

# Brunei Darussalam National Day Special

## A vision for education, friendship, commerce

**HAJI SHAHBUDIN HAJI MUSA**  
AMBASSADOR OF BRUNEI DARUSSALAM



On the occasion of the 37th anniversary of the national day of Brunei Darussalam, it is our honor to convey the greetings of the government of His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah of Brunei Darussalam and the people of Brunei Darussalam to their majesties the emperor and empress, members of the imperial family, the government and people of Japan.

The theme of this year's National Day celebration is "Accomplishing the Vision." The theme reflects our continued efforts to achieve the goals outlined in the National Vision 2035, which encapsulates Brunei Darussalam's aim to have a well-educated and highly skilled population, improved quality of life and a dynamic and robust economy.

Several strategies have been adopted to underpin our commitment and efforts to diversify the economy. In complementing these efforts the government is also supporting the development of our micro, small and midsize enterprises, as well as attracting quality foreign direct investment, including that from Japan.

As the country continues to progress, we remain committed to working together with all our partners. We are particularly encouraged and honored by the significant role the government of Japan has played in the charting of our growth.

Japan remains our largest trading partner, in a relationship underpinned by trade in oil and gas, and Brunei Darussalam remains committed to ensuring the reliable supply of liquefied natural gas into the future. We also hope to explore new economic opportunities in the years ahead.

Connectivity via the direct flights between Bandar Seri Begawan and Tokyo has promoted our growing cooperation in tourism. We hope that when these flights resume after the coronavirus pandemic, we can welcome more Japanese visitors to the country

to enjoy the wonderful activities that Brunei Darussalam has to offer.

It has been pleasing that the younger generation of our peoples remains instrumental in promoting our two countries. We look forward to the resumption of cultural exchange activities such as the Ship for Southeast Asian Youth Programme, Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths Programme and others that have contributed to mutual friendship and cultural appreciation between our two countries.

We believe that education continues to remain an important area of our bilateral cooperation. It is encouraging that more and more Bruneian students are looking to Japan to pursue their studies. We hope that this will continue in the future while also increasing the number of Japanese taking advantage of learning opportunities in Brunei Darussalam.

Brunei Darussalam assumes the role of chair of Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) for 2021 under the theme "We Care, We Prepare, We Prosper." As we continue to tackle the challenges of the coronavirus and the recovery therefrom, we seek to work closely with our fellow ASEAN

member states, as well as ASEAN's external partners, including Japan, toward a successful chairmanship.

Finally, we would like to convey our sincere appreciation to the Japan-Brunei Parliamentarian's League for Promotion of Friendship, the Japan-Brunei Friendship Association, the Kyushu-Brunei Club and the ASEAN-Japan Centre for promoting the excellent bilateral ties between our two nations.

Appreciation and thanks also to The Japan Times for allowing me to say a few words and to the sponsors for their contributions.



**Sultan Haji Omar Ali Saifuddien Bridge**  
TOURISM DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, MINISTRY OF PRIMARY RESOURCES AND TOURISM, BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

*This content was compiled in collaboration with the embassy. The views expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of the newspaper.*

## Bilateral progress with unity and prosperity

**MICHIAKI HIROSE**  
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 the 37th anniversary of their national day.

The world has been suffering from the



coronavirus pandemic since the beginning of 2020, and the unity of the international community is now of even more importance. The year 2021 will be another prominent year for Brunei Darussalam, especially because it faces the challenging task of hosting the

Association of Southeast Asian Nations summit 2021 in such trying circumstances. I trust that his majesty's chairmanship will lead the region to recovery and prosperity in multiple areas, including health care, climate change and the economy.

I sincerely hope that the strong ties between our two nations will bring us through these unprecedented difficulties and that the JBFA will see all of our activities return to normal very soon. "We Care, We Prepare, We Prosper."



**Sultan Haji Omar Ali Saifuddien Mosque**  
TOURISM DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, MINISTRY OF PRIMARY RESOURCES AND TOURISM, BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

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



## Congratulations

to the People of  
Brunei on the Occasion of  
Their National Day



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on the Occasion of  
the National Day of  
Negara Brunei  
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**Congratulations**  
to the People of  
**Negara Brunei Darussalam**  
as They Celebrate Their National Day

**JAPAN-BRUNEI FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION**

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