



بروني دارالسلام

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

newsletter

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Leaders pledge to strengthen APEC's economy and counter terrorism



His Excellency President Jiang Zemin of the People's Republic of China – the Chairman of the Ninth APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting reads the leaders' joint statement to the media at the conclusion of their meeting in China's southern city of Shanghai.

Leaders of the 21 member economies of APEC (Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation) forum converged on the People's Republic of China's southern city of Shanghai earlier this month for their ninth annual summit. Meeting against the backdrop of September 11 event in the U.S.A and current economic slow-down, the leaders of the Pacific Rim countries wound up their two-day discussions on 21 October by issuing the APEC Leaders' Declaration which includes the Shanghai Accord, and the APEC Leaders' statement on counter-terrorism.

During the APEC traditional retreat meeting, His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam expressed the view that the event of September eleven has changed the world dramatically in all aspects. APEC is opportuned to address these implications, he said.

His Majesty emphasised that in the light of this, while it gave primary focus on economic cooperation, APEC should not lose sight of other important issues that also have an impact on the region.

According to His Majesty it was becoming more important in view of the changing current world events

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BRUNEI DARUSSALAM NEWSLETTER

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YOUR TURN

The next issue of the Brunei Darussalam newsletter will appear on 15 November 2001. If there are events relating to our country you would like featured in this newsletter please call us on Tel: 02-383400/ext.BDN Division or better still, send us a report with a picture, if possible. All editorial rights reserved.



His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and His Excellency President Kim Dae Jung of the Republic of Korea (far right) having a bilateral meeting while they were in Shanghai for the APEC Summit 2001, hosted by the People's Republic of China.

** From page one
(9th APEC Leaders' Meeting)*

which inevitably had direct implications on the global economy. His Majesty voiced his concerns on the current economic slow-down becoming a serious problem after the recent attacks in America. All the APEC members were being affected more and more especially in prospects for investment and trading, His Majesty said, while adding that this makes concerted international economic cooperation like APEC the more vital.

His Majesty pointed to the need to continue APEC's commitment to freer and more open trade and investment in the region.

One other issue His Majesty touched on at the retreat meeting concerned human capacity building initiative. During their eighth summit in Brunei Darussalam last year, the APEC leaders agreed to prepare its people to embrace the information and communication technology revolution. APEC had recognised that human capacity building plays a crucial role in achieving this goal.

Reflecting over the past year, His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was pleased with the efforts on human capacity building. The High Level meeting on human capacity building last

May in Beijing was a success and well received by all APEC members. His Majesty congratulated His Excellency President Jiang Zemin of the People's Republic of China on his personal efforts in making the meeting a focus on APEC's agenda this year. His Majesty called upon the APEC leaders to make human capacity building programme be a part of the overall APEC agenda in the future.

The leaders also discussed on the future direction of APEC and in the Leaders' Declaration which includes the Shanghai Accord, they have set among other matters, a strategic, forward agenda for the development of APEC in the coming years, laying out some key steps to be taken to achieve APEC's goals and objectives.

In the counter-terrorism statement, they condemned terrorism which they see a direct challenge to APEC's vision of free and open trade and investment. They expressed APEC's determination to enhance counter terrorism cooperation in line with specific circumstances in the respective economies.

The APEC leaders will next meet in 2002 in Mexico.

** Continued on page 3*

Sultan holds bilateral meetings

While in Shanghai, His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam held bilateral meetings with a number of leaders who were also there to attend the Ninth APEC Leaders' Meeting.

The first of such meeting on 20 October, was with His Excellency Goh Chok Tong, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore. They exchanged views on regional matters including the issue of terrorism. His Majesty also took the opportunity to discuss with the Singapore Premier on the coming Seventh ASEAN Summit in Bandar Seri Begawan, including the challenges facing the organisation and ways to strengthen regional economic cooperation.

The same day His Majesty met with His Excellency George W. Bush, the President of the United States of America. The two leaders exchanged views on bilateral cooperation, particularly in the areas of education and defence. The U.S. President also briefed His Majesty on developments since the tragic events of September 11, 2001 in the United States of America.

His Majesty The Sultan and Yang

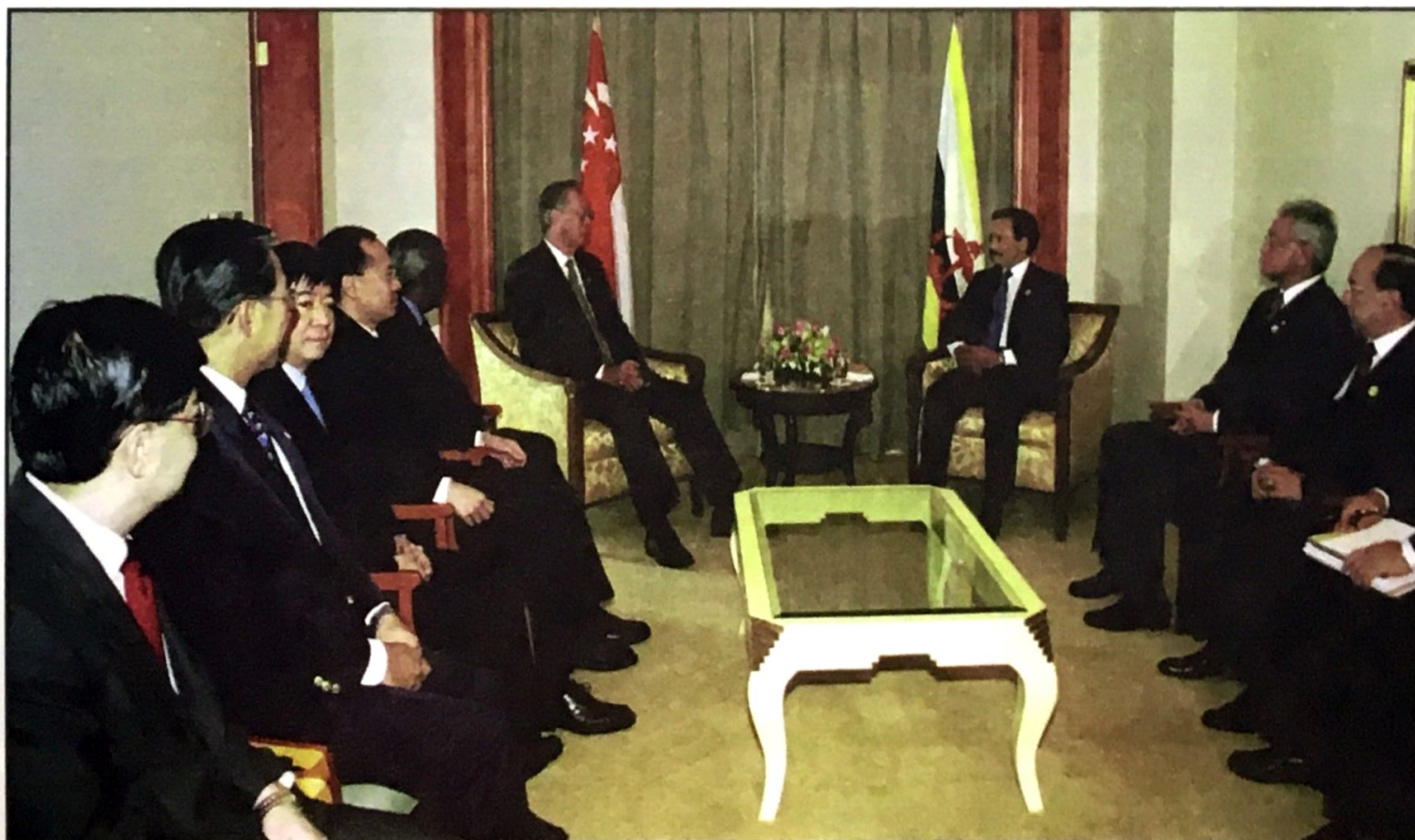
** Continued on page 8*



Above and below: His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam talking to ASEAN leaders and ministers whom he entertained to a luncheon while in Shanghai for the 2001 APEC Summit. At the function, the Brunei monarch briefed the ASEAN leaders on Brunei Darussalam's preparation for the upcoming Seventh ASEAN Summit to be hosted by the Sultanate in Bandar Seri Begawan on 5 – 6 November.



His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in conversation with His Excellency Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong of Singapore during their bilateral meeting, while members of both delegations look on.



Strengthen faith, not diminish it



His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam called on Muslims to strengthen faith so it can shield them from wrongdoings.

Faith is a fortress and a saviour for all mankind regardless of race, colour or religion, His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam has said.

Speaking at a celebration at the International Convention Centre in observance of Israk Mikraj (the flight to Heaven of Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him) on 15 October, His Majesty said one must make every effort to strengthen and increase one's faith, because faith can either increase or diminish.

If one cannot increase one's faith, one can at least keep it stable in order for one to remain a good person, urged the ruler.

People with faith do not indulge in vices or evil-doings such as theft, murder or other crimes because their faith prevent them from so doing, His Majesty pointed.

Furthermore, explains His Majesty, apart from promising wellbeing for oneself and for humanity at large, faith also prevents all sorts of negative elements from seeping in and hinders one from being misled in life.

His Majesty had earlier spoken of the strong faith possessed by the Prophet and his followers.

He said although the Prophet's followers were few in number, they nevertheless presented a huge challenge for the Musyrikin, who opposed his teachings and betrayed and were cruel to the prophet and his followers.

But with strong faith embedded within them, they were able to overcome the trials and tribulations, the ruler said.

These are examples that should be emulated, His Majesty urged, adding that, once this is achieved and becomes a culture, the country will surely become one of the most peaceful where social ills and scourges cannot exist and take root.

His Majesty further pointed that one of the ways to increase the faith is by practicing various aspects of Islam, such as always reciting 'zikir' and increase one's knowledge in the Islamic religion through continuous learning.

The celebration was highlighted with the presentation of awards to religious schools based upon various merits such as the standard of maintenance, activities etc. The schools were divided into four categories.



His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam presenting prizes to representatives of two religious schools which were among a number which won prizes during the Israk Mikraj celebration.



Above: His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam with Their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah, Prince 'Abdul Malik and Prince 'Abdul Mateen as well as state dignitaries at the start of the celebration.

Right: The Brunei monarch presenting prizes to a representative of a religious school which was adjudged outstanding throughout the year.



Below: Her Majesty Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajjah Saleha and Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajjah Mariam attending an Israk Mikraj celebration which was held at Istana Nurul Iman, also on 15 October. The celebration was also attended by other female members of the royal family and members of various women organisations.



Left: A section of the large number of people who attended the celebration at the International Convention Centre near the Brunei Darussalam capital that included cabinet ministers, foreign diplomats, senior government officials and other state dignitaries.



Firm handshakes between His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and His Excellency U.S. President George W. Bush when they met for bilateral talks in Shanghai on the sidelines of the Ninth APEC Economic Leaders Meeting.



Above: Leaders of member economies of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum gather around their host – His Excellency President Jiang Zemin of the People's Republic of China as he reads out excerpts of the Shanghai Accord at the end of their ninth summit.

Left: The PRC's President looks on as His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam makes a short speech shortly after being conferred an honorary doctorate degree by the University of Foreign Studies, Beijing. (See page 12)

Below: APEC leaders in their specially-tailored traditional Chinese attire pose for photographers in front of the Shanghai Science and Technology Museum.

Right: In an APEC Summit Sideline, His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and His Excellency President Jiang Zemin of the PRC took the opportunity to hold bilateral talks, at which both hailed the strength of the Brunei Darussalam – China relations.



* From page 3
(9th APEC Leaders' Meeting)

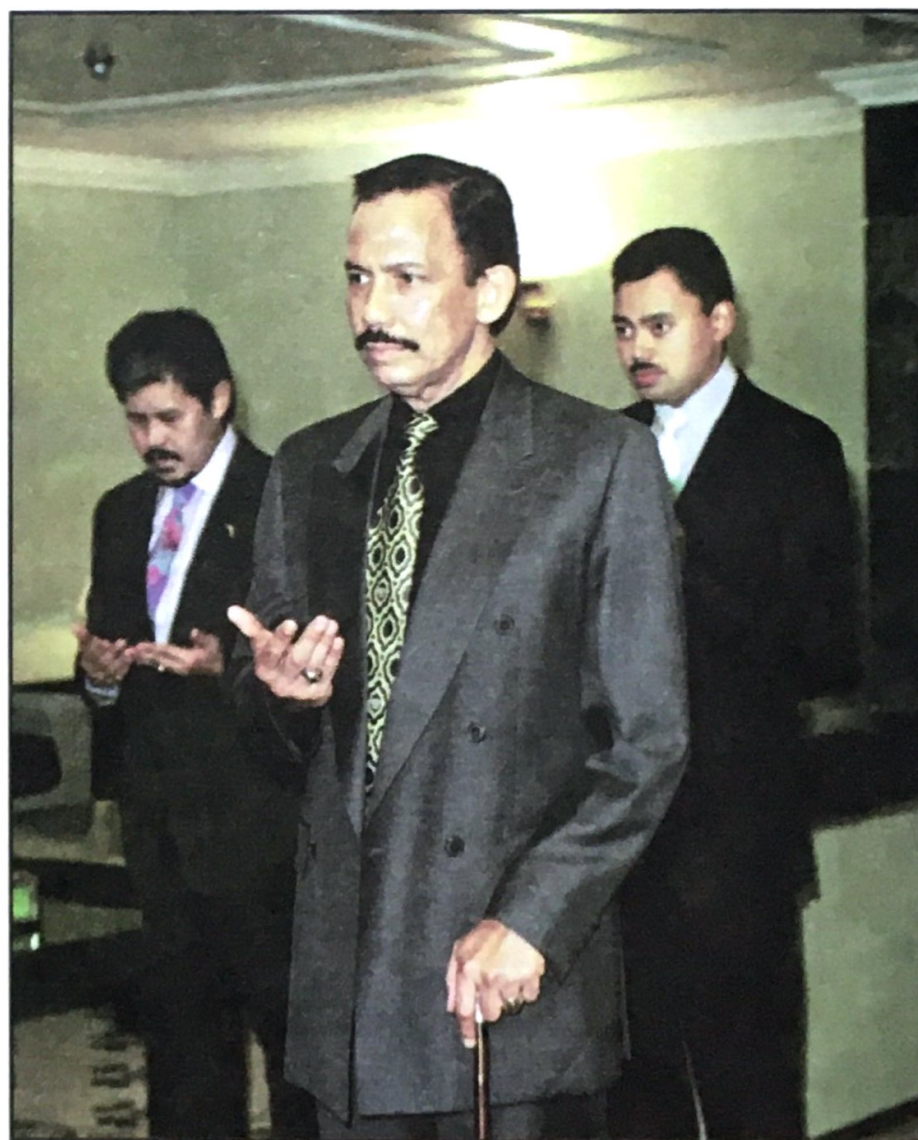
Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam also held a discussion on bilateral and regional issues with His Excellency President Kim Dae Jung of the Republic of Korea. During the meeting, on 22 October, His Majesty briefed His Excellency on preparations for the ASEAN Plus-Three – Summit (with the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea) to be held in Bandar Seri Begawan in November. The Korean leader expressed satisfaction with the bilateral relations between the Republic of Korea and Brunei Darussalam.

His Majesty had a bilateral meeting with His Excellency President Jiang Zemin of the People's Republic of China on 20 October, shortly after His Majesty was conferred an honorary degree by Beijing's University of Foreign Studies in a special ceremony, which was also attended by the Chinese leader.

During their bilateral meeting, the two leaders exchanged views on bilateral and regional issues, especially on efforts to further enhancing relations between Brunei Darussalam and the People's Republic of China.



Above: His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and China's President, His Excellency Jiang Zemin and senior members of the Beijing Foreign Studies University during a ceremony at which the Brunei monarch was conferred an honorary doctorate degree by the university.



Above: His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam upturns the palms of his hands to a short prayer for a safe journey on his departure for the People's Republic of China. The monarch was seen off at the Brunei International Airport by Their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah and Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, the Minister of Foreign Affairs. Left: His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam being bade farewell by a Chinese minister on his departure from Shanghai's Pudong international airport after attending the Ninth APEC Leaders' Summit, which was held in the southern Chinese city.





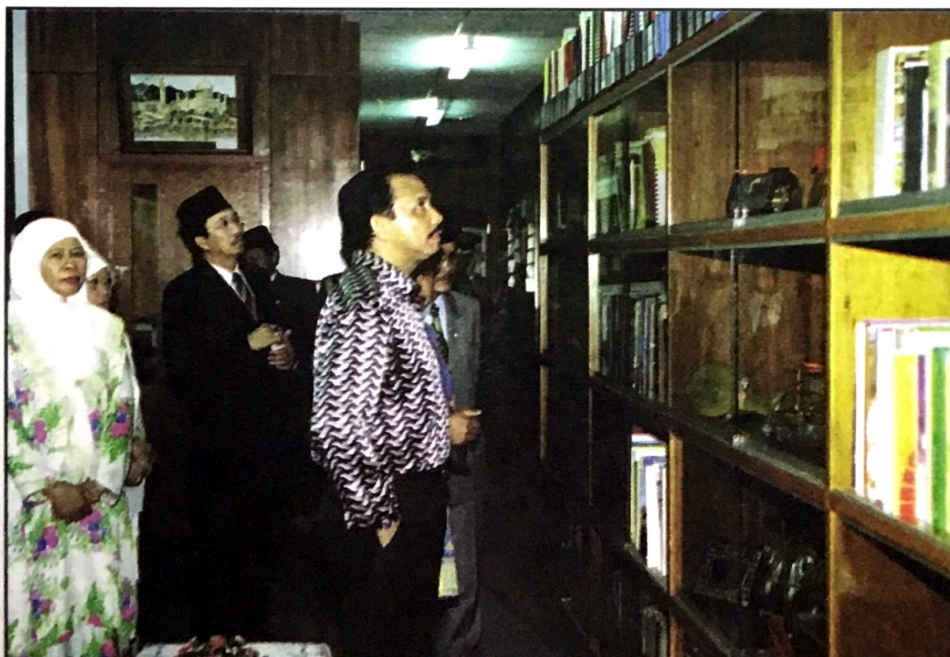
Above left: His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam being briefed by the Education Minister, Pehin Dato Haji Awang Abdul Aziz when the ruler made a visit to the Education Ministry.



His Majesty continues visits to ministries and government departments



Top right, above and below: His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam touring various sections of the Education Ministry complex, occasionally stopping to ask questions.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam visited the Education Ministry in Berakas, on 27 October.

The visit provided him the opportunity to have a closer look at the duties and role carried out by officials and staff of the ministry, and to ensure it met the country's aspiration towards providing proper education.

At the ministry, His Majesty visited several departments and spoke to the officials and staff. Accompanying His Majesty during the visit were the Education Minister, Pehin Dato Haji Awang Abdul Aziz, his deputy, Dato Dr. Haji Ahmad and permanent secretaries of the ministry.

The Education Ministry's—primary mission is to educate the country's citizens through the implementation of a quality, unique and balanced educational system for the development of proper individuals for the benefit of religion, country and its people.

UBD, NTU sign MoU

University Brunei Darussalam (UBD) and the Northern Territory University (NTU) of Australia have signed a memorandum of understanding on education, which would enable second year students of UBD to undergo masters degree programme in business management at the NTU.

These would involve the Faculty of Business, Economy, UBD Policy Study, Business Law and NTU Literature.

Signing the memorandum on behalf of UBD was its Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato Dr. Haji Mahmud Saedon, while Professor Ron McKay, the Vice-Chancellor of NTU signed on behalf of the university.

Professor Dato Dr. Haji Mahmud Saedon said, the memorandum is another initiative to provide UBD students with many choices if they want to pursue professional qualification in accounting.

He appreciated the cooperation and was very thankful to the Northern Territory University for accepting UBD's second year students in Business Management Programme to continue their study at NTU. The Dean of UBD and NTU, Dr. Awang Haji Ismail bin Haji Duraman and Professor David Carment respectively witnessed the signing.

The MoU signed at the Conference Hall of UBD on 24 October provided additional agreements to the MoU signed on 23 May this year between both universities.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah laying the foundation stone on the proposed site of the B\$15.5 million chancellor hall of Universiti Brunei Darussalam, while a number of university officials look on.

Crown Prince lays foundation stone for UBD's Chancellor Hall

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah has consented to lay a foundation stone on the site of the proposed Chancellor Hall of Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD), at Kampong Tungku, Rimba on 27 October.

His Royal Highness who is the Pro-Chancellor of UBD proclaimed the new hall as the Chancellor Hall with the consent of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, who is the UBD Chancellor.

The Education Minister, Pehin Dato Haji Awang Abdul Aziz who welcomed His Royal Highness among other things hoped that the construction of the B\$15.5-million building could meet the shortage of tutorial halls faced

at present by the university.

The university which opened its doors at the end of 1994 cannot meet students' requirement due the increasing number of students each year. Presently, more than 3,000 students study at the university and the number is expected to increase to around 5,000 in five years' time.

The construction of the new hall is another important infrastructure of the university's development. Built on a five-hectare land, the three-storey hall will house a main hall for 3,500 persons. The building will also be equipped with a conference room, royal lounge, offices, VIP lounge and a language laboratory.

The Vice-Chancellors of UBD and NTU exchange documents following signing of the MOU between the two universities which allow 2nd year UBD students to continue studies at NTU.



Diplomatic and bilateral relations continued

Relations between Brunei Darussalam and the Republic of the Federation of Germany have continued to be strengthened, especially with the exchange of visits at high levels.

His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam made a state visit to the Republic of the Federation of Germany in 1998, while former Counselor Helmut Kohl visited the sultanate in 1997.

Speaking as the country's representative at a reception to celebrate the Unification Day of the Republic of Germany at the a leading hotel in Jerudong, on 3 October, the acting Development Minister, Dato Dr. Haji Ahmad said, both countries have also agreed to the signing of memorandums of understanding in areas such as trade, investment, education, training and air services.

Brunei Darussalam and the Republic of Germany are partners in ASEAN-EU Dialogue and ASEAN Europe Meeting (ASEM).

The German ambassador, His Ex-

cellency Mr. Adalbert Ritmuller, among other things said, peace, stability and the discard of terrorists' attack could be achieved through regional and international cooperation and unity.

Meanwhile, the Saudi embassy in Brunei Darussalam also held a reception early this month at Jerudong Polo Club, to mark the Saudi Arabia's Independence Day.

The Communication Minister, Pehin Dato Haji Awang Zakaria who represented His Majesty's Government said, relations between Brunei Darussalam and Saudi Arabia has always been strong, and the cordial and personal relationship between His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia has opened areas for vital cooperation.

Brunei Darussalam also appreciates the Saudi Government's support and provision of facilities for Brunei pilgrims performing the Haj and Umrah in the holy land.

Brunei Darussalam and Saudi Arabia signed an agreement on air serv-

ices for flights to Jeddah via Abu Dhabi in 1992. They also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on health for cooperation and the exchange experience in various fields, including medical training, research and services, while a meeting between Brunei and Saudi businessmen in 1998 in Brunei Darussalam was a step forward towards better economic cooperation.

Meanwhile, the Saudi ambassador, His Excellency Mr. Ibrahim M. Mosly considered the strong relations between the royal families and citizens of both countries as grass-root relations, whereby both countries could share information and benefits in bilateral relations at both regional and international levels.

Diplomatic relations was also spoken of during a reception held by the Chinese embassy on 29 September, to mark China's 52nd Independence Day and 10th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Brunei Darussalam and the People's Republic of China, on 30 September 1991.

The Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Pehin Dato Haji Awang Hussein who represented His Majesty's government, said diplomatic relations between both countries have further strengthened their friendship and cooperation in various fields, including trade, investment, health and tourism.



Above: The Minister of Communications, Pehin Dato Awang Haji Zakaria and his wife posing with Saudi ambassador to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Ibrahim Muhammad Mosly and his wife during celebrations in the Brunei Darussalam capital marking Saudi Arabia's Independence Day, at which the Communications Minister represented the government of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam.



Brunei's acting Development Minister, Dato Dr. Awang Haji Ahmad Jumat with his wife looking on and Germany's ambassador to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Adalbert Rittmuller cutting the cake during celebration in Bandar Seri Begawan marking the Unification Day of the German Republic, picture on left, while the Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Pehin Dato Haji Awang Hussein and Chinese ambassador to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Qu Wenming do likewise during celebration marking the People's Republic of China's 52nd Independence Day and 10th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Brunei Darussalam and China, above right.



China 's university honours His Majesty

The Foreign Studies University of the People's Republic of China in Beijing has honoured His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam by conferring upon the Brunei monarch an honorary degree in recognition of his contribution in strengthening ties between the two countries.

At a special convocation ceremony held at a leading Beijing hotel on 20 October, His Majesty was conferred the degree of Doctorate in International Relations by the President of the university, Professor Chen Naifang in the presence of His Excellency Jiang Zemin, President of the People's Republic of China.

His Majesty in his remarks, expressed gratitude to be a recipient of the honorary doctorate from the university, which he noted, had earned the respect and support of so many of China's leaders. He was particularly delighted to receive it in the presence of



Applause all around as His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam accepts the honorary degree Doctorate in International Relations from Professor Chen Naifang, President of the Foreign Studies University of China in a ceremony that was attended by His Excellency President Jiang Zemin, among others.

President Jiang Zemin.

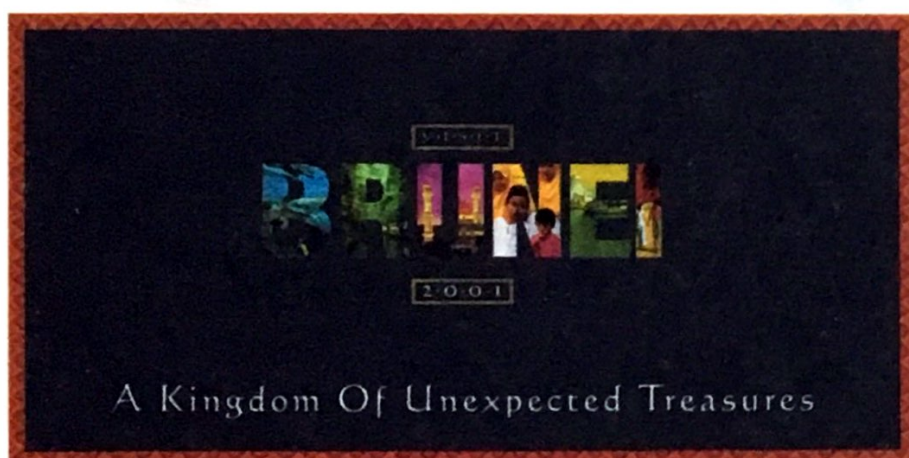
"President Jiang Zemin has made a considerable personal contribution to the excellent relations our two countries have enjoyed since we established diplomatic relations ten years ago", His Majesty said.

His Majesty said the University of Foreign Studies has made great contribution to the People's Republic of China not only in academic achievement but also in practical contribution to Chinese society and international affairs. Hence, His Majesty was pleased to take note of the memorandum of understanding signed last year between Universiti Brunei Darussalam

and the University of Foreign Studies, under which a number of programmes have already started.

These programmes include a seminar jointly organised between the two universities on the topic 'Relations between the People's of the Republic of China and Brunei Darussalam', which was held in Beijing recently with great success, His Majesty noted.

His Majesty further said that Universiti Brunei Darussalam has also hosted a number of students from China taking courses in Malay and English languages, and these students have included about a dozen from the Beijing Foreign Studies University.



What's happening NEXT month in Brunei Darussalam ?

November

- Photo Fair
- Gerai Ramadan
(Ramadan Foodstalls)

Visit www.visitbrunei.com or email bruneitourism@brunet.bn for more details.

Brunei In Brief

Official name: Negara Brunei Darussalam

Capital: Bandar Seri Begawan

Land size: 5675 sq. km

Geographical Position: North-west of Borneo Island in Southeast Asia

Population: 336,376 (July 2000 estimate)

National Carrier: Royal Brunei Airlines

Official Language: Malay

Official Religion: Islam

Official Website: www.brunei.gov.bn

September Rainfall: 208.1 mm

The Trafficking and illegal importation of Controlled Drugs are very serious offences in Brunei Darussalam and the penalty is death.

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