



بروني دارالسلام

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

newsletter

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Abiding to teachings of Quran ensures stability and prosperity of country: Titah

The country will continue to adopt the policy of keeping close to the teachings of the Quran. It is time for the Muslims to do "something" instead of merely shouting "slogans" and engaging in "big talk".

In his latest titah, held in conjunction with the ninth National Day Celebration at the ICC, 23 February, the Brunei monarch expressed his confidence that due to adhering to the teachings of the Quran, the country continues to be stable and prosperous.

This year's National Day celebration, is different from previous years, not only because it falls on the first day of the fasting month of Ramadan, but it has also chosen the launching of the writing of the Al-Quran which replaces the mace of Universiti Brunei Darussalam, as the main highlight of the 1993 celebration.

This is meaningful and significant in an era when men are cease-



His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, consented to write the first sentence of the Mushaf Al-Quran, which replaces the mace of Universiti Brunei Darussalam

lessly looking for a suitable philosophy and ideology for their countries, His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam said.

"The launching also reflects the aspiration of our country, to at least get the blessings from the Al-Quran and its teachings, and in the various aspects of life as a whole."

His Majesty added: "We know that there is no other law and constitution which is more truthful and illustrious than the Al-Quran. It has therefore become our responsibility to emulate the teachings of the Al-Quran wherever we can possibly implement."

For an example, we have already

banned alcohol for liquor is clearly forbidden by the Al-Quran. Similarly with the establishment of Islamic financial institutions (in the country), because the Quran mentions riba, the Brunei monarch added.

Likewise, there are other things which are prohibited by the Al-Quran, part of which have become laws in our country, for instance the ban on gambling in whatever form or type, His Majesty said.

Many more things need to be done as years passed by after independence. His Majesty further underlined the need to retain the Bruneian attitude and sense of spirit without resorting to or emulating others from outside.

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BRUNEI DARUSSALAM NEWSLETTER

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YOUR TURN

The next issue of the Brunei Darussalam newsletter will appear on 31 March, 1993. If there are events relating to our country you would like featured in this newsletter please call us on Tel: 02-225941 or better still, send us a report with a picture, if possible. All editorial rights reserved.

Congratulatory messages from foreign leaders on Sultanate's National Day anniversary

Foreign leaders have sent congratulatory messages to His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam on the occasion of the country's Ninth National Day anniversary, on February 23.

Those who had sent messages included Their Majesties The Yang Pertuan Agong of Malaysia Sultan Azlan Muhibbuddin Shah and King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand, and Their Excellencies President Soeharto of Indonesia, President Fidel Ramos of the Philippines, President Wee Kim Wee of Singapore, Malaysian Prime Minister, Yang Amat Berhormat Dato Seri Dr. Mahathir bin Mohammad, Their Excellencies Goh Chok Tong, the Prime Minister of Singapore, President Bill Clinton of the United States of America, and the Prime Minister of Japan, Kichi Miyazawa.

Messages also came from Their Majesties King Qaboos bin Said of Oman, Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al-Nahayyan, President of the United Arab Emirates, Sheikh Maktoum bin Rashid Al-Makhtoum, Deputy President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates, Their Excellencies President Hosny Mubarak of Egypt, President Ali Abdullah Saleh of the Republic of Yemen, President Saddam Hussein of Iraq, President Ali Kafi of the Democratic People Republic of Algeria, President Roh Tae Woo of the Republic of Korea and President Cassam Uteem of Mauritius.

There were also messages from Their Excellencies President Carlos Salinas De Gortari of Mexico, President Mary Robinson of Ireland, President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom of the Republic of Maldives, President Censu Tabone of Malta, General Lansana Conte, President of the Republic of Guinea, Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, Bill Hayden, Governor-General of New Zealand, Dame Catherine Tizard and President Dawda Kairabu Jawara of the Republic of Gambia.

Also sending their congratulatory messages were Their Excellencies President Richard Von Weizasecker of German Republic, President Ghulam Ishaq Khan of Pakistan and Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, Prime Minister of Pakistan.

Messages also came from Their Majesties Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, the Emir of Kuwait, King Hussein Ibn Talal of Jordan, King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev of Nepal, and Their Excellencies President Thomas Klestil of Austria, President Adolf Ogi of Switzerland and Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Khaleda Zia.

Also sending their messages to the Brunei ruler on the occasion of the auspicious day were Their Majesties Sheikh Isa bin Salman Al-Khalifa of Bahrain and King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden, The Right Honourable John Major, British Prime Minister and Their Excellencies President Francois Mitterrand of France, President George Vassiliou of Cyprus and President Arpad Goenoz of Hungary.

Industrial development, private sector involvement needed for economic diversifications

His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam has called on the need to focus attention towards measures for economic diversification especially through the development in the industrial field and the active participation of the private sector.

The Brunei monarch in his 'titah' (royal address) also highlighted the need for every diligent effort to be made to compete with others in the world, some of which are more advanced in knowledge and in science and technology.

His Majesty made the remark in nationwide address on the eve of the 9th anniversary of the Sultanate's National Day Celebration, telecast over radio and television on February 22. This year, Brunei Darussalam's National Day anniversary fell on the first day of the fasting month of Ramadan on February 23. The theme this year is "Meneguhkan Kesejahteraan Tanahairku" or Strengthening the Well-being of My Country.

His Majesty said: "The participation of the local people in the private sector is important as it is not wise to continue to depend on foreign labour."

His Majesty said the foreign labour would go back to their country with the experience they gained here when their contract ends. The Sultanate therefore would continue to face a shortage of skilled-manpower.

Touching on the formation of the "Tabung Amanah Pekerja" or the Employees' Trust Fund which would soon be extended to the private sector, His Majesty hoped that locals would not hesitate to participate in the sector as it also promises a secure future.

The monarch further stressed that the country did not want unemployment to take place because the contribution of the people is important in ensuring the continued development, prosperity and well-being of the country, His Majesty said.

Prior to these remarks, His Majesty noted that the country has been able to continue development efforts including physical development in various fields and in the intellectual and spiritual spheres.

His Majesty also expressed the hope that the efforts would always be blessed by Allah, God the Almighty and that the people would be able to enjoy the benefits of independence.

Sultanate has its own system of government

Earlier in his 'titah', His Majesty said the Sultanate is fortunate that when it gained independence, it already has its own system of government, capable in safeguarding the interests of the people in all aspects of development and needs. Through it, the country and people have been able to enjoy peace which has led them to live harmony and in comfort,

His Majesty added.

However, we are also aware of the challenges which a country and government has to face, especially when countries in the world are dependent on each other, which made possible interaction (between countries) including in the field of politics, the ruler said.

Therefore, the monarch added, we need to be cautious in determining the direction and the basis of our country's political culture, as one which has its own identity, and at the same time not neglecting the religious aspects as the framework of our policies.

This would strengthen our uniqueness as a race different from others in the world, His Majesty said.

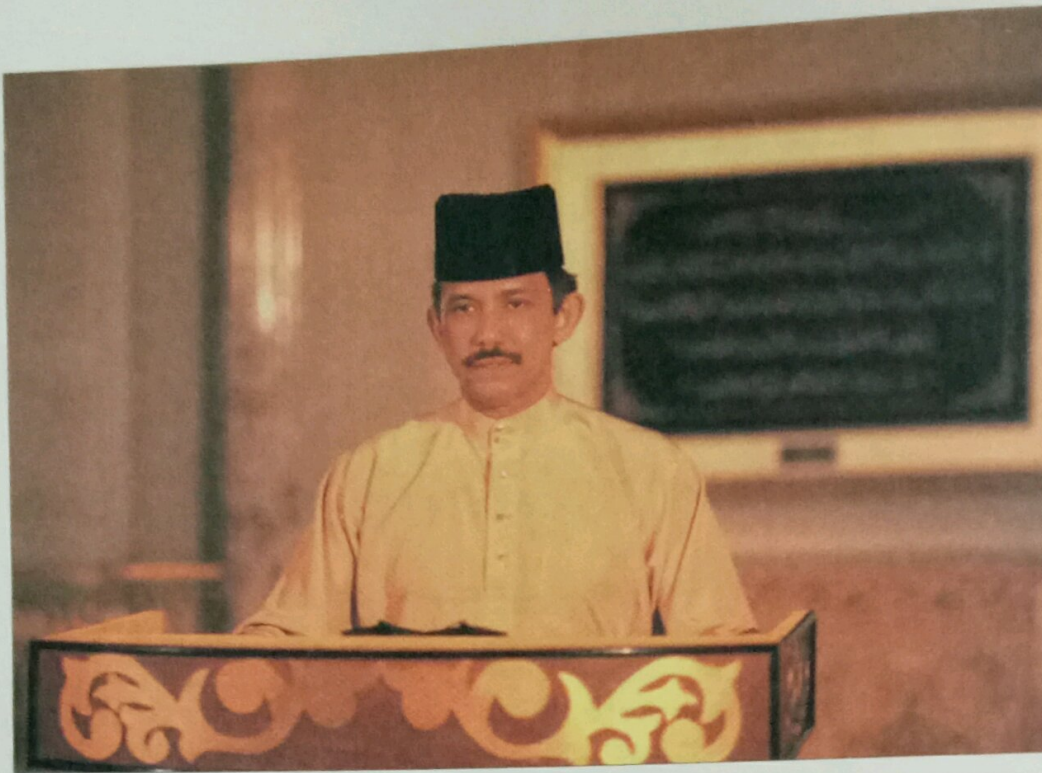
International issues

On the international front, His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam observed that the latest events in the world still indicate traces of disputes which lead to destruction.

His Majesty said that the end of the Cold War has not brought about world peace. This is so when various conflicts and disputes with no regard to the human race, are still widespread in several places in the world.

His Majesty stressed that as a country with a peace-loving principle and respect for human rights, "we

Continued on page 4



Left: His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam delivering a titah on the eve of the Ninth anniversary of the Sultanate's National Day Celebration.

On the eve of the National Day, His Majesty joined his subjects for a thanksgiving prayer in conjunction with the occasion at the Omar Ali Saifuddien mosque in Bandar Seri Begawan. With His Majesty were His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Haji Mohamed Bolkiah and His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Digadong Sahibul Mal Pengiran Muda Haji Jefri Bolkiah (right).



From page 3 (economic diversification)

also condemn any form of atrocities and oppression being inflicted towards mankind."

The Brunei ruler pointed out that any inhuman and brutal acts should not be allowed to continue as in the case which is still widespread in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

His Majesty also stressed that Brunei Darussalam also condemned the Jewish regime in expelling the Palestinians from their homeland by ignoring the United Nations resolutions which it has normally done so

far.

"We are of the view that the continuing atrocities have caused a lot of losses and sufferings to the people concerned. In this regard we continue to hope that the United Nations will justify its credibility as a notable world body," said His Majesty.

His Majesty further said that as an Islamic country, we also regret that occurrence of several conflicts and disputes among Muslims and expressed the hope that they would realise this and soon re-establish brotherly ties.

Importance of peace to ensure the region's stability

In his 'titah', the Brunei ruler also touched the importance of peace to ensure stability in the region.

His Majesty said that the country is also concerned over the development in Cambodia which has yet to be stable, as peace in Indo-China is important for regional stability.

His Majesty said that peace is vital at a period of the rapid pace of economic development in the Asia-Pacific region.

National committee on the environment held first meeting

His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam has consented to the formation of a national committee on environment to monitor and coordinate the situation of the Sultanate's environment. This is also in line with the proposal included in the Sixth National Development Plan.

Yang Berhormat Pengiran Dato Seri Paduka Dr. Haji Ismail, the Development Minister, who is also chairman of the National Committee on Environment made this statement at its first meeting at the International Convention Centre (ICC), March 10.

The one-day meeting discussed the Terms of Reference of the National Committee on Environment and a draft proposal for the preparation of a National Environment Strategy. The meeting has agreed with the Terms of Reference, subject to amendments and to prepare a national environment strategy which is subject to further consultations between all parties concerned.

Among others the meeting also identified the immediate long-term targets and action plan for high priority areas of environment concern.

The meeting also proposed that a project be undertaken for the preparation of a national environment strategy with the objective among others to develop a strategy for the realisation of national goals and objectives for a clean and healthy environment and a higher quality of life.

Members of the National Committee on Environment comprise several permanent secretaries, directors, Managing Director of the Brunei Shell Petroleum Company Sendirian Berhad as well as the president of the country's State Chamber of Commerce.

Speech by Development Minister

The Environment Unit of the Ministry of Development will undertake the running of the secretariat for the National Committee. Among others, the Unit will coordinate environment-related activities under the 'Agenda 21' which have been adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) as well as environment-related activities in the country including parks and recreation matters.

(Agenda 21 is a document adopted by Governments at the United Nations Conference on Environment and De-

velopment (UNCED), known as the Earth Summit. It serves as a non-legally binding action plan upon which the international community will base programmes and projects in all areas relating to the sustainable development of the planet from now into the twenty-first century.

Agenda 21 has four major sections dealing with social and economic dimensions, conservation and management of resources for development, strengthening the roles of major groups and means of implementations.

In the past, the minister said, matters covering the environment in the country has been conducted merely on an ad hoc basis. Each department or ministry undertook their own activities related to their respective environment-related sectors.

Subsequently, certain important aspects of the environment were not implemented by any one department or ministry. As a result, effective management of the environment is lacking, said the minister.

It is obvious that environmental issues and problems are universal in nature, said the minister, adding that various government authorities and the public are involved directly or indirectly in addressing the various environmental issues and problems.

Serious attention and cooperation needed to overcome environmental problem

In general, the problem of environment in the country is not as serious or critical as those faced by other countries, said the minister.

However, he added that as an early measure there are several aspects on the environment which need to be given serious attention and cooperation. One of these is the problem of disposal.

He said that the facilities for the disposal of wastes were inadequate and ineffective, and therefore we need a more effective and efficient management of wastes to overcome this problem.

Most houses in Bandar Seri Begawan are using septic tanks for the disposal of sewage and only about twenty percent are connected to the sewerage system. Although acceptable, septic tanks are not 'disludged' regularly. Thus overflows from septic tanks as well as pollution of direct sewage discharge from some residential houses constitute a major source of pollution in rivers and coastal

waters.

In view of the seriousness of this problem, the minister said we need to have new legislation or devise an administrative means of ensuring that all houses and commercial buildings have their own disposal system or that they are directly connected to the existing and nearby government's sewerage system.

The minister also pointed out to the need to ensure a balance between development needs and environmental considerations. In fact there is a need to adopt policies pertaining to the concept of sustainable development in order to ensure that any actions undertaken now would take into account the needs of future generations, he said.

One way to ensure 'sustainable development' is to consider the impacts of development on the environment. In other words, the environmental impact assessments of major project should be undertaken, depending upon the scale of the development or the potential negative impacts on the environment.

The country still has a large part of unexploited natural resources with invaluable 'biological diversity' resources.

We should be determined in identifying them through studies and research, particularly the possible benefits which could be exploited in the future, said the minister.

Basis for environmental action

Agenda 21 should be used as a basis for environmental action in the country, the Development Minister said, in order to ensure that a balance between development and environment is achieved.

Agenda 21 contains a comprehensive action plan comprising various aspects on environment for all countries. Each country including Brunei Darussalam would implement 'Agenda 21' according to their respective capabilities and priorities.

Agenda 21, one of the major outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992, comprises a comprehensive programme of action covering a wide range of areas pertaining to the environment. The implementation of Agenda 21 will have to depend on the capabilities and priorities of each country, including Brunei Darussalam, the minister added.



Above: His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam with HRH Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, HRH Prince Haji Mohamed Bolkiah and HRH Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah during the Ninth National Day Celebration at the ICC. His Majesty consented to receive the "indung" of the Mushaf Al-Quran, from UBD's Vice Chancellor, Dato Seri Laila Jasa Haji Awang Abu Bakar bin Haji Apong (below).

His Majesty
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The reading of the pledge of loyalty to His Majesty and his government (below).

From page 1 (abiding to teachings of Quran)

"In my opinion," the monarch said, "there is no other example which is distinguished that we can follow today, each has its own problems, part of which are too complex and difficult to resolve."

Added His Majesty: "We must continue with our work, to develop and work hard, and at the same time we pray and seek help and 'beribadat' (do acts of worship/piety), and in (God Willing) success and peace and prosperity will be with us."

On the writing of the Al-Quran launched Tuesday 23 Feb, His Majesty hoped it would become the backbone to further strengthen the sense of spirit and attitude in facing various challenges and the influence of time.

He also hope the work in the writing of the Al-Quran would replace UBD's mace would go on smoothly. By using the Quran as model, this would place the country to the rank of



His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam "Junjung ziarah" from foreign diplomats who attended the



"modern", His Majesty concluded.

After the titah, His Majesty consented to write the first sentence of the Al-Quran, followed by three cheers of "Allahu Akbar" (Allah is the Greatest). A doa selamat was then read. His Majesty later consented to witness an exhibition of various copies of the Al-Quran, which are part of the monarch's personal collection.

Speech by Education Minister

The Education Minister, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Wijaya Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Abdul Aziz said replacing the mace of the Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD) with the Mushaf Al-Quran is most appropriate as the holy book is a treasure of knowledge, which could meet all the needs of men, at all times, whether past, present and in the future, insha Allah (God willing).

So far, the "cokmar" or the mace symbolises the pursuit of

Continued to page 8



The Brunei monarch witness an exhibition of several copies of the Al-Quran (above). Also viewing the exhibition are His Majesty's eldest son, HRH Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, HRH Prince Haji Mohamed Bolkiah and HRH Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah (left).

receives



The Ninth National Day Celebration was also attended by Permanent Secretaries (left).

Foreign Diplomats were among those who turn up to celebrate the country's national day anniversary (right).



*From page 7
(abiding to teachings of Quran)*

knowledge, said Yang Berhormat.

Yet, we have not learnt of any higher institution of learning in the world which could offer a full course which could meet all the needs of men, whether in "kepentingan hidup duniawi dan ukhrawi" (matters involving life in this world and the hereafter). Al-Quran on the other hand, provides the most comprehensive source of knowledge, added the Minister.

In a speech shortly before the Brunei monarch delivered his titah, Yang Berhormat Pehin further said: "The greatness and strength of the Al-Quran is evident everyday, it is

not too much if it is said that everytime a scholar discovers something new, the truth about the Al-Quran becomes even clearer. When a new discovery is found to be contradictory with something in the Al-Quran, (one can be sure) with the help from Allah, another new discovery will be made to refute it and subsequently making it more valid the truth contained with the verses of Allah in this holy book."

Without doubt, the titah by His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam last year (12 September 1992, UBD's fourth convocation; the titah calls for the replacement of UBD's mace with Mushaf Al-Quran), is most timely and appropriate, the Minister added.

It is no surprise that everyone in

this country supports the titah. In fact Muslims in other countries too support this move and hope that His Majesty would continue to lead (the country) in accordance with Islamic teachings, Yang Berhormat said.

An executive committee has been set up, among others to search for a calligrapher of the Mushaf in various countries such as Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Morocco, Turkey and the Arab Republic of Egypt. Out of the nine candidates interviewed, a calligrapher from the Arab Republic Egypt, Syeikh Sa'id Abdel Hamed Ibrahim Daib, has been chosen.

The fact that His Majesty would start the writing of the first sentence of the Mushaf in itself is historic for the country, Yang Berhormat said.

Brunei Women's council to coordinate activities

Her Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajjah Saleha highlighted recently the need for "Majlis Wanita Negara Brunei Darussalam (MWNBD) or "Brunei Darussalam's Women's Council" to coordinate the activities of women's associations in the country to avoid duplication of efforts, time and energy.

Majlis Wanita, a national body of women's associations in the country is formed to uphold the country's aspiration in line with the concept of "Melayu Islam Beraja" (MIB) or "Malay Muslim Monarchy", by gathering together the associations of women under one umbrella, and representing women in the country in all fields, Her Majesty added.

In her titah before declaring open the fourth General Meeting of MWNBD on February 14, Her Majesty pointed out that there are many more issues related to women which need special attention, such as in the economic and social fields.

Her Majesty further reminded that the fate of women should be given continuous attention, and hope that the Women's Council in the Sultanate could take this role consistent with the objectives of the association.

Also present at the ceremony were Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajjah Zariah, Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajjah Nor'ain and Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajjah Amal Umi Kalthum Al-Islam.

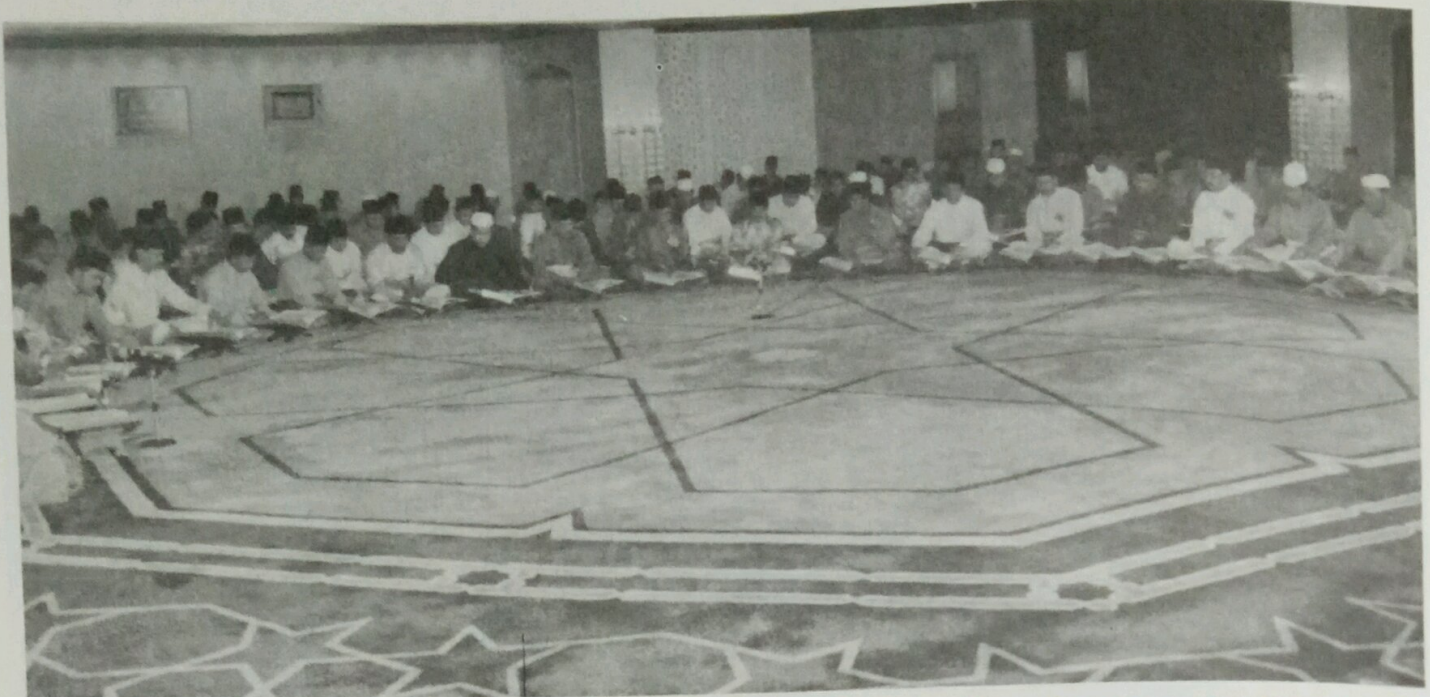
Speech by President of MWNBD

The President of MWNBD, Datin Hajjah Masni bte Haji Mohd. Ali in her
Continued on page 10



Top: Her Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajjah Saleha delivering her address at the opening ceremony of the fourth General Meeting of Brunei Darussalam's Women's Council.

Above: Her Majesty was accompanied at the function by Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajjah Zariah, left, and Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajjah No'ain, on her right, and Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajjah Amal Umi Kalthum Al-Islam (sitting on her left). While picture on the left shows Her Majesty and members of the royal family receiving "junjung ziarah" from members of the Women's Council.



Muslims in the country recite verses from the holy Quran known as tadarus either at homes or mosques every night during the month of Ramadan. The tadarus are also performed at the Nurul Iman Palace.

Religious activities in conjunction with Ramadan

Throughout the month of Ramadan, the ninth month in the Muslim calendar, Muslims throughout the world perform Islam's third pillar - the dawn to dusk fast, whereby Muslims refrain from eating and drinking and other pleasures as commanded by Islam.

Muslims in Brunei Darussalam observe the fasting month by performing several religious related activities and acts of kindness.

These include performing the

"Tarawih prayers" or long late evening prayers congregationally at mosques or homes nightly throughout Ramadan, after breaking their fast at dusk. This is followed by the recital of verses from the holy Quran, known as "Tadarus".

Prayers and the recital of Surah Yasin (verses from the Quran) are also performed at the gravesites by those who pay homage to their ancestors and loved ones, who have departed from this life. The recital of

Surah Yasin and Bertahlil are also performed at the Royal Mausoleum for His Majesty the Sultan's late parents.

After Ramadan, Muslims throughout the world will be celebrating the Eid Mubarak, the big festival which follows Ramadan. During this time, donations and gifts are given away especially to orphans and to those who are less fortunate, in preparation for the celebration.

More pictures on Page 11

From page 9 (Women's Council)

speech spoke among others about the achievements of the Women's Council in the country. These included its success in hosting the General Conference and the Fifth Seminar on ASEAN Confederation of Women's Organisations (ACWO) in 1992 and the Fifteenth Meeting of ACWO's Board of Administrator in 1991.

One of the resolutions of the conference calls on every national women organisation in ASEAN to carry out a "decentralisation project" which will be partly financed by ACWO.

Brunei Darussalam's Women's Council will carry out a project called "Food Irradiation" before the sixth ACWO General Conference.

The Women's Council is also the President of ACWO for a period of two years beginning 1993. In its capacity as the ACWO's President, the council will, this year, chair both Meeting of ACWO Board of Administrator and the Sixth ACWO General Conference in 1994. Both meetings will be held in Jakarta.

Datin Hajjah Masni further underlined the activities carried out by the council during the previous two

years, such as holding a Seminar on Consumers' Education and the Environmental protection as a response to international call for the protection of the environment.

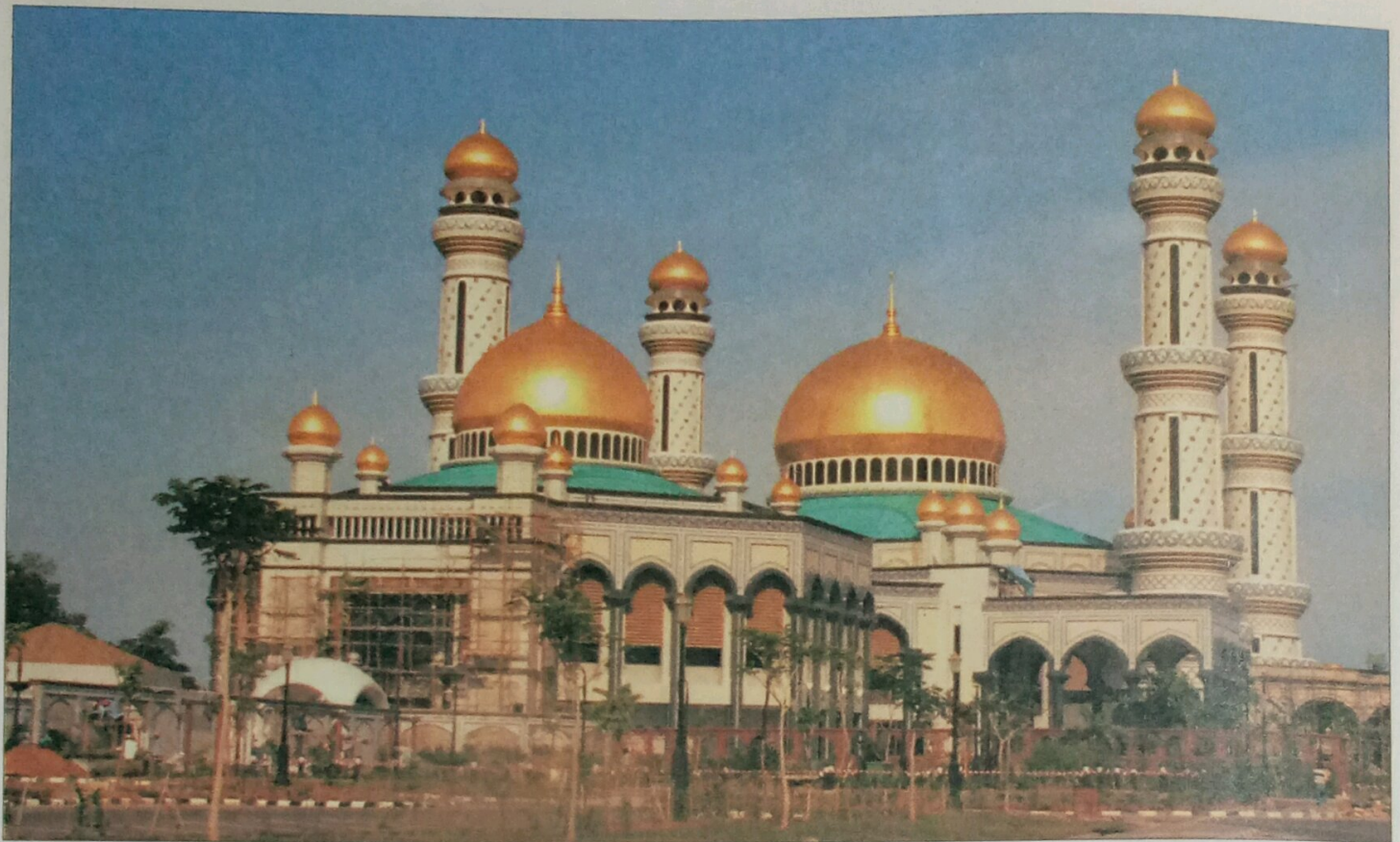
MWNBD also organised "service-oriented" activities of collecting funds for Moslems in Bosnia Herzegovina Fund and disasters fund for Bangladesh. Others included holding a thanksgiving ceremony in conjunction with the royal families' pilgrimage to Mecca and organising activities in conjunction with the Silver Jubilee of His Majesty's accession to the throne.



The tadarus are also performed at the Nurul Izzah Palace (left). The recital of Surah Yasin performed at the Royal Mausoleum for His Majesty's late father and mother (below).

Picture on the bottom right shows the Belait District Officer, Dato Paduka Awang Haji Ya'akub hand out cash gifts to orphans, while graveside prayers are offered to their ancestors and loved ones by those who pay homage (bottom left).





The Wakaf Mosque, another symbol of Islam's firm hold

The Wakaf Mosque of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam - to be the largest in Brunei Darussalam, is yet another symbol of Islam's firm hold in the country during His Majesty's reign. The

new mosque situated at Kampong Kiulap, few kilometres from the Brunei Darussalam capital of Bandar Seri Begawan. Other magnificent mosque which symbolises Islam in the country is the Sultan Omar Ali Saifuddin mosque which

stands prominently in the heart of the Brunei capital. The mosque in the Sultanate are not only used for prayers but also for religious activities, such as religious classes and 'dakwah'.

Brunei in Brief

Capital : Bandar Seri Begawan
 Land size : 5765 sq. km
 Population : 260,000 (1991)
 Official Language : Malay
 Official Religion : Islam
 February rainfall : 52 mm
 (annual 2,818mm)

PRIME LENDING RATE

February 6%
 (quoted by Bankers' Association)

Brunei Malay in a minute

Each month we introduce our readers to a Brunei Malay word that is used in the country.

Tanggar is the word selected for this edition.

Tanggar is pole or long and slender stick or galah in standard

Malay

Let's now use the word in a sentence.

Dia menggunakan tanggar untuk menjolok buah kelapa.

He used a pole to bring down coconut fruits.

THE TRAFFICKING IN AND THE ILLEGAL IMPORTATION OF CONTROLLED DRUGS ARE VERY SERIOUS OFFENCES IN BRUNEI DARUSSALAM AND THE PENALTY FOR SUCH OFFENCES IS DEATH.