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State Visit by The Amir of the State of Kuwait



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam greets His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, the Emir of the State of Kuwait at the Brunei International Airport.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 11 to 12 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam welcomed His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, the Amir of the State of Kuwait who is in the country on a two-day State Visit, at the Brunei International Airport. Also present was His Majesty's son, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik, as Royal-in-Attendance to His Highness the Amir of the State of Kuwait.

The Official Welcoming Ceremony for His Highness the Amir of the State of Kuwait was held at Istana Nurul Iman.

His Majesty and His Highness the Amir of the State of Kuwait proceeded to Baitul Mesyuarah to witness the signing of Memorandums of Understanding and Agreements in various fields. Signing on behalf of His Majesty's government was Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Pekerma Dewa Dato Seri Setia Lim Jock Seng, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Meanwhile the Government of the State of Kuwait was represented by His Excellency Sheikh Sabah Khalid Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs. During the ceremony, two Agreements and four Memorandums of Understanding were signed.

They were the Memorandum of Understanding In The Field Of Higher Education And Scientific Research; the Memorandum of Understanding on Tourism Cooperation; the Agreement on Mutual Exemption of Visa for Holders of Diplomatic, Special and Official Passports; the Agreement for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion With Respect To Taxes On Income; the Memorandum of Understanding on Establishing A Joint Commission For Cooperation and the Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs And Trade of Brunei Darussalam and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the State of Kuwait on Training.

In the evening, His Majesty hosted a Royal Banquet in honour of the State Visit of His Highness the Amir of the State of Kuwait and his delegation held at the Royal Banquet Hall, Istana Nurul Iman.

Prior to the Royal Banquet, His Majesty received a courtesy call from His Highness the Amir of the State of Kuwait at the Royal Lounge and then proceeded for the

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Jabatan Perdana Menteri
Brunei Darussalam

>> BRUNEI IN BRIEF

Official name is Negara Brunei Darussalam.
Capital is Bandar Seri Begawan.
It is located on the north-west of Borneo Island in Southeast Asia.
Land size is 5765 sq. km.
Population is estimated at 417,200 people (2015).
It is divided into four districts – Brunei-Muara, Tutong, Belait and Temburong.
Malay is the official language but English is widely spoken.
Islam is the official religion and it allows other religions to be practiced.
National carrier is Royal Brunei.
It has an equatorial climate, a uniform temperature, high humidity and heavy rainfall.
Public Warning: The trafficking of controlled drugs carries the death penalty in Brunei Darussalam

His Majesty receives audiences



His Majesty The Sultan And Yang Di-Pertuan Of Brunei Darussalam appoints new ambassador and receives letters of credence for newly-appointed Envoys to Brunei Darussalam. The ceremony was held on October 25 at Istana Nurul Iman.

- ❶ Her Excellency Hajah Johariah Haji Abd Wahab, the newly appointed ambassador to the Philippines.
- ❷ His Excellency Ouk Chandara, Cambodia Ambassador to Brunei Darussalam.
- ❸ Her Excellency Nicola Rosenblum, Australian High Commissioner to Brunei Darussalam.
- ❹ His Excellency Major General (Rtd) Tariq Rashid Khan, Pakistan High Commissioner to Brunei Darussalam.

HM receives in audience in outgoing Turkish envoy



His Majesty received in audience His Excellency Fikret Oguz Ates, the outgoing Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to Brunei Darussalam on October 31 at the Istana Nurul Iman.

HIS MAJESTY SENDS CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam consented to send congratulatory messages to:

- His Excellency Vladimir Putin, President of The Russian Federation, as well as the Government and People of the Russian Federation on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries on October 1.
- His Excellency Xi Jinping, President People's Republic of China and to His Excellency Li Keqiang, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, to the Government as well as to the people of the People's Republic of China on the occasion of the 67th Anniversary of the Foundation of the People's Republic of China on October 1.
- His Excellency Joachim Gauck, President of the Federal Republic of Germany and to Her Excellency Angela Merkel, Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, Government and the people of the Federal Republic of Germany on the occasion of the Day of German Unity on October 3.
- Her Excellency Park Geun-hye, President of the Republic of Korea, the government and the people of the Republic of Korea on the occasion of the Republic of Korea National Foundation Day on October 3.
- His Excellency Recep Tayyip Erdogan, President of the Republic of Turkey, the Government as well as to the people of the Republic of Turkey on the occasion of the Republic Day on October 19.

HIS MAJESTY SENDS MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam consented to send condolence messages to His Royal Highness Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn and to His Excellency Retired General Prayut Chan-o-cha, Prime Minister of The Kingdom of Thailand on the passing of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej on October 13.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, talks with His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, the Emir of the State of Kuwait during the Emir first's state visit to the sultanate at Istana Nurul Iman.

* From frontpage
(State Visit by The Amir of the State of Kuwait)

Royal Banquet ceremony.

His Highness the Amir of the State of Kuwait's State Visit to Brunei Darussalam is certainly a memorable occasion to the people of both countries. His Highness the Amir of the State of Kuwait's State Visit to the country is the first at the invitation of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam.

Bilateral cooperation between Brunei Darussalam and the State of Kuwait has grown closer since 27 years ago through the exchange of visits between the two countries and continues to develop since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1990 in the areas of trade, economy, culture, communication, education, health, tourism and sports.



Yang Berhormat Pehin Dato Lim Jock Seng, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade signed a Memorandum of Understanding document with His Excellency Sheikh Sabah Khalid Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs at Istana Nurul Iman.

Annual Leaders enhance Consultation cooperation

KUALA LUMPUR, October 4. - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and the Prime Minister of Malaysia, Yang Amat Berhormat Dato Laila Utama Dato 'Sri Mohd. Najib bin Tun Haji Abdul Razak at the 20th Annual Consultation between Brunei Darussalam and Malaysia said, the annual meeting was held in a cordial and constructive marking the special relationship that has long existed between the two countries.

According to the Joint Statement issued at the 20th Annual Consultation between the Heads of Government of Brunei Darussalam and Malaysia have highlighted 28 cases.

Among those things, the two leaders expressed satisfaction with the steady progress in implementing the Exchange of Letters, signed by the two leaders on 16 March 2009.

The two leaders stressed the importance of the exchange of letters in open space bilateral strategic cooperation and urged officials to step up efforts to decide any pending matters.

The two leaders also welcomed the cooperation between the two countries in the field of green technology and are pleased with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Government of Malaysia and the Government of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in the field of Green Technology on October 4, 2016.

Both leaders urged officials of both countries to start discussions on the Pan Borneo Highway network, for increased connectivity will speed up economic and social development between the two countries.

Leaders in the meantime also repeated their commitment to enhance economic cooperation between Brunei Darussalam and Malaysia, especially Sabah and Sarawak. Both leaders are happy to note that the flow of trade and investment ties between the two countries remain strong and recognizes that there is still untapped potential in economic relations Malaysia - Brunei Darussalam.

Therefore, the leaders suggested that the Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) of both countries to work together to explore business opportunities and are pleased to note that the business forum that focus on SMEs of Brunei Darussalam and Malaysia will be held in Brunei Darussalam in the first half of 2017.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Her Majesty Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha, Prime Minister of Malaysia, Dato Laila Utama Dato 'Sri Mohd Najib and spouse Datin Sri Rosmah Mansor in front of the office of the Prime Minister in Putrajaya.

The two leaders also expressed satisfaction with the efforts of both countries in addressing emerging threats and re-emerging infectious diseases such as Zika virus threat.

The two leaders further stated that the commitment of Ministers of Health of ASEAN during the Video Conference Special Health Ministers of ASEAN on Threats Virus Zika on 19 September 2016, to improve preparedness and response to the disease virus Zika and other diseases are emerging and reappearing for health and safety welfare of the people.

His Majesty praised the role of Brazil as permanent members of the Security Council of the United Nations (UN) for the term 2015-2016, including the success decided the presidency in August 2016, noting that Malaysia's vision for security and simplicity as the key approach in order now for the international fight against terrorism and extreme violence.

Leaders also encourage both parties to continue to explore the potential of bilateral economic cooperation through the platform of the East ASEAN Growth Area - Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia,

the Philippines (BIMP-EAGA). The two leaders looked forward to the BIMP-EAGA 11th Meeting Transport Minister on 26 October 2016 in Malaysia to further enhance relations in the sub-region. The two leaders also looked forward to the final stage of the BIMP-EAGA Vision 2025, which aims to develop sub-sectors of the region's resilient, inclusive, sustainable and competitive in economic terms, to be accepted in the BIMP-EAGA 12th in 2017.

The leaders stressed the importance of defense cooperation between the two countries in maintaining peace and stability on the basis of security challenges and threats in the region and expressed satisfaction with the bilateral cooperation existing in defense meeting also strengthened through the exchange of views, visits equipment, training and military exercises between the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) and the Malaysian Armed Forces (ATM).

The two leaders also noted the involvement of a very good and close cooperation between RBAF and ATM

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* From 5
(Annual Leaders enhances Consultation cooperation)

and praised the commendable efforts of their staff and contribute towards maintaining peace and international stability, particularly under the Force UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) and the International Monitoring Team (IMT) in the southern Philippines.

His Majesty also expressed his appreciation for the participation and support Malaysia in Group Exercise ADMM-Plus Experts Maritime Security Working jointly organized by Brunei Darussalam held on 4 to 8 May 2016 in Brunei Darussalam.

The Prime Minister also expressed his appreciation to the Government of HRH the participation and support of Brunei Darussalam in Defense.

The two leaders also hope and await ASEAN Health Ministers Meeting 13th (HMM), Meeting 'ASEANPlus Three' Ministry of Health-7 (APTHMM-7) Health Ministers Meeting and the ASEAN-China (ACHMM) 6th which will be organized and held in Brunei Darussalam in 2017.

The two leaders took note of the



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Prime Minister of Malaysia, Dato Laila Utama Dato' Sri Mohd Najib bin Tun Haji Abdul Razak during four-eye meeting at the office of the Prime Minister in Putrajaya.

ongoing discussions on the movement of prisoners from the area between Sabah and Sarawak via Brunei Darussalam.

The two leaders also expressed happiness with the existing cooperation in youth exchanges and encourage both sides to continue to promote activities such as volunteering, training and sports leadership development.

Prime Minister pleased with the participation of Brunei Darussalam in the Malaysia Games (Sukma) in Sarawak, Malaysia, on 23 to 31 July 2016 and expects the participation of Brunei Darussalam in 2017 SEA Games and 2017 ASEAN Para Games in Kuala Lumpur. His Majesty also expressed confidence in the ability of Malaysia to organize these sports in the next year.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Prime Minister of Malaysia, Dato Laila Utama Dato' Sri Mohd Najib bin Tun Haji Abdul Razak witnessing the exchanging of a Memorandum of Understanding between Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Singamanteri Colonel (Rtd) Dato Seri Setia (Dr) Awang Haji Mohammad Yasmin bin Haji Umar, Minister of Energy and Industry at the Prime Minister's Office and Datuk Seri Dr Maximus Ongkili, Minister of Malaysia's Energy, Green Technology and Water.

HM : It is not wrong to learn other cultures but maintain MIB as identity



Their Majesties and members of the royal family in a group photo with officials and students at the event.

KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA, October 4 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam consented to attend a Get-Together Ceremony with citizens and residents of Brunei Darussalam in Malaysia.

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His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam taking pictures during the get-together ceremony with the Bruneians in Malaysia at the Grant Hyatt Hotel.



Her Majesty Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha and Malaysian Prime Minister spouse, Datin Sri Rosmah Mansor taking picture with the owner of the Batik at the Batik exhibition.

*From page 6

(HM : It is not wrong to learn other cultures but maintain MIB as identity)

At the ceremony, His Majesty delivered a *titah* (royal speech) emphasizing the important for students to not forget their fundamental purpose in this country, which is to focus wholeheartedly on their studies and academic. This opportunity must be used to develop their self-identity and personality.

His Majesty used the analogy of sowing a seed to describe opportunities for Bruneian students in Malaysia. "We must plant good seeds to ensure that we reap good and satisfactory harvest".

In the *titah*, His Majesty also added that students must also be able to choose and evaluate wisely. The best choice for students is to be a 'patriotic graduate'. This requires strong determination and steadfast approach. On top of that we need to choose a right track. The track here is the identity to be used.

"For example, in the field of culture, it is not wrong for us to know and learn the culture of other people, as it is also part of knowledge. However, this does not mean we adopt it, as there is already MIB as our identity."

"For the Bruneians, Malay Islamic Monarchy (MIB) is our identity. This identity has to be used wherever we are and not to be change with others, for example, in the fields of culture, it is not wrong to learn the culture of others as this is considered as part of knowledge."

The same approach is applied to religion and religious practice. "We can see and learn how other people practice theirs but for Bruneians, the practice has to be referred to our identity of MIB, which specifies the religion as Islam according to Ahli Sunnah Waljamaah."

He added that the matter is important for students to know so that they will not to be easily swayed by undesirable influences which would not only harm themselves but also effect the country.

The Sultan urged the students to generate big ideas, possess talents and have global aspirations. These are the attributes that are expected from students who will be leaders that will steer the country in the future.

In closing the *titah*, His Majesty prayed to Allah Subhanahu Wata'ala to bless all students and officers who are in Malaysia and for them to achieve happiness and success.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 1 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in a *titah* (royal speech) said, the holy teachings of Islam greatly contributes to a peaceful and harmonious life amongst mankind, regardless of belief and religion and when truly practiced, the crime of murder or cruelty or violence will not exist.

His Majesty said one important elements emphasized by Islam is to care for and protect lives.

The monarch stated this matter in conjunction with the Hijrah 1438 Islamic New Year celebration at the Istana Nurul Iman.

Under such circumstances, stressed His Majesty, it is a lie and baseless to implicate Islam with terrorism and because our country Brunei Darussalam fully understands the Islamic teachings and has enjoyed a secure life under the crest of Islam without any problems.

"Brunei has matured in religious life, and the people need not be taught further on how to choose the best for themselves. In fact, Islamic teachings have become a strong belief and forms the pillars of this country," said His Majesty.

The monarch ended his *titah* by wishing everyone a happy new Islamic year on behalf of himself and the royal family and for the new year to bring enlightenment to the country and the people.

Never get involved in terrorism



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam deliver a *titah* (royal speech) in conjunction with the Hijrah 1438 Islamic New Year celebration at the Istana Nurul Iman.



The two leaders took the opportunity to exchange views by bilateral and efforts to enhance cooperation between the two countries, including regional and international matters of mutual concern.

His Majesty and Her Majesty arrives in Bangkok, Thailand



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Her Majesty Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha cutting a cake presented by Thailand's Prime Minister General Prayut Chan-o-cha and spouse Naraporn Chan-o-cha.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam with the Thailand's Prime Minister General Prayut Chan-o-cha.

BANGKOK, Thailand, October 9 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam safely arrived in Bangkok, Thailand to attend held from October 9-10, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Building, Thailand.

The dialogue is an initiative that brings together 34 countries spanning from the Middle East through Central Asia, Southeast Asia and Northeast Asia to tackle regional and global challenges and work together towards the benefit of the people of Asia.

Their Majesties receive audience ceremony and Dinner

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam received in audience Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, His Excellency General Retired Prayut Chan-o-cha and wife, Associate Professor Naraporn Chan-o-cha and then attended a dinner hosted by His Excellency and wife. The Audience Ceremony and Dinner was held at The St Regis Bangkok Hotel, Bangkok.

Present at the Audience Ceremony were Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkiah; and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna, Ambassador-At-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, as well as other members of the Royal Family.

During the Audience Ceremony, His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and His Excellency Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand exchanged views



His Majesty during the 2nd Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) Summit.

on bilateral relations and efforts to enhance cooperation between Brunei Darussalam and Thailand, as well as regional and international matters of mutual concern.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Brunei Darussalam and Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri then proceeded together with His Excellency the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand and wife for the Dinner hosted by His Excellency Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand and wife.

The Dinner was made merrier by the presentation of a birthday cake to Her Majesty by His Excellency Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand and wife.

Their Majesties left Bangkok, Thailand on October 7.

HM: Ensure university courses are relevant



His Majesty deliver a *titah* during UBD's 28th Convocation Ceremony at the Chancellor Hall.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Chancellor of Universiti Brunei Darussalam presents a certificate to one of the graduates during the 28th UBD Convocation Ceremony.

TUNGKU, October 15 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Chancellor of Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD) has called on higher education institutions to continually ensure the relevance and quality of their programmes.

In a *titah* during UBD's 28th Convocation Ceremony at the Chancellor Hall, His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam said that the move was imperative towards producing marketable and future ready graduates.

"This includes strong cooperation with stakeholders such as the National Human Resources Planning Committee which was recently established as well as various industries to improve the employability of graduates," said His Majesty.

His Majesty also commended UBD for taking the industry-university collaboration and took note regarding the first batch of students in Bachelor of Engineering under the field of Chemical and Process Engineering that have offered job employment upon graduation.

The monarch also welcomed UBD's efforts to provide flexible learning opportunities to the public in support of lifelong learning and rising employment eligibility.

"I hope all this will be able to provide greater access to higher education for all citizens and residents without having to put their work or business on hold," said His Majesty, announcing the formation of a Centre for Lifelong Learning (C3L) at the university.

His Majesty believes the centre will contribute significantly to national development as well as knowledge-based society and economy.

"Talking about the economy, we are not spared from the impact of a challenging global economic situation, but we cannot compromise on the importance of education," said His Majesty.

As for higher education, said His Majesty, research and scientific discovery or knowledge discovery is also the key.

His Majesty also emphasised on the importance of research as it contributes to the economic development and well-being for everyone, and furthermore the monarch would like to see for UBD to produce such research.

Apart from the quality of education and research, His Majesty pointed out that the university as a whole, must plan its roadmap in line with its goals.

In the *titah*, His Majesty also said it was vital for UBD and other higher education institutions to take part in the strategic planning process.

His Majesty hopes UBD's Five Year Strategic Plan 2016-2020, dubbed Towards 2020, will elevate the university to a higher level in the future.

In congratulating the graduates, the monarch reminded them to build a good identity as a Bruneian based on the Malay Islamic Monarchy (MIB) Philosophy.

His Majesty further urged the graduates to utilise their success for the good of the world and the hereafter.

The Sultan then conveyed his gratitude to all members of the UBD for their contribution and service, as well as prayed for Allah Subhanahu Wata'ala to reward them abundantly.

His Majesty consented to tour UBD's 28th convocation exhibition



One of the graduates explaining to His Majesty about the exhibition.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 15. - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Chancellor of Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD) consented to tour UBD's 28th Convocation Exhibition at the university's Chancellor Hall.

His Royal Highness Prince Doctor Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office as the Pro-Chancellor of UBD was also present.

UBD's 28th Convocation Exhibition this year showcased its UBD's five years strategic Plan (2016-2020) with the aid of animation video using Augmented Reality Technology.

The first exhibition displayed CAMES wind turbine technology, underscoring UBD's desire to ensure innovation to help Brunei

achieve its environment goal, which is to turn 10 percent of its energy demand to renewable energy by 2035 as well as turning it into an enterprise and global humanitarian efforts.

His Majesty continued to tour the exhibition which displayed forest rehabilitation and protection of peat swamps, showcasing the university's collaboration research with multiple international recognized institutions on the rehabilitation and protection of peat swamps.

It also showed how UBD mobilises its research centres for global impact, as well as to present the most updated herbal research to illustrate its medical properties.

UBD's 28th Convocation Exhibition which showcase its strategic Plan for the next four years is to empower future leaders through innovative education and research enterprising.

State visit by President of the Republic of the Philippines



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam received in audience with His Excellency Rodrigo Roa Duterte, The President of the Republic of the Philippines.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 16 to 18 - The President of the Republic of the Philippines, His Excellency Rodrigo Roa Duterte and delegation arrived in the country on 16 October for a three day State Visit.

Upon arrival at the Brunei International Airport, His Excellency was welcomed by Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Kerna Dato Seri Setia Doktor Haji Awang Abu Bakar bin Haji Apong, the Minister of Home Affairs, as Minister-in-Attendance and Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Pekerma Dewa Dato Seri Setia Lim Jock Seng, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, .

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, the next day received in audience His Excellency President of the Republic of the Philippines where the official welcoming ceremony was held at Istana Nurul Iman.

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* From page 10
(State Visit by President of
the Republic of the Philippines)

From Istana Edinburg to Istana Nurul Iman, His Excellency was accompanied by His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office as the Personal Representative of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam.

Upon arrival, His Majesty and His Excellency received the Salute of Honour. The National Anthem of the Republic of the Philippines and Brunei Darussalam were played followed by a 21 Gun Salute. His Majesty and the President of the Republic of the Philippines then inspected the Guard Honour mounted by the Second Battalion of the Royal Brunei Land Force.

His Excellency was then introduced to members of the Royal Family; State Dignitaries; Cabinet Ministers, Deputy Ministers, Commissioner of the Royal Brunei Police Force, Commander of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces, Foreign Envoys in Brunei Darussalam; as well as Permanent Secretaries at the Prime Minister's Office and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade which was then followed by introduction of members of His Excellency's delegation to His Majesty.

His Majesty and His Excellency proceeded to Cheradi Laila Kenchana for the audience ceremony followed by a bilateral meeting at Baitul Mesyuarah. Also in attendance 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; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah; His Royal Highness Prince Jefri Bolkiah; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Wakeel and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna, Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade as well as other members of



His Majesty delivering a *titah* during State Banquet, in honour of the State Visit of His Excellency The President of the Republic of the Philippines held at the Royal Banquet Hall, Istana Nurul Iman.

the Royal Family.

During the meeting, His Majesty and His Excellency discussed bilateral relations between the two countries, as well as exchanged views on regional and international matters of mutual concern.

In the evening, His Majesty hosted a Royal Banquet in honour of the State Visit of His Excellency The President of the Republic of the Philippines and his delegation held at the Royal Banquet Hall, Istana Nurul Iman. Prior to the State Banquet, His Majesty received in audience His Excellency the President of the Republic of the Philippines.

His Majesty in a *titah*, extended his congratulations to President Duterte on his appointment as the President of the Republic of the Philippines and commended President Duterte on his achievements during his tenure as the Mayor of Davao.

His Majesty observed that the historical links and common heritage shared between Brunei Darussalam and the Philippines has enabled good cooperation to develop in a wide range of areas. His Majesty made the *titah* at a State Banquet in honour of the State Visit of His Excellency Rodrigo Roa Duterte, President of the Republic of the Philippines to Brunei Darussalam.

His Majesty, in the *titah*, has expressed confidence that under the President's leadership, Davao's success will be replicated throughout the Philippines and brings inclusive growth to the people. The Monarch acknowledged the role of the Filipino nationals residing in the country in contributing to the development of Brunei's economy.

His Excellency Rodrigo Duterte, in his reply speech amongst others,

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His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office, during the bilateral meeting with Phillipines President, His Excellency Rodrigo Roa Duterte at the Istana Nurul Iman.

HM: 23rd Civil Service Day

High standards of discipline and determination is a must



His Majesty consented to present the Civil Service Employee Excellent Awards to 43 officers and staff members from Divisions II, III, IV and V in each ministry.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 20. – Civil Services are the main core of a nation's development and the Civil servants are the managers, facilitators as well as the agents for this development. Therefore, they should possess high standards of discipline and the determination to carry out their respective roles.

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam stated this in a *titah* (royal speech) at the 23rd Civil Service Day held at the International Convention Centre in Berakas.

They should improve themselves by recognizing their respective 'baseline', to the extent where their reasoning, outlook and capabilities can provide quality services for the good of the country and their clients.

The monarch stressed that the country is really in need of civil services as it is through such services that productivity

can be enhanced, together with the country's revenue.

His Majesty then said that we are actively using the Key Performance Indicators (KPI) and the delivery approach, which have been adapted to gauge the best performances.

"In addition, we are also benchmarking for our international standing, such as the World Bank ranking on Ease of Doing Business; and recently, we participated in the World Competitiveness Index by the World Economic Forum. I believe that with integrated efforts by all ministries which are equipped with evidence and result-based strategies, Insya Allah, will be able to successfully implement our country's Vision 2035," His Majesty said.

His Majesty also congratulated the winners of the Civil Service Excellent Employee Award (APCPA) and the Civil Service Excellent Award (ACPA), while expressing confidence that these awards would inspire and motivate the local workforce to perform better.

The monarch also extended his personal appreciation to the civil

servants who will be retiring this year, for their contributions and services to the government and prays that they receive multiple blessings from Allah the Almighty.

Also in attendance 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; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik; and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna, Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

At the ceremony, His Majesty also consented to present the Civil Service Employee Excellent Awards to 43 officers and staff members from Divisions II, III, IV and V in each ministry.

Following that, His Majesty presented prizes for the winners and participants of the Civil Service Excellent Award 2016, which is aimed at pursuing ideas for improving the standards and regulations of civil service.

Afterwards, His Majesty and other members of the royal family joined the APCPA and ACPA recipients for a group photo session.

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(State Visit by President of the Republic of the Philippines)

touched on the histories of both countries for managing to eventually overcome many common challenges. Both nations have explored and forged several undertakings that further cemented in special relations. According to His Excellency, as true friends, both countries and leaders can and should count on each other to achieve the shared objectives.

His Excellency also thanked His Majesty for the monarch's crucial role in ensuring excellent relations between Brunei Darussalam and the Republic of the Philippines both at the policy and personal level. Apart from a close bilateral relation,

Brunei Darussalam and the Republic of the Philippines also share a close history. Both countries have also identified several fields to further strengthen cooperation in economy and business, education, health and agriculture.

His Excellency and his delegation left the country on October 18.

The state visit by His Excellency will certainly further enhance the existing friendship and cooperation relations enjoyed by the two countries. It is also a momentous occasion that will be remembered by the people of both countries.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, the Chancellor of UNISSA, presenting the certificate to one of the graduates during the UNISSA's 6th Hafil Al-Takharruj, or convocation ceremony, at the International Convention Centre, Berakas.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, mingling with lecturers and faculty members during the UNISSA's 6th Hafil Al-Takharruj, or convocation ceremony.

HM: 6th UNISSA Hafil Al-Takharruj

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 22. – Universiti Islam Sultan Sharif Ali (UNISSA) graduates are advised not be satisfied by merely receiving certificates and academic titles, but should also be able to become the movers of the government machinery, specifically, in strengthening the implementation of the Shari'ah Penal Code Order 2013.

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, the Chancellor of UNISSA, highlighted this in a *titah* (royal speech) at UNISSA's 6th Hafil Al-Takharruj, or convocation ceremony, held at the International Convention Centre in Berakas.

Highlighting UNISSA's present significance, His Majesty said that in facing the current issue of accusations and provocations against Islam and sees UNISSA as having a very important role to play in portraying a correct and accurate image of this religion.

"In moving towards this direction, UNISSA students not only have to be proficient in the Al-Quran and the Arabic language, but must also have a deep understanding of the classical works of the Ahli Sunnah Wal Jama'ah scholars of the past in various disciplines of knowledge. In addition to that, UNISSA,

as an institute of knowledge, also has to be attuned to the developments in the academic landscape and the human resource demands in Brunei," said The Monarch.

On the rebranding of the faculty, His Majesty said, the expansion of programmes and the offering of new ones, as well as the assessment and changes to a number of courses, are wise and apt steps taken by UNISSA as these steps are some of the best initiatives in further expanding career opportunities for graduates of this university.

In the *Titah*, His Majesty also highlights the halal industry saying the halal aspect is an obligation in Islam and adds that the industry's global market value shows a huge increase where it 16 percent of the world's whole food industry and has the potential to reach 20 percent in the world food industry products trade alone.

Earlier in the *titah*, The monarch was happy to know that on the 6th Convocation ceremony, UNISSA managed to produce its first batch of double degree programme graduates in Bachelor of Law and Bachelor of Syariah Law and pleased to note that the first batch of graduates from the Syariah Criminal Justice System Certificate completed their studies at UNISSA.

His Majesty also took the opportunity to congratulate and thank the entire UNISSA community, including University

Council and senate members, rectors, key officials, academics, and all officers and staff of the university for their contributions.

At the ceremony, His Majesty consented to award degrees to two graduates with Doctor of Philosophy Degrees; 28 received Masters Degrees, nine recipients of Islamic Law and Syari'e Court Matters, 12 recipients of Post-graduate diplomas, 94 Bachelor's Degree recipients and 36 graduates received Special Degrees for Memorising 30 juzuk or chapters of Al-Quran, while five others received the Dirasaat Islamiyah Higher National Diplomas and 33 recipients of the 'Barnamij al-Tarqiyah' Certificates or Certificate of Syari'ah Criminal Justice System and Enhancement Programme.

Of that amount, the Faculty of Sharia and Law for the first time has produced their first of ten graduates who have successfully completed the Dual Bachelor of Law and Bachelor of Shariah Law (LL.B and BSL) Programme which is a five year programme and 26 graduates of the Certificate of Syari'ah Criminal Justice System and Enhancement Programme which gained the attention of legal practitioners in the country.

Also in attendance was His Royal Highness Prince Doctor Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office as the Pro-Chancellor of UNISSA.

Good and conducive Islamic environment for children's learning

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 29. – The importance of akhlak or morals is felt even more in this era, following the advancement of information and communication technology (ICT).

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien

Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, the Chancellor of the Religious Teachers University College of Seri Begawan (KUPU SB) expressed his concern over the community, including children, are not exempted from being exposed to elements that are many and difficult to

control, can spoil their morals

"Controlling it requires strategies that are carefully thought out and implemented in an orderly manner, which is through the service of qualified teachers to nurture moral values to children as well as guide

* continue on page 14

* From page 13

(Good and conducive Islamic environment for children's learning)

and motivate them to become good and useful children," said His Majesty in a *titah* (royal speech) at the 6th Convocation Ceremony of the Religious Teachers University College of Seri Begawan (KUPU SB) at the International Convention Centre in Berakas.

Moreover, the monarch also firmly urged parents to provide a good and conducive Islamic environment for their children's learning.

"We should not forget the Hadith which states: every child is born in a state of *fitrah* that is clean like a pure white cloth. It is the parents who are responsible in bringing them correctly", His Majesty added.

His Majesty also announced the establishment of 'Fiqh Al-Ussrah Studies Centre' at KUPU SB that aims to strengthen the family and education institutions.

Earlier in the *titah*, the monarch extended his congratulations and appreciation to all members of KUPU SB for their contribution and service and hoped that Allah SWT will bestow them rewards and that KUPU SB will become a blessed institution of higher learning.

KUPU SB graduates are qualified teachers, and as qualified teachers, they possess extensive knowledge, he added.

According to His Majesty, this knowledge is about trust where by teachers are entrusted to impart knowledge to those entitled to it, the community, and this should be maintained.

Because of that said the monarch, religious teachers need to know they are agents for the survival of people and the nation.

"Teachers are not only tasked with delivering lessons in classrooms but also become role models to their students and the community," said His Majesty.

His Majesty said KUPU SB must draw up guidelines for its student to become religious teachers who have strong work ethics and are competent and likened KUPU SB as a factory that produces high-valued products, in which the quality must be determined by the primary objective of education, which is to bring forth graduates who are well-mannered.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, Chancellor of the Religious Teachers University College of Seri Begawan (KUPU SB), presenting the certificate to one of the graduates during the 6th Convocation Ceremony of KUPU SB, at the International Convention Centre, Berakas.

His Majesty later conferred 251 students with Master's Degree, Postgraduate Diplomas, Bachelor's Degree and Higher Diploma in various courses. These include Master of Religious Teaching (Aqidah), Master of Religious Teaching (Fiqh), Master of Religious (curriculum), Master of Religious Teaching (management and administration), Master of Religious (supervision), Postgraduate Diploma of Religious Teaching, Postgraduate Diploma of Religious Teaching (teaching Arabic to non-Arabic speaker), Bachelor of Religious Teaching (usuluddin), Bachelor of Religious Teaching (shariah), Higher Diploma of Religious Teaching (usuluddin) and Higher Diploma of Religious Teaching (shariah).

HM joins in the Cycling Recreation activity

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, OCTOBER 29 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, took part in the Cycling Recreation activity around Bandar Seri Begawan.

The event was held in conjunction with the 46th Anniversary of the Renaming of Bandar Brunei to Bandar Seri Begawan; and the 11th National Youth Day celebration.

Also, taking part in the cycling recreation event were His Majesty's sons and daughter; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Wakeel, and Her Royal Highness Princess Ameerah Wardatul Bolkiah.

The event began with the release 46 balloons to commemorate the 46th anniversary of the renaming of Bandar Brunei to Bandar Seri



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam leading the cyclist taking part in the 11.3km bike in the capital.

Begawan, while 11 balloons were released to mark the 11th National Youth Day celebration. The balloons were set off by 57 youths as symbols of unity and support to the Monarch and the country.

The cycling recreation event's 11.3 kilometre route around Bandar Seri Begawan passed by several iconic monuments and historic places include Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Mosque, Lapau Building, the Prime Minister's Office and the Royal Regalia

and ended at Taman Haji Sir Muda Omar Ali Saifuddien.

The monarch also observed the side activities

The cycling recreation around the capital added fun to the Bandarku Ceria programme that takes place continuously since the beginning of this month. It helps to promote a healthy lifestyle among the people, as they exercise together to transform themselves into healthy citizens and residents.

Crown Prince launches UBD Convocation Festival

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 6. - His Royal Highness Prince Doctor Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Deputy Sultan and Pro-Chancellor of Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD) consented to launch the UBD Convocation Festival in conjunction with the university's 28th convocation Ceremony.

Upon arrival, His Royal Highness was greeted by Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Indera Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Suyoi bin Haji Osman, the Minister of Education, and Datin Doctor Hajah Anita Binurul Zahrina binti Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Wijaya Dato Seri Setia Haji Abdul Aziz, Vice Chancellor of UBD.

His Royal Highness then consented to officiate the festival that was themed "Success Through Harmony, Knowledge and Resilience".

The chosen theme is to carry out His Royal Highness's sabda that is hope to produce youths who are capable, diligent, courageous and intelligent as well as possessing relevant knowledge. Aside from having strong morals and faith as a muslim youth through the teachings of Al-Quran and As-Sunnah as the key to the society's socio-economic progress as well as regional harmony through the network platform and sharing of ASEAN youths expertise.

His Royal Highness then proceeded to tour the exhibition that showcased various innovative and leading edge projects and research outcomes from the UBD undergraduates that can lead UBD's future as well as having its own value.

Among the projects on display were The Robotic Gulintangan, 'Generating Bioelectric Energy Through Plants, The Creative Industry Mapping Project, The Acacia Species Pyrolysis project producing biofuel and other bio product as well as various types of exhibits that were accomplished through team work.

Through determination and commitment of the students in producing their projects it is hope that it will be able to contribute to Brunei's future development and economy.



His Royal Highness the Crown Prince looks at one of the exhibitions displayed.



BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 12 - His Royal Highness Prince Doctor Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office, and Pro-Chancellor of the Universiti Islam Sultan Sharif Ali (UNISSA), consented to officiate UNISSA Convocation Festival at the 6th Mahrajan Hafl Al-Takharruj' a convocation festival, held at International Convention Centre (ICC).

At the opening of the exhibition, His Royal Highness launched a total of 26 new publications and books, published by UNISSA.

Among them is a journal, a dictionary, four series of monographs (one in Malay language and three in Arabic). Meanwhile, 20 books including 11 books in Arabic, six in Malay and three in English.

A Journal which was officiated in the ceremony amongs UNNISA Journal, fourth issue comprising seven articles.

While a dictionary titled "Kamus Istilah Undang-Undang Jenayah Syariah (Huhud, Qisas dan Tkzir) containing the legal jargon used in Islamic criminal law.

Bearing the theme of 'Islamic Finance and Entrepreneurship for a Self-Sustaining Generation', the four-day festival at the ICC will feature several competitions and academic sessions, including a forum on Islamic entrepreneurship and a calligraphy contest.

Several booths have also been set up for the four-day festival at the ICC.

Crown Prince officiates 6th UNISSA Convocation Festival



His Royal Highness Prince Doctor Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office, and Pro-Chancellor of the Universiti Islam Sultan Sharif Ali during the 6th Mahrajan Hafl Al-Takharruj, or UNISSA Convocation Festival.

HRH Crown Prince awards Masters Degrees and Diplomas to 556 UBD graduates

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 15 - His Royal Highness Prince Doctor Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Pro-Chancellor of Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD), presented the Masters Degrees and Diplomas to 556 UBD graduates.

At a convocation ceremony held at the university's Chancellor Hall, 481 graduates were awarded Master Degrees, 13 graduates received Advanced Diplomas and 62 received Diplomas.

The Master recipients comprised of those who have completed the Master of Public Policy and Management from the Institute of Policy Studies; Master of Finance, Economics, Business Administration, Logistics, Islamic Finance and Management from UBD's School of Business and Economics; Master of Engineering from the Faculty of Integrated Technology; Master of Arts from the Academy of Brunei Studies; Master of Arts in Islamic Civilization and Contemporary Issues from the Sultan Omar Ali Saifuddin Centre for Islamic Studies; Master of Arts from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences; Master of Science from the Faculty of Science; Master of Health Science, Public Health and



His Royal Highness Prince (Doctor) Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Pro-Chancellor of UBD handing a certificate to one of the graduates.

Science from the Pengiran Anak Puteri Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkiah Institute of Health Science; Master of Education, Counselling and Teaching from the Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Institute of Education.

Meanwhile, the Advanced Diploma and Diploma recipients comprised of those who have completed the Advanced Diploma and Diploma of Health Science

in Ophthalmic Nursing, Operation Theatre Nursing, Child Care, Midwifery, Nursing and Paramedics from the Pengiran Anak Puteri Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkiah Institute of Health Science and Diploma of Education, Technical Education and Counseling from the Centre for Lifelong Learning.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince launches 3rd UTB convocation Festival



His Royal Highness touring the UTB exhibition at the 3rd UTB Convocation Festival.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 27 - His Royal Highness Prince Doctor Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office, as Pro-Chancellor of UTB, consented to officiate the launching of the 3rd Universiti Teknologi Brunei (UTB) Convocation Festival.

His Royal Highness also delivered a sabda for the launching of the 3rd UTB Convocation Festival 2016.

The 'XLR8 (Experiential Learning Partnership)' is the theme for UTB's convocation festival this year, which reflects the university's mission to provide experiential learning, improve the quality of research and foster key partnerships. The acronym is derived from the phrase 'experiential (X) learning (LR) partnership (ATE)', which is also pronounced 'accelerate' and signifies the university's endeavour to 'accelerate' efforts to realise its vision to be among the top 10 universities for Engineering and Technology in Southeast Asia by 2018.

His Royal Highness signed a plaque commemorating the launching of UTB's 30th Anniversary Exhibition at the UTB Gallery.

Following the performances, His Royal Highness then toured the 'XLR8 Exhibition', which consists of four components – The Journey, Strategic Partnerships, 360 Graduate and The Cycle.

The upcoming UTB Convocation 2016 will be held on November 7 at the Plenary Hall of the International Convention Centre (ICC), in Berakas.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 30. - His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office, and Her Royal Highness Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah binti Pengiran Haji Salleh Ab. Rahaman, consented to watch the final of the Fifth Brunei Masters and Open Swimming Championship.

His Royal Highness the Crown Prince's son, Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Muntaqim was among the participants taking part in the final.

Also present were Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Anak Muneerah Madhul Bolkiah and Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda Muhammad Aiman.

Upon arrival at the National Swimming Pool, Hassanal Bolkiah National Sports Complex, Berakas, His Royal Highness was greeted by Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Retired Major General Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd Yussof.

Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Muntaqim, representing International School Brunei (ISB), took part in the men's 100-metre freestyle and the men's 50-metre breast stroke event.

The championship was organised by the Brunei Amateur Swimming Association with the support of the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports.

HRH the Crown Prince and HRH Pengiran Anak Sarah attends Open Swimming Championship



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, Her Royal Highness Pengiran Anak Sarah and their children, consented to watch the final of the Fifth Brunei Open and Masters Swimming Championship 2016.

'Russia: Beauty in Diversity' Exhibition displays NBD – Russia relationship



Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna binti Al-Mahrum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddin Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, the Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade consented to officiate the 'Russia: Beauty in Diversity' exhibition.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 11. - Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna binti Al-Mahrum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddin Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, the Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade consented to grace the 'Russia: Beauty in Diversity' exhibition to commemorate the 25th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Brunei Darussalam and Russia held at the Royal Wharf Art Gallery.

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation, His Excellency Vladlen Stanislavovich Semivolos in his welcoming remarks, expressed his deepest appreciation to Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna for gracing the opening of the exhibition.

At the event, Her Royal Highness consented to officiate the exhibition and receive a souvenir presented by the His Excellency.

HRH then witnessed an exhibition showcasing photos of memorable events in the history of bilateral relations between Brunei-Russia.

The exhibition features Russia's architectural, mosques in Russia and its national costumes.

Also displayed were traditional objects of Russian folk art consisting of the world-famous Matryoshkas Dolls, Gzhel porcelain and Zhostovo metal tray, 'Khokhloma Crockeries', Palekh Jewellery boxes and Pavlov Posad shawls.

The exhibition also displayed the 55th anniversary of the first flight to space in the history of mankind by Russian cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin.

The exhibition is organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports.

Brunei's Speaker of Legislative Council Official Visit to Russia

MOSCOW, October 12. - The diplomatic relations between Brunei Darussalam and the Russian Federation continues to strengthen with the establishment of bilateral cooperation namely in trade as well as energy and culture.

This was discussed during the courtesy call made by Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib, the Speaker of the Legislative Council, with Chairperson of the Russian Federation Council, Her Excellency Valentina Matvienko.

During the friendly visit, both countries, also discussed was the inter-parliamentary involvement at the dialogue meeting between the two countries during the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary General Assembly.

The meeting has opened up an opportunity for Brunei Legislative Council members to attend meetings in the Russian Federation such as the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF) in 2013.

The discussion also touched on cooperation in the fields of trade, economy and investment.

Yang Berhormat also made a visit to the Ministry of Education and Science as well as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and had the opportunity to meet with Deputy Ministers at the ministries.

In both meeting, issues discussed were mutually focused on present and future cooperation matters.

The Russian Federation Council Conference Hall was also the focus of Yang Berhormat's visit apart from attending the wreath Laying Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier by the Kremlin Wall.

The ceremony is held annually in memory of the fallen Soviet soldiers in World War II.

Yang Berhormat's official visit to the Russian Federation lasted for five days starting from October 10 to October 14 2016.



His Excellency Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib, the Speaker of the Legislative Council, signing the visitors book during the official visit to Federal council building.



RECEPTION

Present on behalf of the Government of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Indera Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Suyoi, Minister of Education, and his spouse attended a reception to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the establishment of Russia-Brunei diplomatic relations.

Also present were the Ambassador of the Russian Federation to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Vladlen Semivolos, and his spouse.

The reception was held at The Rizqun International Hotel, Gadong on October 10.



Present on behalf of the Government of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Ali bin Haji Apang, Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism, and his spouse, attended a reception to commemorate the 93rd Anniversary of the Proclamation of the Republic of Turkey.

Also present were the Turkish Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Fikret Oguz Ates, and his spouse.

The reception was held at The Rizqun International Hotel, Gadong on October 29.

MSMEs major key to generate employment, economy



Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Singamanteri Colonel (Rtd) Dato Seri Setia (Dr) Awang Haji Mohammad Yasmin bin Haji Umar, the Minister of Energy and Industry at the Prime Minister's Office at the launching of the Startup Bootcamp and Microcredit Financing Scheme held at the Design and Technology Building in Anggerek Desa.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, Oktober 12.

– The Micro Small and Medium Enterprise (MSMEs) is seen as a key element in diversifying the national economy and a major contributor to job creation globally, both in the ASEAN region as well as worldwide.

This was stated by Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Singamanteri Colonel (Rtd) Dato Seri Setia (Dr) Awang Haji Mohammad Yasmin bin Haji Umar, the Minister of Energy and Industry at the Prime Minister's Office at the launching of the Startup Bootcamp and Microcredit Financing Scheme held at the Design and Technology Building in Anggerek Desa.

The Minister then further highlighted that the contributions from MSMEs to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and employment, should be valued as it contributes an average of between 23 percent to 58 percent for GDP and between 43 to 97 for employment in the

ASEAN region alone.

This figure he said, continues to increase from time to time and the impact on the socio-economic state is crucial which is why the establishment of Darussalam Enterprise (DARE) is to encourage and help the MSMEs in markets sales, technopreneurs, in manufacturing sectors, etc.

According to Yang Berhormat Pehin, the Government of His Majesty through the Ministry of Finance, in short and medium terms, is actively reviewing the establishment of a Special Bank for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, as a moving step to add financial facilities to entrepreneurs in the country.

DARE he added, is always committed to enhancing the level of entrepreneurs in the country including developing the MSMEs to be always relevant and sustainable.

The Startup Bootcamp is the first

initiative launched, and it is a platform for aspiring entrepreneurs and startups to gain knowledge on building a sustainable business for a period of 100 days.

The bootcamp, which has been running since September 27, is on its first cycle with a total of 65 registered participants, making up 23 teams who meet every Tuesday evening.

At the end of the 100 days, there will be a Demo Day where selected startups and businesses will pitch to investors from within Brunei Darussalam and from overseas.

The second initiative launched is the Microcredit Financing Scheme, which offers microcredit facility amounting up to BND 15,000 with a repayment period of up to 36 months.

Those eligible for the scheme are micro businesses and startups. The participating bank for this scheme is Bank Islam Brunei Darussalam (BIBD).

TUNGKULINK, October 15 - Pengiran Anak Puteri Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkiah (PAPRSB) Institute of Health Sciences (IHS), Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the University of Adelaide, Australia held at the Extension Building, IHS, UBD.

Signing on behalf of the UBD was Dr. Joyce Teo Siew Yean, Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Global Affairs), while the University of Adelaide was represented by Professor Alastair Burt, Executive Dean, Faculty of Health Sciences. Also present to witness the signing were Dr Hajah Rafidah binti Gharif, Dean of HIS, and other principal officers and academicians of UBD.

With the signing of the MoU, it will bring in more active collaborations between the two universities as the MoU will provide more work placements for UBD students in their clinical learning experience. In addition, both universities will also be developing more collaborations in student and staff exchange, and research collaboration in the fields of health sciences and biodiversity.

The Faculty of Health Sciences has embarked on a major infrastructure project, the construction of a 14-floor

PAPRSB IHS (UBD) – University of Adelaide signs MoU for medical programmes



Dr. Joyce Teo Siew Yean, UBD Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Global Affairs) (centre) signing the MoU with Professor Alastair Burt (right) at the IHS Extension Building, UBD.

building in the South Australia Health and Biomedical Precinct in the West End adjacent to the new Royal Adelaide Hospital and South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute (SAHMRI). This is due to open in early 2017 and will house five major research themes, the new dental hospital and their flagship medical and nursing programmes.

UBD developed a medical programme which has been running

successfully for the last 10 years. Students studying at UBD for three years and graduating with Bachelor of Health Sciences (BHSc Medicine) ordinary degree before transferring to partner medical schools in the UK, Ireland and Australia.

The graduates enter the 3rd year of the partner medical programme and complete their medical degree programme overseas. The University of Adelaide is one of UBD's Medical Schools Partner in Australia.



Awang Wardi bin Haji Mohammad Ali, Deputy Permanent Secretary (Tourism) at the Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism at the meeting Hosted by Brunei Darussalam for the Visit Asean@50 Golden Celebration Campaign.

ASEAN targets 121 million tourists in 2017

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, Oktober 10. - Efforts in promoting our region as a single tourism destination have faced several challenges, namely the current global pandemic disease that is spreading across the region.

However, despite those challenges and the current global economic downturn, Southeast Asia remains a vibrant and robust tourism destination with a diverse range of attractions and offerings.

Awang Wardi bin Haji Mohammad Ali, Deputy Permanent Secretary (Tourism) at the Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism, highlighted this while delivering his opening remarks at a Special Meeting Hosted by Brunei Darussalam for the Visit Asean@50 Golden Celebration Campaign held at the Songket Ballroom, Rizqun International Hotel.

Awang Wardi who is also the chairman of the meeting added that the success of

this Visit Asean@50 Golden Celebration Campaign will only be achieved with collaborations and partnerships with the relevant stakeholders both from the public and private sectors.

The campaign he explained, aims to increase public awareness of ASEAN as a single tourism destination, in addition to raise international visitor arrivals to Southeast Asia to 121 million by the end of 2017.

To further promote the Visit Asean@50 Golden Celebration Campaign, Brunei Darussalam as lead country coordinator will also deliver a press conference on the campaign during the International Tourism Bourse Asia which will be held from October 19 to 21 in Singapore.

The Visit Asean@50: Golden Celebration initiative was adopted by Asean Tourism Ministers during the

Asean Tourism Forum 2016 in Manila, the Philippines where the 10 Asean national tourism organisations jointly developed a regional tourism campaign promoting the Asean brand in two intertwining ways that is first as a unique and diverse travel destination, and secondly as a vibrant organisation celebrating its 50th anniversary.

The special meeting held for seven days from 9th to 15th October will discuss the preparations and progress achieved by member countries of ASEAN in national programs, promotional campaigns as well as marketing activities throughout 2017 to celebrate the Golden Jubilee Anniversary of ASEAN.

In addition, the meeting also discussed measures to promote the region as a leading tourist destination in the world.

Singapore and Brunei continues to enhance cooperation



Awang Mawardi bin Haji Mohammad, Acting Director of information, presented souvenirs to the Assistant Director of Media Operations, Dayang Nafisah binti Ismail.

BERAKAS, October 10 - Broadcasting and information cooperation between Brunei Darussalam and the Republic of Singapore continues to develop with the exchange of visits of officials from both sides.

The Department of Information welcomed two translator officers from the Republic of Singapore who attended the Translators Intensive Program (TIP) 2016 at the department's additional building.

Welcoming the officers was Awang Mawardi bin Haji Mohammad, the Acting Director of The Department of Information.

The programme was agreed at the 24th Meeting under the Memorandum of Understanding in the field of Broadcasting and Information between Brunei Darussalam and the Republic of Singapore where by Brunei Darussalam is the organizer this year.

The first meeting of the Committee for the Information Working Group (IWG) was held from 12 to 13 November last year in the Republic of Singapore, agreed to conduct the programme on a rotation basis.

The programme, among others, aims to upgrade the translators skill level through work placement in agencies that has been arranged and understand the translation methodology practiced in Brunei Darussalam.

In addition, they will also have the opportunity to pursue in the use of Jawi in the context of language translation in Brunei Darussalam and enable them to establish a network of cooperation with translators from this country to provide collaboration opportunities in the future.

The work placement will continue in several Government and private agencies in this country including the Language and Literature Bureau, Department of Radio Television Brunei and The Brunei Press Sdn. Bhd.