness is an observer of the phrase 'Time is precious', or said in its Malay form 'Masa itu Emas'.

It is due to his being conscious of the preciousness of time that the prince has adopted his strict codes of self-discipline.



Top pictures: His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Duli Pengiran Muda Al-Muhtadee Billah receives leaders of participants of the Ship for Southeast Asian Youths programme in 1987. Second from top, HRH is introduced to a group of heavyweight wrestlers from Los Angeles, USA, who were in Brunei Darussalam in 1988 to stage fights to raise funds for charity. Above: HRH meets the captains of teams taking part in the 1986 Asian Schools Soccer championship which Brunei Darussalam hosted. Left: HRH being greeted on arrival to officiate at the opening of the Asian Schools Soccer Championship.



He always makes a point of arriving at college well in advance of commencement of classes and joins in the daily raising of the flag and the Doa Selamat recitals, ceremonies which bring to the start each school-day.

The college principal says, "No matter how much homework is given, the prince will finish it on time whatever happens".

She added, "He never complains about the amount of work given nor has he ever come to me asking for special treatment."

"He does these through his own strict code of disciplines" she went on.

The prince conducts himself ordinarily as any of his fellow students and never shows his princely background.



Clockwise: HRH Paduka Seri Duli Pengiran Muda Al-Muhtadee Billah officially launches the fifteenth Asian Schools Soccer championships at the Hassanal Bolkiah National Stadium in 1986; HRH officially opens a Brunei Shell refinery plant at Seria in 1984; and HRH during a visit to the Sinaut Agricultural Training Centre in 1983.

"He is very likeable and the teachers here have never complained about him," the college principal elaborated.

His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Duli Pengiran Muda Al-Muhtadee Billah always accepts invitations for him to be guest of honour or to officiate at any function or ceremony, be it sports, religious, educational or entertainment such as giving away prizes at Radio Television Brunei's numerous annual singing contests or opening various sports events that take place frequently in the Sultanate.

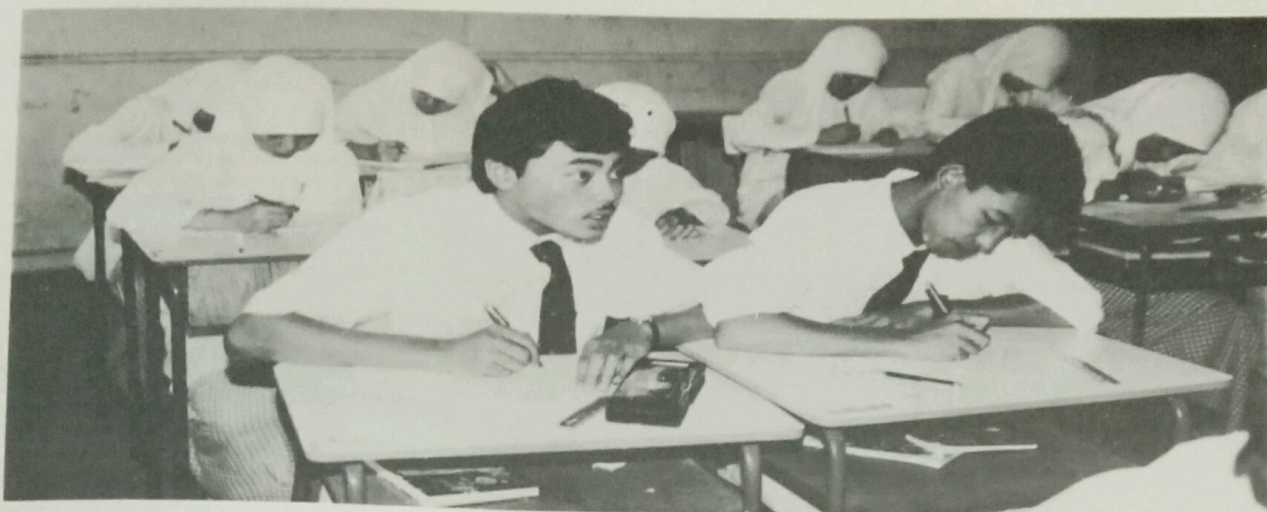
Along with the other royal children, he has also visited various institutions such as the various branches of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces and the Royal Brunei Police, the Sinaut Agricultural Training Centre and the Birau Agricultural Station, Radio Television Brunei, the Brunei international airport complex in Berakas and many more.

In each of these visits, the prince shows himself eager to learn about the set-up and functions of each institution and about the natures of the works of the officers and employees in these institutions.

This curious nature in itself will surely help His Royal Highness to develop his knowledge and to mature his thoughts.

A teenager but fast growing into a man, His Royal Highness is exposed more and more each year to the nation in official functions and ceremonies.

In recent years, he has joined his parents and other members of the royal family at such formal functions as the audience and investiture ceremonies marking the birthday anniversaries of his father, His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah



Above: His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Duli Pengiran Muda Al-Muhtadee Billah devotes full attention during a classroom session at the Paduka Seri Begawan Sultan Science College in July this year, and on right, HRH shows he is just as sharp with the snooker cue as he is with his academic studies.

Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, state banquets in honour of visiting dignitaries such as a foreign head of state and other official functions of similar importance.

These exposures at both official and not so official functions without doubt will help to widen the scope of knowledge and experience of the young prince, who is already being held in the highest regards by citizens and people of Brunei for his gentleness, courtesy and politeness.

One of the very first functions attended by His Royal Highness was to officiate at the opening of Brunei Shell's oil refinery plant at Seria in 1984.

The young prince carried himself with all the princely composure and charisma expected of him.

Like any other student, His Royal Highness also spends a lot of time after class in the college library to do his revision and research for his subjects.

This is indeed testimony that though a prince, his conduct and doings are ordinary, no different from those of his fellow students.

Lively but calm, His Royal Highness faces every challenge with discipline.

His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Duli Pengiran Muda Al-Muhtadee Billah comes age this month into the world of manhood marked by his circumcision ceremony.

But even long before this, he has carried and conducted himself like a man, more so, regally befitting his position as the eldest son of the now-reigning His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Her Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha.

May Allah the Almighty bless His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Duli Pengiran Muda Al-Muhtadee Billah on this auspicious occasion of his coming of age in commemoration of his circumcision ceremony.



Special issue



Along with the quality housing are purified water supplies, uninterrupted electricity and among some of the most up-to-date sewage systems.

Today about ninety percent of the population enjoy treated water from no less than four purifying and processing plants serving each of the Sultanate's four districts. An equally high percentage also receive electricity into their homes.

Numerous sites have already been identified for private housing as well as for quarters for government officers and employees.

The private housing, constructed by the government under the executive arm of the Public Works Department, are made available to citizens through low-interest loans to be repaid over a period of years.

Already some residents have moved into new homes under this scheme.

Being one of the world's oldest nations, Brunei Darussalam is rich in cultures and traditions. And His Majesty has ensured they are preserved so that future generations can also enjoy them.

Numerous museums and cultural centres testify to the Sultanate's pride in its traditions.

His Majesty's government is conscious that culture is not only remembered from the past, but also live in the present. It is with this in mind that the government in 1975 set up the Brunei Arts and Handicrafts Training Centre, inside of which work hundreds of artisans and their creations are displayed.

One of the centre's prime goals is encourage more Bruneians, especially youths, to become artisans, and it provides the necessary training for them. This is one way to guarantee that Brunei's rich cultural past in all types of craftsmanship such as cloth weaving, silver and gold smithing and bronze tooling will continue to live on.

"Healthy mind, healthy body" is synonymous with sports in Brunei Darussalam.

Besides being keen on modern sports such as football and badminton, Bruneians also indulge in traditional games like sepak takraw and the appearance of martial arts of silat and kuntau at regional sporting meets has given a positively encouraging boost to



HM the Sultan excels in sports, among them Polo.

The less fortunate members of society such as the handicapped, disabled and old people should be given care and attention at all times, not just periodically.

the revival of such traditional arts.

The population already enjoy sporting facilities at the Hassanal Bolkiah National Stadium and numerous other smaller stadiums. With plenty of sporting recreations and the right guidance Islamically and educationally, it is hoped that youths of today would keep at bay undesirable elements such as drug abuse and other unwanted social scourges.

This firmly in mind, the government of His Majesty has set itself the task of constructing more and more sporting facilities such as one in Temburong district, but more prominent perhaps is the new National Sports Complex adjacent to the Hassanal Bolkiah National Stadium.

Constructed in three phases, this will indeed be a truly multipurpose sporting hall when completed for it will have

facilities for every sports and games imaginable.

Medical and Health is another area which does not escape the attention of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah. He says "As far as health is concerned, we are proud of our services, which compare favourably with those of developed countries".

Besides having an almost all facility hospital in the capital with more than 550 beds, Brunei Darussalam also has district hospitals in each of the other three districts -Belait, Tutong and Temburong.

His Majesty also saw to it that outlying areas are served by an efficient flying doctor service, and primary health care clinics found in villages ensure that residents at large live up to the slogan 'prevention is better than cure'.

There is an intensive campaign designed to bring about awareness on the deadly disease, AIDS, among the general public and on the dangers of drug misuse.

"We have intensive programmes for health care training and immunisation, and we are making constant improvements to our water supply and sanitation".

In the years since the introduction of various programmes, Brunei Darussalam has successfully wiped out a number of killer child diseases, reduced infant mortality rate, and is now working to meet the World Health Organisation's goal of 'Health for all by the year 2,000.

Through concerted efforts, it has achieved much of this goal already.

Allocating millions of dollars each year, the government gives free health service to citizens.

His Majesty regularly emphasises the importance of security to be maintained and a large part of the fifth National Development Plan has been allocated for defence aspects.

"Now that Brunei Darussalam has resumed full independence it cannot rely on others to protect it", His Majesty has said.

"Our Five Year Plan allocates ten per cent of the country's resources to security and defence. We have two battalions of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) and a Gurkha unit. This

is in addition to a battalion of British Gurkhas, which is here for training purposes".

Though small as the case may be, the RBAF does not lack in punch.

Soon it will have added to its strength some fixed wing aircraft to improve the country's defence capability.

His Majesty disclosed "Brunei Darussalam is considering joining the Five Power Defence Pact and we have decided to buy some fixed wing aircraft".

In a previous birthday address, His Majesty announced the formation of a reserve unit made up of ex-soldiers and retired army officers aimed at beefing up the Sultanate's defence capability even further.

Now that Brunei Darussalam has resumed full independence, it cannot rely on others to protect it.

Said the Brunei monarch, "Of course we have close links with the Defence Chiefs of ASEAN nations as well as with friendly countries in the Pacific region and with Britain".

The introduction of women into the army demonstrates that His Majesty leaves no room for complacency when it comes to defence and security.

All these are to live up to his aspiration that his subjects should live in full security and peace, which in turn would create an atmosphere in which further development and progress can take place with the hope of bringing about maximum productivity in all aspects of nation building.

But perhaps the greatest emphasis during the past year has been given to the economic field.

Brunei Darussalam's continued well-being over the years has relied almost exclusively on its oil



With Brunei Darussalam's own military strength to be boosted with fixed-wing aircraft, HM the Sultan gets the feel of a jet fighter during the recent 'Setiakawan' military exercises which also involved some major units of the armed forces of other countries.



His Majesty pictured with Brunei Darussalam's first ambassadors and high commissioners to be posted overseas. From left are Pengiran Dato Paduka Haji Jeludin, Dato Haji Awang Kassim, Pengiran Dato Paduka Paduka Haji Awang Abdul Hamid.

and gas earnings. But under the fifth National Development, the Sultanate has made every effort to diversify the economy so as to reduce this dependence on oil and gas.

One of its major priorities is to achieve self-sufficiency in food production to reduce import bills through the creation of various industries.

And to make this work, His Majesty as from the beginning of this year, has assigned the task to the newly-created Industry and Primary Resources Industry.



His Majesty has untiringly made efforts to promote Brunei Darussalam's international relations. In the picture, the Brunei ruler is seen with Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the British Prime Minister, at a session of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in Vancouver, Canada.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan's presence graced the 3rd Summit of ASEAN Heads of Government in Manila. From left are Singapore's Prime Minister, Mr. Lee Kuan Yew, HRH Prince Muda Haji Mohamed Bolkiah. Sixth from left is the Philippine Foreign Minister, Mr. Raul Manglapus and on his left is Philippine President, Mrs. Corazon Aquino. The summit brought all the heads of state of ASEAN member nations.

By mandate, the new ministry is delegated to look into development in Agriculture, fisheries, forestry and a host of other light industries.

In this economic diversification effort, His Majesty's government is not just looking at self-sufficiency alone, but develop export-oriented industries.

"The economic future of Brunei Darussalam depends considerably on the country's oil and gas reserves for the benefit of the future generations. At the same time, of course, we have to diversify the economy", His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah said.

He added, "We intend to encourage the creation of new industries and the private sector. We want to move our agricultural industry in the direction of self-sufficiency".

His Majesty's government has introduced various scheme, including financial assistance in the

form of low interest loans, to encourage citizens to engage in industries and other forms of business concerns such as farming.

On the diplomatic Front, Brunei Darussalam enjoys diplomatic

"We generally believe in the preservation of world peace through collective security which the United Nations represents", HM the Sultan said in his efforts to foment peaceful international co-existence.

relations with no less than 43 countries after barely five years of making its first appearance in the international community.

His Majesty steered Brunei Darussalam into full independence on January 1, 1984 and soon after, the new nation made its first major political move by joining the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Not long after, Brunei Darussalam became the one hundred and fifty ninth member of the United Nations.

All these had come about through untiring efforts to foment peaceful co-existence through a leadership of far sightedness on the part of His Majesty.

When circumstances demand, His Majesty's government is never aloof in voicing its support for Muslims subjected to various acts of aggression and cruelty such as is happening now to the Palestinian and Afghan people.

Nor would it hesitate to condemn the policy of apartheid and discrimination in South Africa.

As with the rest of the world community, Brunei Darussalam also makes its voice heard in world forums in calling for a political, comprehensive and durable settlement in Kampuchea and in other areas of political conflicts.

"In international politics, it has always been our policy to move together with our friends and allies towards the achievement of peace, economic progress and friendship among nations on the basis of equality, mutual respect, sovereignty and territorial integrity and on the basis of non-interference in the affairs of other countries", he told the United Nations General Assembly on Brunei Darussalam's admission into the world organisation.



His Majesty's government has often voiced its support for the just struggle of the Palestinian people. Since the Sultanate's resumption of full independence, His Majesty has met with the Palestine Liberation Organisation's leader, Mr. Yasser Arafat on several occasions.



His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Her Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha are accorded a rousing, red-carpet welcome as they tour through Thailand during a State visit to Brunei Darussalam's most northerly neighbour in ASEAN.

"Among the nations of Southeast Asia, we share our fellow members' common ideals to make our region an area of peace and prosperity".

His Majesty and his government are working hard to achieve such ideals and in doing so, it is

the benefits for the people of Brunei Darussalam that becomes the first consideration in their hearts, not just for today but for future years.

All throughout his previous twenty-two year reign, His Majesty's actions and political decrees,

his economic, cultural and social decisions, are characterized by justice, respect and love for his people.

His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, is truly the light of the crown.



The age-old close bonds with Sarawak were reaffirmed when His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan went on a four-day state visit to the East Malaysian State this year. Accompanying His Majesty was Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajjah Mariam.



Some of the guests at the birthday parade included Sarawak's Chief Minister (second from left front row) and his wife and the President of the Malay Assembly (fifth from left) and his wife. In the centre are Brunei's Religious Affairs Minister and his wife.

Members of the royal regalias stand to attention during the parade.

Children were not exempted from joining in the thanks-giving prayers with His Majesty's birthday.



Above: The royal motorcade enters the Taman Haji Sir Muda Omar Ali Saifuddien in Bandar Seri Begawan for the birthday parade.



Left: Decorative banners drape down along the city centre to make up one of the multitudes of decorations which adorn the length of the streets during His Majesty's birthday celebrations.

Below: Those who cannot watch the parade from inside the taman, do so in their thousands from outside.



dress to international relations, economic development and diversification, academic and religious education, health, communications and defence and security aspects.

In international relations, we believe always to move forward in accordance with our capability and interests, His Majesty the Sultan began.

"The Sultanate's success in hosting the recent ASEAN Ministerial Meeting and Post-Ministerial Conferences demonstrated that we are capable of shouldering our responsibility as a member of the international community."

His Majesty pointed out that his visit to Thailand last year and to Sarawak early this year were designed to stress the importance placed towards the Sultanate's neighbours.

Brunei Darussalam, His Majesty said, has succeeded in allocating and controlling closely its expenditures to avoid wastages, but at the same time obtain maximum benefit amid decreasing income in the wake of falling prices of oil.

"The government is now working out a realistic spending system which takes into priority the income of the government before each ministry or department presents its budget," His Majesty said.

In this way, each ministry or department must take into account the cost effectiveness of each project which should be planned according to priority.

The monarch also pointed out that contract works should be carefully selected in that if they should need to be carried out by foreign firms, such firms must have good track records as well as offices in the Sultanate.

They should also provide employment to locals.

As a move towards diversifying the economy, the Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources was created, His Majesty the Sultan stressed.

In this respect, the people and the government must have similar aspiration — to be united in giving full commitment to achieve economic diversification.

Through the ministry, four areas of industrial activities have been identified.

"I wish to stress that efforts to achieve the goals of industrial

diversification need the co-ordination and co-operation of all ministries," His Majesty said.

The University of Brunei Darussalam this year produced its first graduates, as has the Nursing College.

"It is hoped that graduates from local institutes of further studies can fulfill a part of the manpower needs," His Majesty said.

The unified belief of religion among the people has kept us from disturbances or prevented misunderstanding over religious matters, His Majesty told the audience.

"Let us not allow attempts to bring to the fore other religious beliefs affect the unity of our own religious belief," His Majesty urged.

His Majesty announced the establishment of the Institute of Islamic Studies as a first step towards raising the standard of Islamic religious education in the Sultanate.

"It is hoped that this institute would be capable of becoming one of the fortresses for living religiously in unity forever," the ruler said.

Programmes of rehabilitation, assistance and guidance are also being extended and continued to the less fortunate members of the community, such as the handicapped, disabled and old people.

"I am pleased at the initiatives taken by various welfare associations and private organisations for supporting these programmes."

Various campaigns are being carried out to ensure that people live in health always, His Majesty the Sultan said.

Efforts in health services have been stepped up through primary health care campaigns in order to achieve the goals of "health for all by the year 2,000."

In communications, the ruler said, the government has signed new air services agreements with a number of countries to enable Royal Brunei expand its services.

"Efforts are also being made to improve other services in communications," His Majesty the Sultan assured.

On defence and security, His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam disclosed that various programmes are being carried out to modernise the Royal Brunei Armed Forces and to in-

crease the efficiency and expertise of army personnel.

His Majesty again urged civil servants to give their services efficiently, promptly and sincerely to the public so that the 'caring image of the government towards the people' is always upheld.

"Civil servants must be 'approachable' with members of the public with problems and complaints," he said.

He urged the public to continue to give their full co-operation in the maintenance of peace, and this includes through abiding by the law and regulations of the country.

Concluding his titah, His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan conveyed his thanks to civil servants for their services during the past year. His Majesty's appreciation also went to members of the security forces and people of Brunei Darussalam for their unity in preserving the peace and tranquility.

The Taman Haji Sir Muda Omar Ali Saifuddin in Bandar Seri Begawan echoed to the salvos of 21 gunfires and three cheers of 'Daulat Kebawah Duli Tuan Patik' on July 15 in salute to His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam on the ruler's forty third birthday.

The cheers and gunfires were accompanied by a fly-past staged by nine helicopters of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) trailing multi-coloured smokes as thousands watched below.

The scenes were part of a 40 minute parade at the taman, which marked the official start of celebrations in conjunction with the royal birthday.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan earlier took the salute as large contingents from the RBAF and the Royal Brunei Police staged march pasts in slow steps and quick steps in front of the royal dais to the accompaniment of military numbers by the RBAF band.

Apart from the RBAF and police, contingents from various uniformed government departments and numerous other uniformed organisations such as the scouts, girl guides and red crescent also took part in the parade, which His Majesty inspected.

With His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan on the royal dais were his three brothers, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Haji Mohamed Bolkiah, the Foreign Affairs Minister, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Bendahara Seri Maharaja Permaisua Pengiran Muda Haji Sufri Bolkiah and His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Digadong Sahibul Mal Pengiran Muda Haji Jefri Bolkiah, the Finance Minister. They were joined on the royal dais by Sarawak's Yang Dipertua Negeri, His Excellency Tun Datuk Patinggi Haji Ahmad Zaidi Adruce.

Thousands watched the proceedings from outside the taman, and among the large number of guests watching from the taman's grand stands were Singapore's First Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister, His Excellency Mr. Goh Chok Tong, Sarawak's Chief Minister, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Haji Abdul Taib Mahmud, the President of the Malaysian Parliament, Dato Abang Haji Ahmad Urai, The Malaysian Defence Minister, Tengku Ahmad Rithaudeen Al-Haj, Indonesia's Defence Minister, Dato Paduka Seri Benny Moerdani and the Sarawak State Secretary, Dato Amar Haji Bujang Mohammad Noor and their wives.

Others watching from the grand stands comprised cabinet ministers, foreign diplomats based in Brunei Darussalam and senior government officials.

The parade was followed by an investiture and audience ceremony at the throne room of Istana Nurul Iman, and in the evening a state banquet, also at the palace.

At both functions, His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan was joined by Her Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha and Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajjah Mariam.

Other members of the Brunei royal family were also present.

A full programme of celebration events has been taking place daily since July 15, among them nightly religious presentations at both Istana Nurul Iman and Istana Nurul Izzah and also at the old hospital's site in the capital,

where there have also been various stage shows as well as cultural performances.

A host of sporting activities have featured prominently in the celebrations, as have domestic science exhibitions, healthy baby competitions and decorated lanterns and floats processions competition.

Celebrations in the Temburong, Tutong and Belait districts began shortly after the main parade in Bandar Seri Begawan.

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Pengiran Dato Seri Laila Jasa Dr. Haji Ismail.

Other state honours included the Darjah Seri Ugama Islam Negara Brunei Yang Amat Bersinar Darjah Kedua (D.S.S.U.B. Second Class) carrying the title Dato Seri Setia and the Darjah Seri Paduka Mahkota Brunei Yang Amat Mulia Darjah Kedua (D.P.M.B. Second Class) with the title Dato Paduka.

At a state banquet hosted by His Majesty the Sultan, several other state honours were bestowed, which comprised the Darjah Setia Negara Brunei Yang Amat Bahagia Darjah Ketiga (S.N.B. Third Class); Darjah Paduka Seri Laila Jasa Yang Amat Berjasa Darjah Ketiga (S.L.J. Third Class); Darjah Seri Paduka Mahkota Brunei Yang Amat Mulia Darjah Ketiga (S.M.B. Third Class); Darjah Seri Ugama Islam Negeri Brunei Yang Amat Bersinar Darjah Keempat (S.U.B. Fourth Class) and Darjah Setia Negara Brunei Yang Amat Bahagia Darjah keempat (P.S.B. Fourth Class).

Also honoured by His Majesty the Sultan were members from the government uniformed bodies including several members of the armed forces and the police force.

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foreign ministers noted with concern the continued asymmetrical interdependence between the developing and developed economies as well as the adverse effects of macro economic policies of some developed countries on developing countries.

On ASEAN cooperation, the foreign minister expressed satisfaction at the various programmes and activities undertaken to promote intra-ASEAN cooperation over the past year.

These had included the signing of various memorandums of understanding on intra-ASEAN trade and strengthening of ASEAN cooperation in the areas of press, television, radio, film and video with the aim of promoting greater awareness of ASEAN among its people.

The ministers were satisfied at the continued cooperation and collaboration among the drug agencies in ASEAN in their joint efforts to control and prevent "the scourge of drug menace in the region".

They called for closer and continued cooperation among non-governmental organisations in preventive education, treatment and rehabilitation of drug addicts.

They welcomed the signing of the United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances and commended international efforts to combat the drug problem.

The foreign ministers stressed on the relations of drug abuse to the Acquired Immunity Deficiency Syndrome, or AIDS to further strengthen their call for special attention and combined efforts to overcome the drug problem.

"AIDS," they all agreed, "constituted a grave threat to the well-being of the World Community."

Brunei Malay in a minute

Each month we introduce readers to common Brunei Malay words as used in the State. This month the word selected is **rangka**.

Rangka means eating greedily. This refers particularly to

children. In standard Malay it means **lahap**.

Now let us use the word **rangka** in a sentence: *Dia memarahi anak-anaknya kerana rangka. She scolded her children for eating greedily.*





His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan granted audiences to ASEAN ministers (above) and to the foreign ministers of ASEAN dialogue partners comprising Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, the American Secretary of State and the Commissioner of the Commission of the European Community, (top picture on facing page) all of whom were in Bandar Seri Begawan to attend the 22nd AMM-PMC in early July.

Wives of ASEAN foreign ministers (left) and wives of foreign ministers of ASEAN's dialogue countries (bottom left) accompanying their husbands at their meetings in Brunei Darussalam had audiences with Her Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha at Istana Nurul Iman, and on facing page with Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajjah Mariam at Istana Nurul Izzah.

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ASEAN seeks increased trade

Brunei Darussalam's Foreign Affairs Minister, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Baginda Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Haji Mohamed Bolkiah has stated that ASEAN sought to further enhance the grouping's trading relations with businessmen from Canada.

Addressing the opening session of a dialogue between ASEAN and Canada, which was coordinated by Brunei Darussalam, Prince Haji Mohamed Bolkiah said the active participation of the ASEAN-Canada business council is welcomed.

The Canadian Secretary of State for External Affairs Mr. Joe



Clark in his statement called for continued efforts to fully exploit the industrial and economic relationship that existed between ASEAN and Canada. He described the bilateral trade between ASEAN countries and Canada was on the increase with a growth of 33 percent last year, reaching up to US\$2.6 billion.

Among other things Mr. Clark touched on, was the setting up in Singapore of the Canada-ASEAN Centre, which will foster understanding and improve the existing activities of these countries. He later disclosed that the centre's future work on education and training, would bring together ASEAN and Canadian professionals as well as young people.

ASEAN's dialogue partners namely the United States, Canada, New Zealand, Australia, Japan and the European Community (EC) met the six ASEAN foreign ministers in Bandar Seri Begawan last month for three days of talks during the ASEAN Post Ministerial Conferences held for the first time in the Sultanate.

Meanwhile, at the opening session of the ASEAN-New Zealand dialogue, the Indonesian Foreign Minister, Mr. Ali Alatas, who spoke on behalf of the ASEAN nations called for enhanced cooperation in the social and cultural fields which, he said would complement economic development.

The New Zealand Foreign Affairs Minister, Mr. Russell Marshall in his statement said they looked forward to establish a useful programme of academic and cultural exchange, and in

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Brunei Darussalam's Foreign Minister, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Haji Mohamed Bolkiah exchange greeting with the United States Secretary of state, Mr. James Baker during a dinner in conjunction with the recent AMM-PMC in Brunei Darussalam.

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forestry and agricultural areas. The minister also pointed out that the expansion of trade between ASEAN and New Zealand was a priority.

The Philippine Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Raul Manglapus, who was coordinating the ASEAN-Japan dialogue has stated that ASEAN member countries continued to look to Japan for fresh capital in the form of loans and direct investments, adding that ASEAN looks forward to the participation of the Japanese private sector at the ASEAN-Japan forum in October, to be held in Manila.

Mr. Mitsuzuka Hiroshi, Japan's Foreign Affairs Minister among other things expressed his government's intention to continue to cooperate with ASEAN countries in facilitating the adjustment of economic structures, strengthening the free trade system, and expanding economic assistance.

Malaysia, which was coordinating the ASEAN-European Community dialogue through its Foreign Affairs Minister, Dato Haji Abu Hassan, told his dialogue partner, of ASEAN's persistent quest for greater market access into the European Community. The minister earlier stressed the key to the grouping's prosperity and security was its ability to expand the export of its commodities and manufactured goods.

The Commissioner of the Commission of the European Community, Mr. Juan Abel Matutes, in his opening statement called for continued open markets bet-

ween ASEAN and the Community as well as its intention to increase economic cooperation in the coming years.

The EC Commissioner also disclosed the setting up in Bandar Seri Begawan of the ASEAN-EC Management Centre, a major new regional project of which human resource development is one of top priorities.

Air Chief Marshall Siddhi Savetsila, the Thai Foreign Affairs Minister, who coordinated a dialogue between ASEAN and the United States, in his opening address touched on the bilateral economic cooperation between ASEAN and the United States, noting the increase in trade between these countries and the growing US investment in the region.

Air Chief Marshall Siddhi said the United States has been the catalyst of growth for ASEAN and is expected to continue that important role in the future.

The United States Secretary of State, Mr. James Baker among other things, announced the launching of a US\$13 million trade and investment programme, which will promote policy reforms to enhance market opportunities for US and ASEAN companies. The programme would encourage trade and investment through trade missions and greater market information.

Touching on the Kampuchean issue, Mr. Baker said he was impressed with the substantial consensus that exists, adding that both ASEAN and the U.S were united on the need for a truly comprehensive settlement.

The minister of Foreign Affairs and Community Development of Singapore, Mr. Wong Kan Seng in his statement at the opening of the ASEAN-Australian dialogue called for ways to be explored to enlarge the bilateral trade between these countries.

Meanwhile, Senator Gareth Evans, the Australian Foreign Affairs and Trade Minister in his speech referred to the changes in Australian protection policy, which he said reflected a change which can only benefit ASEAN member countries, not least by opening up market opportunities especially for labour intensive manufactures.

Relations with ASEAN

The Republic of Korea and Papua New Guinea will make their appearance more apparent in the ASEAN scene in future.

While Papua New Guinea has entered into special relationships with ASEAN under the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia, the Republic of Korea for its part is to be brought into sectoral dialogue relations by ASEAN.

ASEAN foreign ministers received formally Instruments of Accession to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia from Papua New Guinea's foreign minister, His Excellency Mr. Michael Somare.

Receiving the instruments was His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Haji Mohamed Bolkiah, Brunei Darussalam's Foreign Affairs Minister in his capacity as Chairman of the ASEAN Standing Committee of the Twenty-Second ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on 3-4 July, 1989.

Papua New Guinea is the first non-ASEAN country to accede to the treaty, which was signed in Bali in 1976.

The Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia is meant to promote perpetual peace, everlasting amity and cooperation among the peoples of Southeast Asia.

In 1987 at their Manila Summit, ASEAN heads of government amended the treaty to enable states outside Southeast Asia to accede to the treaty by consent of



Brunei Darussalam's Foreign Minister, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Haji Mohamed Bolkiah (right) receives Instruments of Accession to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia from Papua New Guinea's Foreign Minister, His Excellency Mr. Michael Somare.

all states in Southeast Asia which are signatories to the treaty and Brunei Darussalam.

"This accession, therefore, marks an important milestone in ASEAN's relationships with Papua New Guinea", said a press release.

Papua New Guinea has been attending ASEAN's ministerial meeting as an observer since 1976.

On another front, ASEAN is to establish sectorial dialogue relations with the Republic of Korea.

This is also in line with the decision of the Third Summit of the ASEAN heads of government in Manila in December 1987.

ASEAN's foreign ministers, in their twenty-second meeting last month in Bandar Seri Begawan, agreed that the sectorial dialogue relations should initially concen-

trate on trade, investment and tourism, and these would possibly be expanded to include other areas such as development cooperation, transfer of technology and human resources development.

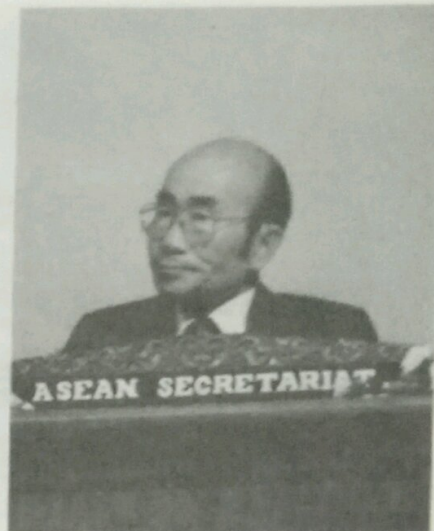
Details relating to the modalities of establishing the sectorial dialogue relations would be discussed between ASEAN Directors-General and Republic of Korea's officials.

ASEAN's Chairmanship changes hands

ASEAN foreign ministers will hold their next meeting in the Indonesian capital, Jakarta, in July next year.

It will be under the auspices of Indonesia, which took over the chairmanship from Brunei Darussalam on completion of the Sultanate's tenure of the Twenty-Second Standing Committee of ASEAN.

Accepting the chairmanship at the end of the Twenty-Second ASEAN Ministerial meeting in Bandar Seri Begawan on 3-4 July, the Indonesian Foreign Minister His Excellency Mr. Ali Alatas said Jakarta will emulate standards set by Brunei Darussalam as chairman of the previous standing committee.



His excellency Mr. Roderick Yong, who has completed his three-year term as Secretary-General of the ASEAN Secretariat.

With the holding of the chairmanship changing hands, Brunei's Roderick Yong has stepped down as Secretary-General of the ASEAN Secretariat at the end of his term of office.

Taking over from him for a three-year term is Mr. Rusli Noor of Indonesia. His appointment took effect on July 16, 1989.

In tribute to Mr. Roderick Yong for his excellent and exemplary service to ASEAN, the foreign ministers said he had made invaluable contributions to the strengthening, effectiveness and efficiency of the ASEAN Secretariat during his tenure.

They expressed their profound appreciation to him. Mr. Rusli Noor, 62, is the third Indonesian to hold the office of ASEAN secretariat.

He has been in the Indonesian diplomatic service for nearly 40 years.

A new budget of the ASEAN Secretariat for financial year 1989/90 was also approved by the foreign ministers.

As he handed over the chairmanship, Brunei Darussalam's Foreign Affairs Minister, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Haji Mohamed Bolkiah said he was confident that Indonesian Foreign Minister, His Excellency Mr. Ali Alatas will provide ASEAN with the dynamic leadership needed for another term of cooperation.

"He can be certain of our unfailing cooperation and support," His Royal Highness said.

Your turn

The next issue of the *Brunei Darussalam* newsletter will appear during the second week of September 1989. If there are events relating to our country you would like featured in this newsletter please call us on Tel : 02-25941 or better still, send us a report with a picture, if possible. Contributions for our next issue should arrive by August 20, 1989. All editorial rights reserved.



The newly-opened \$25 million International Convention Centre stands majestically atop a hill.

Preservation of architectural traditions is a 'must'

Brunei Darussalam's latest Architectural showpiece - the International Convention Centre - opened its doors for the first time last month.

Built at a cost of B\$25 million, the complex stands on a 25-acre site atop a hill facing the Hassanal Bolkiah National Stadium in Berakas.

The most striking features of the two-storey building are its staggered and pitched roof, which reflect the traditional themes of Malay architecture.

The interiors are adorned by painted portraits of His Majesty

Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, and of several other former Brunei Sultans.

There are also various traditional Bruneian arts and handicrafts adorning the centre's numerous halls including silver and brass ornaments - lending a distinct Bruneian flavour.

The centre's main hall can accommodate up to 1,500 delegates, while a smaller hall can seat up to 200 people.

Designed to meet the needs of major conferences and conven-

tions, the centre is equipped with the latest audio-visual equipment, press rooms and a host of communication facilities.

The occasion for the centre's first opening was very apt - for it was none other than the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting and Post-Ministerial Conferences which brought together delegates from as far afield as the United States, Europe and the Pacific region apart from the ASEAN region itself.

The occasion could not have been more fitting for Brunei Darussalam to show to the world the richness of its architectural heritage!

BRUNEI IN BRIEF

Capital City :	Bandar Seri Begawan
Land size :	5765 sq.km
Population :	241,400 (1988)
Official Language :	Malay
Official Religion :	Islam
June 1989 rainfall :	168.40 mm.
(annual 2,818mm)	

PRIME LENDING RATE

August 6.25%. (quoted by Bankers' Association).

