

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM JOURNAL OF HEALTH

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THE SULTAN HAJI HASSANAL BOLKIAH FOUNDATION

The Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Foundation was established on 12th October 1992 to be:

- the channel of charitable endowment of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah and Members of His Majesty's Royal Family
- a symbol of the care and affection of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah towards His Majesty's subjects who are always loyal and faithful to His Majesty and His Majesty's Government
- the symbol of the creation and unity of the society and the nation, Brunei Darussalam which is peaceful and prosperous, as well as for the harmony of people of all other countries according to the circumstances and appropriateness blessed by Allah The Almighty.

These concepts are rooted in Faith, Charity and Good Deeds. Faith is the channel, Charity is the care and Good Deed is the creation of society and harmony. Since its establishment, the Foundation has implemented several projects and activities in accordance with the principles and objectives of the establishment of the Foundation in the areas of religion, welfare, education, development and finance.

Religion

Generally all projects and activities carried out by the Foundation in the field of religion has focused towards efforts in enhancing the propagation and preeminence of Islam in the country.

The Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Foundation has also extended financial assistance for promoting religious education of the subjects of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam. Qualified students without funding or scholarship from either the Government or other agencies have been given the opportunity to pursue their religious studies at universities and institution of higher learning overseas.

New Muslim converts are provided with housing assistance under the Foundation Housing Scheme to care for the welfare of the new converts so that they are able to practise life as a Muslim properly. This includes providing comfortable abodes for converts living in rural areas so that they can carry out their obligations to Allah The Almighty in a comfortable and harmonious environment.

The Foundation also gives annual financial donations to a number of mosques and other places of Islamic worship throughout the country in order to cover the cost of construction and maintenance of mosques, 'suraus' and prayer halls. Donations of appropriate materials such as religious books, praying mats and public address system to mosques are 'suraus' are also carried out periodically as required.



A contribution from the Foundation to the welfare of the community

Welfare

The Foundation are also involved in an effort to enhance the welfare and well-being as well as to stimulate the social, cultural and economic development of the citizens and residents of Brunei Darussalam.

The contributions in the form of cash, food items and other requirements to the unfortunates and poor comes at times of natural disasters and fire. Families with low income are also given appropriate assistance to improve their standard of living. The Foundation also gives support and provides sponsorship to non-government bodies (NGOs) in implementing programmes designed to encourage the needy to be self-reliant .

The welfare of people with special needs in the country also gets the attention of the Foundation whereby financial support is extended to the development and rehabilitation programmes for the people with special needs through non-government bodies involved in organising these programmes.

Other recipients of financial support from the Foundation are various youth development projects carried out by non-government bodies in this country such as basic training programmes for school leavers seeking employment, youth camp and youth workshops, competition in the field of writings, literatures, cultures and sports.

The Foundation has two huge housing projects in the country implemented under the Foundation Housing Scheme:

a) Housing assistance project for the poor and destitute people and whose houses are not safe to be inhabited. The housing assistance is hoped to provide a house which is comfortable and clean thus creating a peaceful family living environment and further develop a harmonious society.

b) The construction of the well-arranged housing project in Kampong Ayer (Brunei Darussalam Water Village) known as the Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Housing of Kampong Bolkiah 'A' and Kampong Bolkiah 'B'. The aim is to provide housing for the Kampong Ayer residents who were involved in a fire incident in 1993 which rendered approximately 1,000 people losing their homes and belongings. A total number of 476 houses were built under this housing project.

The Foundation also gives assistance to the disaster stricken communities and war victims in other countries as collaboration with Government and private agencies. The biggest of this is the Humanitarian Relief Initiative for The Tsunami and Earthquake Victims in Aceh, Republic of Indonesia. This project was implemented in two phases. The first phase was the emergency relief, which is the disseminating of food, clothing and medical help to the victims. The second phase involved helping in the re-construction of houses, mosques, schools and orphanages.



Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Housing of Kampong Bolkiah 'A' and Kampong Bolkiah 'B'

Education

Projects and activities implemented by the Foundation in the field of education focus on the provision of the educational assistance and research as well as educational services and infrastructure. This assistance is in the form of monthly subsistence allowance and given to students who do not receive any form of scholarship or grant and who are the subjects of His Majesty. The opportunity allows them to further their studies in various fields at overseas universities and institutions of higher learning. There are two important areas in education that the Foundation are involved in:

(i) The "Sultan's Scholar" scholarship is a prestigious scholarship offered by the Foundation with the aim of producing individuals who are knowledgeable, skillful, disciplined and well-mannered for the long-term benefit towards the Religion, Monarch and Country. The recipients are students who are recognised by the Foundation and the Ministry of Education as excellent students who have obtained excellent results in their GCE Advanced (A) Level or its equivalent and are engaged in extracurricular activities.

(ii) The establishment of the Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Foundation Schools comprising the Foundation Nursery School, the Foundation Primary School and the Foundation Secondary School represents the Foundation's involvement in offering educational services as a contribution to the development of education and human resources in Brunei Darussalam.

The Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Foundation School is located at Simpang 336-71, Jalan Kebangsaan, Berakas, situated in a peaceful environment and attractive surroundings. The school complex has been designed with distinctive features, integrating modern technology and equipped with modern and suitable facilities to provide a conducive teaching and learning environment.

Other periodic activities by the Foundation are to give assistance in the form of books, stationery and other study materials to students who need them so that they can continue their education properly. The Foundation also gives contributions in the form of teaching equipment such as computers and printers, photocopy machine, projector and reading materials to schools which require such assistance. Another important area that the Foundation gives support and financial contribution is in Research and Development Projects to institutions of higher learning in Brunei Darussalam for the benefits of scientific, technological and community development.

Development and Finance

The foundation also participates in development activities in the field of finance. Amongst the projects is participation in commercial enterprise and industrial activities; to purchase, guarantee or otherwise acquire any stocks and shares; and to establish a company or corporation to operate or manage any project, scheme or enterprise. A significant development and financial project undertaken by the Foundation is the establishment of The Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Foundation complex.

Situated splendidly between the Water Village at the Brunei River and the Omar 'Ali Saifuddin Mosque, the Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Foundation Complex (the Foundation Complex) is an investment project in real property undertaken by the Foundation whereby income derived from this investment is used to finance charitable projects initiated by the Foundation. The Foundation Complex is one of the biggest and prominent commercial buildings in the heart of Bandar Seri Begawan. With a total floor plan area of about 110,305 square meters, the Complex provides a wide range of commercial activities under one roof such as shops, boutiques, supermarket, restaurants, offices, clinics, telecommunications and banks.

Personal Gifts from His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam

The Foundation has two other important roles in the community of Brunei Darussalam. These are the management and distribution of personal gifts from His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam namely dates which are given with the intention that they are to be consumed in breaking the fast and they are donated every fasting month of Ramadhan to all Muslim citizens and residents of Brunei Darussalam. The second is the annual distribution carried out since 1995, exclusively for Brunei Darussalam's intending pilgrims given every haj season. These comprise of 'ihram' clothes (2 pieces of unsewn white clothes worn by men during a certain part of the pilgrimage in the holy city of Mecca) and 'telekong' (women prayer cloaks).