

23 students feted at Khatam Al-Quran ceremony



Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolqiah as the guest of honour and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Maharaja Setia Laila Diraja Sahibul Irshad Pengiran Anak Haji Abdul Rahim bin Pengiran Indera Mahkota Pengiran Anak (Dr) Kemaludin Al-Haj at the Khatam Al-Quran ceremony. Also seen is Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Haji Abdul Wadood Bolqiah



FROM LEFT: Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak 'Abdul Haseeb bin Pengiran Maharaja Setia Laila Diraja Sahibul Irshad Pengiran Anak Haji Abdul Rahim; and Pengiran Seti Aminah binti Pengiran Othman at the event



| IZAH AZAHARI |

IN CREATING a culture of reciting Al-Quran as a norm and part of life, 23 Primary 6 students comprising 16 male and seven female students from the International School Brunei (ISB) Religious School Brunei were celebrated during a Khatam Al-Quran ceremony after completing their recitation of 30 Juzuks of Al-Quran.

The event was held at the Conference Hall of the Islamic Da'wah Centre.

Present at the event as the guest of honour was Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolqiah.

The students included Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak 'Abdul Haseeb bin Pengiran Maharaja Setia Laila Diraja Sahibul Irshad Pengiran Anak Haji Abdul Rahim, the grandson of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolqiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, and Pengiran Seti Aminah



FROM LEFT: Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolqiah presents a certificate to one of the Khatam Al-Quran participants; and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Hariisah Widadul Bolqiah binti Pengiran Maharaja Setia Laila Diraja Sahibul Irshad Pengiran Anak Haji Abdul Rahim and Pengiran Seti Aminah binti Pengiran Othman at the event



PHOTOS: BAHYAH BAKIR

Wafiqah binti Pengiran Anak Haji Abdul Wadood Bolqiah, the granddaughter of Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna, Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Also present were Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Maharaja Setia Laila Diraja Sahibul Irshad Pengiran Anak Haji Abdul Rahim bin Pengiran Indera Mahkota Pengiran Anak (Dr) Kemaludin Al-Haj, Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Hariisah Widadul Bolqiah

binti Pengiran Maharaja Setia Laila Diraja Sahibul Irshad Pengiran Anak Haji Abdul Rahim, Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Haji Abdul Wadood Bolqiah and Pengiran Seti Aminah binti Pengiran Othman.

The event aimed to encourage students to consistently recite Al-Quran correctly and fluently, and ensure they can complete the 30 Juzuks recitation before the end of their Primary 6 religious schooling.

It was also held to strengthen cooperation and understanding between parents, teachers and students in organising religious events at the school.

The event began with the recitation of *Surah Al-Fatihah* led by teacher Mahmud bin Haji Adam followed by the recitation of *Surah-Surah Lazim* by the Khatam participants and the recitation of *Takhtim* by Primary 4 and 5 students.

The event continued with

the recitation of *Doa Khatam* by Primary 6 student Muhammad 'Ismat bin Zaini. Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolqiah presented certificates to the Khatam participants. The event concluded with the recitation of *Doa Selamat* by Mahmud.

The ceremony is an annual event by the school in achieving the government's hopes in producing an Al-Quran literate generation.

Towards cashless economy: BIBD NEXGEN showcased at 23rd Consumer Fair

IN A bid to further drive Brunei's aspiration of becoming a highly developed and cashless economy, as well as support the growth of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in Brunei, Bank Islam Brunei Darussalam (BIBD) is showcasing its hi-tech digital payment solutions and capabilities via the BIBD NEXGEN at the ongoing 23rd Consumer Fair.

The bank's continuous initiatives in promoting cashless payments at consumer events is part of its efforts to support de-cashing of the economy with seamless transactions, already made possible through its suite of BIBD NEXGEN solutions which include the QuickPay and BIBD vCard as well as other contactless payment methods.

This was stated by BIBD in a press release.

Such efforts and initiatives are implemented in support of the 'Digital Payment Roadmap for Brunei Darussalam' launched late last year by Autoriti Monetari



Minister of Home Affairs Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Kerna Dato Seri Setia (Dr) Haji Awang Abu Bakar bin Haji Apong being briefed on the BIBD NEXGEN by Deputy Manager of Digital Services Unit, Digital and Merchant Management, Retail Banking Group Zainol Amin Jaafar at the 23rd Consumer Fair

Brunei Darussalam (AMBD), the country's financial industry regulator and central bank.

The five-year roadmap sets out key strategies towards the creation of a Digital Payment Nation which include greater adoption of digital payment solutions to promote market interoperability and encourage fair market competition, as well

as enhancing public awareness and education geared towards building digital trust and market confidence towards the acceptance of digital payments.

"We are not just providing this facility to local MSMEs, but also to participating vendors and businesses from overseas to help them offer easy and fast convenient payment methods

to visitors," said BIBD Head of Retail Banking Group Hajah Nurul Akmar binti Haji Jaafar of the bank's drive in promoting cashless payments at the 23rd Consumer Fair.

Visitors are invited and encouraged to use and experience all the cashless payment methods powered by BIBD NEXGEN.

Hajah Nurul Akmar added, "For customers and visitors, we just want them to enjoy and try out our digital and cashless payment platforms and solutions, as it will provide them with a convenient mode of payment.

"Cashless payments also give more security as shoppers can carry less cash and this eliminates a lot of risks associated with carrying cash."

Some of the digital and cashless payment solutions available at the Consumer Fair include BIBD QuickPay, contactless cards, Progresif Pay and its latest cashless payment initiative the BIBD Wave.

BIBD Wave is Brunei's first near-field communication (NFC) payment service via the BIBD NEXGEN mobile app for NFC-enabled Android devices. This mode of payment enables users to pay at card terminals by simply tapping their phones.

The BIBD NEXGEN platform showcases the bank's intent to transform traditional banking to the fintech age, while at the same time promoting strategic partnerships among different industries and going beyond Brunei's shores with regional and international partnerships.

During the 23rd Consumer Fair, most merchants will be provided with terminals that will accept contactless as well as the QuickPay option.

Members of the public are welcome to visit the BIBD booth at the 23rd Consumer Fair at the International Convention Centre (ICC) in Berakas between June 26-30 to better understand the BIBD campaigns, products and services.