

Brunei Darussalam National Day

Continuous cooperation across a diverse range of sectors

KAMILAH HANIFAH
AMBASSADOR OF BRUNEI DARUSSALAM



On the auspicious occasion of the 34th National Day of Brunei Darussalam, I am pleased to convey warm greetings and best wishes from the government of His Majesty Paduka

Seri Baginda Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and the people of Brunei Darussalam to Their Imperial Majesties Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko, members of the Imperial family and the government and people of Japan.

For this year's national day celebrations, we have adopted the theme Menjayakan Wawasan Negara that means "Accomplishing the National Vision," demonstrating the continued commitment toward the Wawasan Brunei 2035 strategy that envisions future prosperity through a well-educated and highly skilled population, improved quality of life and a dynamic and sustainable economy. The theme is aimed at encouraging Brunei's youth to play a proactive role in the nation's development based on Melayu Islam Beraja, or the "Malay Islamic Monarchy," a set of principles and values rooted in three core elements —



Their Majesties Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah and Queen Saleha of Brunei Darussalam.
EMBASSY OF BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

namely, the preservation of Malay culture and tradition, belief in the precepts of Islam and the institution of the monarchy in governing Brunei Darussalam.

To accomplish the Wawasan Brunei 2035 strategy, Brunei Darussalam aims to diversify its economy through expansion of the non-oil and gas private sector by expanding export markets, developing small and medium enterprises and attracting large-scale foreign direct investments. As our largest trading partner, Japan has played an important role in the development of Brunei Darussalam's economy and we remain committed to providing a stable and reliable supply of liquefied natural gas. We are proud to contribute to Japan's hosting of the 2020 Tokyo Olympics through our supply of hydrogen fuel for the Hydrogen Supply

Chain Demonstration Project and we hope to see the increased presence of Japanese companies to participate in our industrial diversification process.

Brunei Darussalam has much to offer in the tourism sector as well. Pristine rainforests, unspoiled coral reefs, mangrove-covered islands, white sand beaches and accessible nature reserves offer visitors an array of eco-tourism options and I hope that Japanese tourists will take an opportunity to visit and enjoy the many wonders we have to offer.

Youth exchange programs designed to enhance our people-to-people contacts are also an important area of cooperation for Brunei Darussalam and it pleases me to note that Japan has been an active partner in this field. The strong bonds of friendship among the young people from our countries would become one of the key investments for the future of our relations and Brunei hopes to see the continuation of these initiatives.

The close relationship between Brunei and Japan is best exemplified by the visit of the Emperor and Empress to the Embassy of Brunei Darussalam in Tokyo in October on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee of His Majesty the Sultan's accession to the throne. All of us at the Embassy of Brunei in Tokyo were incredibly honored by their presence and this truly demonstrates the deep friendship enjoyed by our countries at the highest level.

I would like to take this opportunity to

acknowledge the Japan-Brunei Parliamentarians Friendship League and Toshihiro Nikai, its chairman and secretary-general of the Liberal Democratic Party, the Japan-Brunei Friendship Association, the Kyushu-Brunei Darussalam Club and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations-Japan Centre for their continued efforts in promoting the friendship and close ties between our countries.

Finally, I would like to thank The Japan Times for giving me this opportunity to say a few words and also to the sponsors for their generous support. Looking ahead, I hope to enhance the strong partnership between Brunei Darussalam and Japan and I have every confidence that our relationship and cooperation will continue for many years to come.



Eco-Corridor Park in Bandar Seri Begawan. EMBASSY OF BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

Ongoing support of friendly ties

TSUYOSHI OKAMOTO
CHAIRMAN, JAPAN-BRUNEI FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION



On behalf of the Japan-Brunei Friendship Association (JBFA), I would like to extend my sincere congratulations to His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah and the people of Brunei Darussalam on the auspicious occasion of their 34th National Day. Also, I would like to express my deep appreciation for the sultanate's longstanding and stable supply of energy to our country.

I believe Brunei will always be in continuous peace and prosperity for many years to come under His Majesty's excellent leadership together with support from the cabinet members appointed this January. On February 11, Foreign Minister Taro Kono visited Brunei Darussalam and stated that he would like to deepen collaboration and strengthen extensive cooperation with Brunei, which now serves as the ASEAN's coordinating country for Japan. I also hope that the good relationship between your esteemed country and Japan be further deepened in the future. And as a part of the effort to foster cordial amicable ties, the JBFA will render continuous support and cooperation through its various activities.

Congratulations
on the Occasion of
the 34th National Day of
Negara Brunei Darussalam



Congratulations
to the People of
Negara Brunei
Darussalam
as They Celebrate
Their 34th National Day



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