

## **BIBD ALAF GETS NEW PREMISES**

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**For Immediate Release**

June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016 - To further better serve BIBD's ALAF (Advocating Life-Long Learning for an Aspiring Future) programme, the team has moved to their new office in the capital at the PGGMB building. In conjunction with the move to the new office, a thanksgiving and tahlil prayers was held to bless this important milestone for the ALAF programme. The event was attended by representatives from Ministry of Education and Ministry of Religious Affairs, as well as BIBD management and staff.

The upgrade of facilities for the ALAF programme team comes at an appropriate time as the programme now houses more than one hundred students. This means that the team has more capabilities and opportunities to facilitate better activities for the programme.

The ALAF programme is a unique CSR initiative that is truly in-line with His Majesty's 2035 vision of the accomplishment of well-educated and highly-skilled people which will, In Shaa Allah, contribute to development of the nation and its economy.

Yang Mulia Haji Minorhadi bin Haji Mirhassan, Head of BIBD's Government Relations & Special Projects commented during the opening of the new office, "The new office represents another step forward in the progress of our ALAF programme, to provide better capabilities for the improvements in the developments of the students' education, along with the annual increase in the number of students.

"Not only is our ALAF programme a core value and platform for BIBD to support our local community, but it is also something that is very endearing and close to our hearts, and we would like very much to see it progress into a more inclusive programme. In Shaa Allah, the progress of the ALAF programme is bright as with the support of everyone involved from the public and corporate circles, together we are able to make sure that we are able to contribute to their needs and ambitions.

The ALAF programme, launched in May 2013 by Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah, was developed in close partnership with the Department of Schools, Ministry of Education, and in 2015 a

Memorandum of Understanding was also signed with the Islamic Studies Department from the Ministry of Religious Affairs. This will lead to constant efforts and close collaboration between all parties to ensure the successful implementation and provision of assistance to the ALAF programme.

The ALAF programme provides the selected students with provisions for school and tuition fees, educational materials and welfare, as well as mentoring and counselling necessities amongst others. All these efforts are meant to ensure the absolute commitment of these students towards the development of their education, and prevent them from being bothered by other commitments. The ALAF programme will also continue to provide support and assistance to these students until the end of their respective educational requirements.

Funds collected to facilitate the programme are sourced from different channels such as the BIBD charity expeditions for ALAF, generous contributions from corporate agencies as well as the general public.

Members of the public wishing to contribute into the BIBD ALAF fund may do so with a minimum donation of B\$1.01 into the BIBD ALAF account at 1018181811 via BIBD channels such as the BIBD Online website, BIBD Mobile app, BIBD ATM and CDMs, and BIBD branch counters. The public can also set up a BIBD Standing Instruction to ensure a monthly donation into the ALAF fund.

As an added option, BIBD account holders can also use their accumulated BIBD Hadiah Points for cash conversion into contributions into the ALAF fund account. Progresif users can also make donations via its dedicated SMS in denominations of BND 1,5,10, 15 and 20 by typing “ALAF” and entering the amount selected, and sending it to 38988.

For further information, please contact:

**DK RODZI PG HJ ABD RAHMAN**

Corporate Communications

BIBD

Tel : +673 2269811

Fax : +673 2231705

e-mail: rodzi.rahman@bibd.com.bn

**SHAIRAZI ZAINUDDIN**

Corporate Communications

BIBD

Tel : +673 2269817

Fax : +673 2231705

e-mail: shairazi.zainuddin@bibd.com.bn

**About BIBD**

BIBD is the largest financial institution in Brunei Darussalam, leading the market in terms of assets, financings, and deposits.

BIBD is headquartered in Bandar Seri Begawan with fifteen branches and the largest network of ATMs located strategically in all four districts of Brunei Darussalam.

BIBD was ranked 42nd in terms of Soundness (Capital Asset Ratio) in the top 1,000 World Banks by “The Banker” in 2014. BIBD is one of the safest banks in the world and is given an impressive credit rating of A- by Standard & Poor’s in 2015, the highest in Brunei and among the highest in the region. BIBD has been named the “Best Retail Bank in Brunei” by The Asian Banker in 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016.

For more information on any of BIBD’s other products or services, please log on to the BIBD website at [www.bibd.com.bn](http://www.bibd.com.bn), visit your nearest BIBD branch or get in touch with the BIBD Contact Centre at 2238181.