



برونى دارالسلام

Brunei Darussalam

newsletter

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UNISSA'S inaugural convocation Call for UNISSA to have practical programmes

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, November 3 – A call was made for Universiti Islam Sultan Sharif Ali (UNISSA) to have practical programmes for its students such as industrial attachment programme at government and private firms besides nurturing Islamic knowledge in classrooms.

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam said in a *titah* (royal speech) at UNISSA's inaugural *Half Al-Takharruj* (convocation) and Proclamation of Pro-Chancellor. It was held at the International Convention Centre.

His Majesty said this also applies for programmes which are leadership oriented such as through co-curriculum and community service which is a strategic plan to produce leaders. Students who have never been exposed to these programmes will become awkward when facing the larger community.

At the ceremony, His Majesty was also awarded with Honorary Doctorate in Syariah and Law from UNISSA.

His Majesty also consented to



One of the recipients receives his degree from His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam.

proclaim His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, The Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office as the Pro-Chancellor of UNISSA.

The convocation witnessed 149 graduates who received their Bachelor degree, Master degree, Philosophy degree (PhD) and Diploma.

Welfare of children a priority

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, November 22 – The Government of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam has always given serious attention in providing welfare to its people including the children which include health, education and protection. With all the services and facilities for the children's health and education and welfare provided by the government, the country has achieved almost all the Millennium Development Goals that put the children and their rights towards life, health, education and protection as the main agenda.

Brunei Darussalam has also successfully reduced its children mortality rate from 10.3 in every 1000

birth in 2000 to 6.1 in 2010. Around 95 per cent of the children in this country are given inoculation as the prevention against the infectious diseases.

The Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Pehin Dato Awang Haji Hazair stated the matters at the Children's Day 2011 celebration held at the Brunei-Muara District Office.

In terms of education, the minister said that 99 per cent of the children in this country have the opportunity to attend primary school; while the literacy rate among the children was 96.4 per cent in 2009.

With the theme 'Appreciate Our Voice', World Children's Day is celebrated

throughout the world on November 20. In Brunei Darussalam, it is celebrated through the Community Development Department. The format of this year's celebration included a two-day forum involving 300 children from 15 secondary schools including non-government secondary schools in the Brunei-Muara District.

Apart from that, this year celebration also have an exhibition; convention; Special Education Unit exhibition that showed their work services flow, the work and the achievement of the students under the Special Education Unit; and other activities that related with the participation of the students.



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PHOTO: AMPUAN HAJI MAHMUD AMPUAN HAJI TENGAH

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam received in audience at the Istana Nurul Iman the ASEAN Ministers attending the 7th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication (AMMRDPE) on November 2.

Brunei-China: Bilateral relation achieves growth

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, November 20 - His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in a *titah* (royal speech) highlighted on the long-existing relationship between Brunei Darussalam and the People's Republic of China, and touched on China's role in promoting stability and economic growth in and outside the region.

His Majesty made the *titah* at an official banquet in honour of the official visit of the Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, His Excellency Wen Jiabao.

His Majesty said that in the second decade, the relationship between its people and country has helped in achieving the big improvement in its cooperation in various fields including trade, investment, energy and agriculture.

His Majesty added that China has played an important role in regional and world affairs, promoting stability and economic growth, in the region and beyond.

Prior to the dinner, His Majesty received in audience the visiting Premier of the State Council at the Cheradi Laila Kenchana.

Present were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, The Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah; and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik. Also present

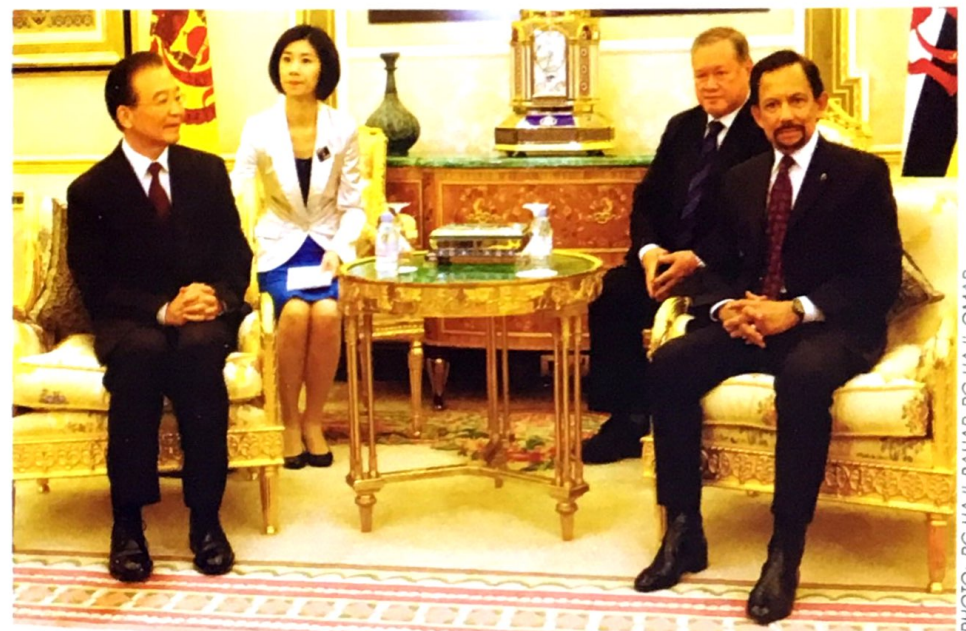


PHOTO: PG HAJI BAHAR PG HAJI OMAR

His Majesty and His Excellency during the audience at the Istana Nurul Iman.

was Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna, Ambassador-At-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade as well as members of the royal family.

The banquet took place at Istana Nurul Iman.

Brunei-China: Memorandum of Understandings signed



PHOTO: PG HAJI BAHAR PG HAJI OMAR

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, November 21 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and His Excellency Wen Jiabao, the Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China held a bilateral meeting and signing of Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) between Brunei Darussalam and the People's Republic of China.

The ceremony took place at Baitul Mesyuarah, Istana Nurul Iman.

Present were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, The Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; and His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

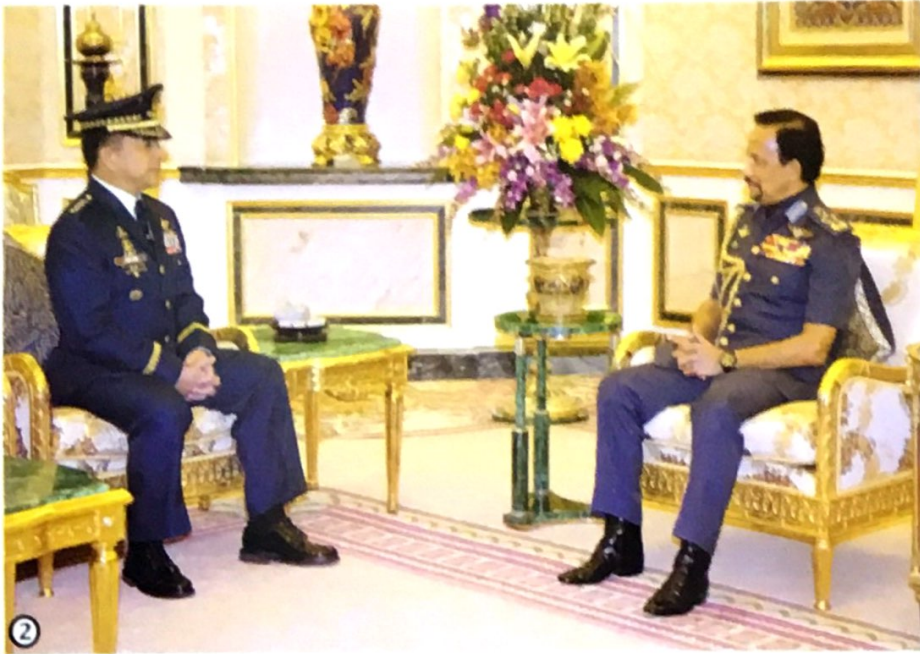
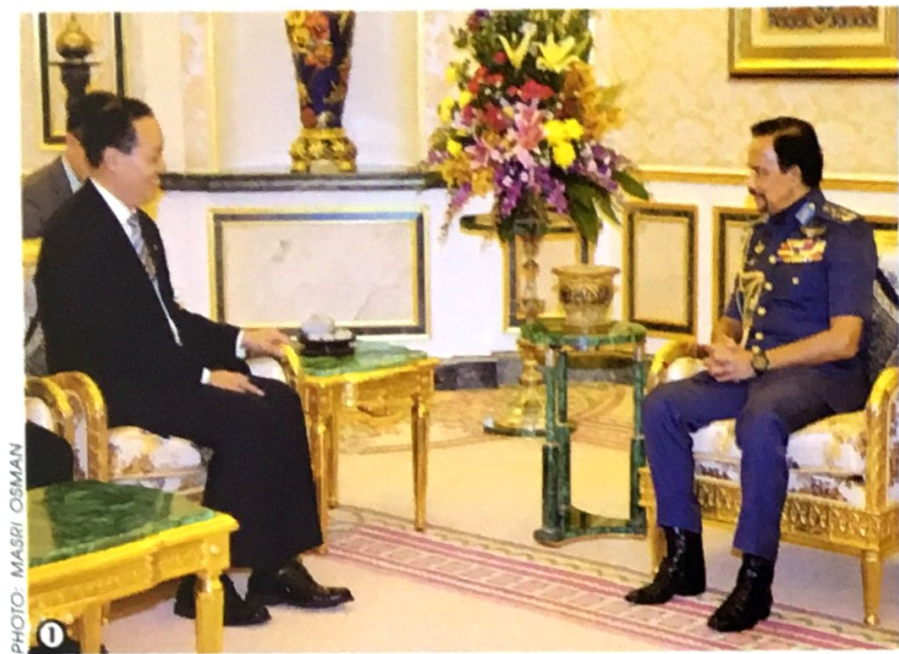
At the meeting, His Majesty and His Excellency discussed bilateral, international and regional issues of mutual concern.

The meeting was followed by the signing of four MoUs

and a Plan of Action between Brunei Darussalam and China. The MoUs are for Cooperation in Forestry; the Plan of Action on Health Cooperation; the MoU on Energy; the MoU on the Establishment of Sister Cities between Bandar Seri Begawan and Nanjing; and the MoU on Commercial Cooperation in the Oil and Gas Sector between Petroleum Brunei and China National Offshore Oil Corporation Limited.

The signing was witnessed by His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and His Excellency Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China.

The signing of the MoUs and Plan of Action will further strengthen bilateral relations and friendship between both countries. Since the establishment of the diplomatic ties 20 years ago, Brunei Darussalam and China have seen rapid, stable, healthy and comprehensive developments.



His Majesty receives audiences

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, November 22 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam received in separate audience at the Istana Nurul Iman:

- ❶ His Excellency Min Yongnian, the out-going Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China to Brunei Darussalam.
- ❷ His Excellency General Eduardo SL Oban Jr. AFP, the out-going Chief-of-Staff of the Armed Forces of the Republic of the Philippines.

Her Majesty receives audiences

Her Majesty Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha received in audience at the Istana Nurul Iman from:

- ❶ The spouse of the Minister of Rural and Regional Development of Malaysia, Yang Berbahagia Datin Seri Hajjah Shuryani binti Datuk Haji Shuib on November 2.
- ❷ Madame Tan Dyna, the spouse of Ambassador of the Kingdom of Cambodia to Brunei Darussalam on November 8.
- ❸ Madame Kim Kyung Soo, the spouse of Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Brunei Darussalam on November 8.
- ❹ Mrs. Kristine Von Jutczehika Morast, the spouse of the Ambassador of Federal Republic of Germany to Brunei Darussalam on November 8.
- ❺ The spouse of the Chief-of-Staff of the Armed Forces of the Republic of the Philippines, Madam Maria Concepcion P. Oban on November 22.



His Royal Highness receives audiences



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, The Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office received in audience at Qashr Al-Meezaan from:

- ① General Zhang Youxia, the Commander of Shenyang Military Command, Chinese People's Liberation Army on November 1.
- ② His Excellency Min Yongnian, the out-going Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China to Brunei Darussalam on November 8.
- ③ His Excellency Dr. Bernd Max Morast, the newly-appointed Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Federal Republic of Germany to Brunei Darussalam on November 8.
- ④ His Excellency Choi Byung-Koo, the newly-appointed Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Korea to Brunei Darussalam on November 9.
- ⑤ His Excellency Chhay Sokhan, the newly-appointed Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Cambodia to Brunei Darussalam on November 9.
- ⑥ The contingents Heads and Ship Administrator of the Ship for Southeast Asia Youth Programme (SSEAYP 2011) on November 17.
- ⑦ His Excellency Apichart Phetcharatana, the newly-appointed Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Thailand to Brunei Darussalam on November 19.



PHOTOS: MASRI OSMAN





His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam delivers *titah* (royal speech) at the Istana Nurul Iman.

Aidiladha is a symbol of sacrifice

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, November 6 - Aidiladha is seen as a symbol of extraordinary sacrifice and courage. It is seen as motivator for the Muslim *ummah* to strive towards improving their destiny. This destiny will not change if the *ummah* do not want to change.

His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam said in a *titah* (royal speech) in conjunction with Hari Raya Aidiladha 1432 Hijrah celebration.

This is the optional rules of Allah The Almighty. Thus, do not hold on to the attitude of tending to postponing things. Good things must be acted upon immediately and this is the meaning of 'change'. It may be difficult and challenging, nevertheless it has to be done.

His Majesty said that a good example and lesson is the act of Prophet Ibrahim to sacrifice his son Prophet Ismail. Isn't this a difficult thing to implement? But in order to submit to the demand of Allah The Almighty, it was nevertheless done without delay.

His Majesty also pointed out that if other grand events are man-made, Hari Raya Aidiladha and Hari Raya Aidilfitri, however, are absolutely from Allah The Almighty, and as such should be observed as a mark of gratefulness. The monarch asserted that during Hari Raya there is no revelling about, but it is all about pious devotion.

In the *titah*, His Majesty went on to outline that many challenges have still to be faced and much work still to be done. In this regard, His Majesty urged that these challenges and works must be confronted and acted upon immediately.

His Majesty performs Sunat Aidiladha prayer



One of the recipients receives *qurban* meat from His Majesty.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, November 7 Brunei Darussalam celebrated Hari Raya Aidiladha with Hari Raya Aidiladha prayer at all mosques, *surau* and religious halls nationwide.

His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam joined the mass prayer at the Jame' 'Asr Hassanil Bolkiah, Kampung Kiarong.

Also present were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, The Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik; and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

Soon after the prayer the *Sunat Qurban* was held. At the ceremony, His Majesty presented portions of the *qurban* or sacrificial meat to 20 people registered as poor and destitute who had been selected as the recipients from the Brunei-Muara District. The rest of the sacrificial meat would be distributed at separate ceremonies in all districts.

For the Brunei-Muara District, a total of 1,678 people of selected underprivileged families received the sacrificial meat; followed by 150 people in Temburong District; 392 people in Tutong District; and 400 people in the Belait District.

Congratulatory Messages

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam sent congratulatory messages to:

- His Majesty King Norodom Sihamoni, the King of the Kingdom of Cambodia; and the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, His Excellency Samdech Hun Sen in conjunction with the Kingdom of Cambodia's 58th Independence Day on November 8.
- His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said Al-Said, the King of the Sultanate of Oman in conjunction with His Majesty's 71st birthday and the 41st National Day of the Sultanate of Oman on November 17.

Brunei Liechtenstein establish diplomatic ties

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, November 15 - The Government of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and the Government of the Principality of Liechtenstein established diplomatic relations with effect from November 15.

The signing of the Joint Communique took place at the Office of the Embassy of Brunei Darussalam to the Federal Republic of Germany.

The Government of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was represented by Pehin General (Rtd.) Dato Haji Mohammad Yusof, the Ambassador of Brunei Darussalam to the Federal Republic of Germany whilst the Government of the Principality of Liechtenstein was represented by His Excellency His Serene Highness Prince Stefan, the Ambassador of the Principality of Liechtenstein to the Federal Republic of Germany.



HM: Brunei committed to Trans-Pacific Partnership

HONOLULU, HAWAII, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, November 12 - Brunei Darussalam is always committed to Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and will continue to support its high aspiration and to cooperate in achieving the goal.

His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam said in a *titah* (royal speech) at the TPP Leaders Meeting held at the Hale Koa Hotel, Honolulu.

His Majesty said that Brunei Darussalam is also facing some challenges in implementing the TPP initiatives as it needs intensive resource that involve new fields that need more time to handle it. In this regard, His Majesty appreciated the understanding by other members of TPP on the need for flexibility, assistance and capacity-building.

With regards to the countries that wish to join the TPP, His Majesty stated that TPP needed to be inclusive and welcomed

such interest.

Prior to, His Majesty noted the progress of the on-going negotiations and expressed appreciation to the officials involved, while also emphasising the need for them to look into innovative ways in tackling the challenges in their negotiations, taking into account that TPP is a comprehensive initiative and also handled the next generation issues.

At the end of the meeting, the leaders issued a statement 'Trans-Pacific Leaders Statement' where as the leaders stated their commitment to provide the resources needed to settle the agreement urgently.

The meeting was also attended by the leaders from Australia, the Republic of Chile, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Republic of Peru, the Republic of Singapore, the United States of America and Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.

His Majesty attends dinner

HONOLULU, HAWAII, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, November 12 - His Majesty

The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam who was in Honolulu, Hawaii attended a Social Night Dinner hosted by the President of the United States of America, His Excellency Barack Obama and the First Lady, Mrs. Michelle Obama.

The function was held at Hale Koa Hotel, Honolulu, Hawaii.

The dinner was held in honour of the APEC Leaders attending the APEC Summit and their spouses.

PHOTOS: PG-HAJI BAHAR PG-HAJI OMAR

HM: Energy efficiency and security great concern to Brunei

HONOLULU, HAWAII, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, November 13 - Efficient usage of energy and its security is a great concern for Brunei Darussalam. This is where the importance of Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation's (APEC) role lies in 'Green Growth' as it addresses sustainable development issue and the need to balance it with the interest of the people.

His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam said these in a *titah* (royal speech) at the Second Plenary Session of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Leaders' Meeting (AELM) in JW Marriott Hotel, Honolulu.

His Majesty further said that although Brunei Darussalam exports energy, it realises the need to plan for a sustainable future through its initiatives on efficient use of energy and conservation.

Hence, Brunei Darussalam has embarked on a comprehensive review of its energy policies and has been promoting the awareness on the need to use the energy efficiently including the introduction of the revised electricity tariffs. His Majesty added that such initiatives have made the public more

aware against the importance of the use of the resources in a sustainable way.

Notwithstanding, in implementing various programmes under the inclusive growth, the effect on less affordable group of the society will be taken into consideration and the government will try to ensure that they are not adversely affected.

His Majesty then added, for this reason the efforts of APEC is particularly useful for Brunei Darussalam to balance the interests between the people and the future, with the need for capacity development and technology exchange which is also essential to achieve the newly revised of the energy intensity target by APEC.

The members of the economies emphasised the need for APEC to stay alert towards new challenges that affected this region, including global economy crisis and the on-going natural disaster in the effort to widely-develop

trade, as well as encouraging the growth and creating jobs opportunity.

The matter was stated at the First Plenary Session of AELM.

His Majesty also attended the Dialogue Session with the APEC Business Advisory Council (ABAC) and discussed several matters including SME-inclusive development, Women in Trade and Innovative Development.

APEC Economic Leaders agreed to issue the 'Honolulu Declaration - Toward a Seamless Regional Economy' which outlined their commitment to continue working together in strengthening the regional economic integration and expanding trade; promoting green growth; and towards the alignment and cooperation. In looking forward, the leaders agreed to take concrete steps toward a seamless regional economy, in order to link their companies and market closer together for the benefit of all.

