

## **BIBD CLOSES SEVEN-DAY LEARNING CAMPS FOR BIBD ALAF STUDENTS**

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### **For Immediate Release**

April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 - BIBD today held a closing ceremony for its learning camps at the Orchid Garden Hotel for its Holiday English Language Program (HELP) Camps organised for the BIBD ALAF programme students. The learning camps also included a refresher camp for this year's forty-six students recently introduced into the ALAF programme.

The camps were aimed to further support the development and progression of students under the BIBD ALAF programme, help build their self-confidence, develop their communication capabilities, and instil a sense of appreciation of the aims of the ALAF program.

The HELP camps were organised with the cooperation of CfBT to deliver bespoke English training camps for BIBD ALAF programme students. The HELP camps also included lectures, debate sessions, hands-on and task-based activities to promote teamwork. The camps are also designed to foster a 'can do' belief in their English abilities and to establish good learner training habits.

The BIBD ALAF programme currently includes more than one hundred students, whose funds are collected from a variety of sources. These include the BIBD charity expeditions for ALAF, generous contributions from corporate agencies as well as the general public since its launch in May 2013 by Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah.

The ALAF programme 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.

Through ALAF, BIBD hopes to align its support to His Majesty's 2035 vision of obtaining a 100% level of education for everyone, which in turn is hoped to help reduce poverty. In Shaa Allah, this will lead Brunei towards a more prosperous and peaceful future, making Brunei populated with educated, highly skilful and successful individuals, in line with internationally set standards.

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 donation to the ALAF programme 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 2240683

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

**SHAIRAZI ZAINUDDIN**

Corporate Communications

BIBD

Tel : +673 2269817

Fax : +673 2240683

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.

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.