

UNISSA launches Arabic Language Festival

| ABDUL HAKIIM YAKOF |

UNIVERSITI Islam Sultan Sharif Ali (UNISSA), through its Arabic Language Faculty in cooperation with their Student Affairs Section launched the five-day Arabic Language Festival at the university's auditorium yesterday.

Present as the guest of honour was Dr Arman bin Haji Asmad, Acting Rector of UNISSA.

Salim bin Masoud Al-Rahbi, Second Secretary at the Embassy of Oman in Brunei Darussalam and Dr Siti Sara binti Haji Ahmad, Dean of the Arabic Language Faculty and Co-Chair of the Arabic Language Festival Committee as well as officers of UNISSA were also present.

During the launching, Dr Arman emphasised on the importance of Arabic Language as it is the language of Al-Quran, the language of worship and the language of knowledge. With that, the expertise in the Arabic Language is much needed, especially for students of UNISSA, where the language is used in almost all the programmes in UNISSA. With the festival,

the participation and cooperation from all students, faculties and centres will be needed to realise this year's theme.

Dr Siti Sara shared that it is the third time UNISSA has held this festival. "The first festival was held in 2015 and in 2017, this festival is a platform for students of UNISSA and students outside UNISSA to develop themselves in the usage of the Arabic Language by taking part in the various activities such as Arabic Language games, the debate competition, sermon, poems, among others," she said.

She added that what's interesting is that students were involved in contributing creative ideas and the types of games in the festival.

A motivational talk on strategies and tips on strengthening skills in Arabic Language are one of the events that will take place in the festival. The festival is targeting participation from students of UNISSA, Religious Teachers University College of Seri Begawan (KUPU SB), Institut Tahfiz Al-Quran Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah, Arabic schools and members of the public who take interest in the Arabic Language.



Dr Arman bin Haji Asmad, Acting Rector of UNISSA at the event



Participants at the briefing

Utamajaya Emporium hosts orange 'chow-down' to usher in CNY



TECO representative William Lin and Chairman of First Emporium Group Lim Kok Phay with other guests during the ribbon cutting ceremony

| ACHONG TANJONG |

WARISAN Utamajaya Emporium and Supermarket (Jalan Muara) held its annual 'Makan Mandarin Orange Contest' yesterday, drawing a good number of participants and a sizeable crowd of spectators.

The competition, held in conjunction with the upcoming Chinese New Year celebrations, also included the official launching of the Taichung City Premium Ponkan Agricultural Product Fair 2018 by chief guest William Lin, the representative of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office (TECO) in Brunei Darussalam; First Emporium Group Chairman Lim Kok Phay; First Emporium and Supermarket (branch) Managing Director Lim Kian Seng; and Taichung City Government Agriculture Bureau Deputy Director-General Yung-Sheng Tsai together with his delegation.

In total 37 male and 24 female participants

took part in the mandarin orange eating contest. The contestants were divided into two groups: A and B, and each given one minute to eat as many mandarins as possible. Winners of both categories received \$300, \$200 and \$100 cash prizes as well as a carton of special-grade mandarin oranges to bring home.

Spectators at the event - which mainly comprised shoppers at the supermarkets and included several local businessmen - were also treated to a Taiwan onion cooking demonstration by specially invited guests from Taiwan.

Various sideline activities also took place during the event, including a food sampling hosted by Indofood, free ice cream booth by Kingston Beverage and Creamery Sdn Bhd, free blood pressure checkup hosted by Sports Medicine Research Centre, and a children's colouring contest held in the morning.

Parents briefed on student monitoring plan, exam preparation

| WANI ROSLAN |

RIMBA Secondary School (SMR) recently held briefings at its Kolaboratif Hall, for the parents and guardians of students in Year 8 and Year 11.

The briefing session for the parents and guardians of students in Year 8 was conducted by Rosmawati binti Mohammad, the Deputy Principal (Academic) of SMR; and Amirudin bin Haji Damit, the Senior Academic Teacher II.

Meanwhile, the briefing session for the parents and guardians of students in Year 11 was conducted by Haji Malai Shah Eran bin Syed

Haji Yussof, the Principal; Pengiran 'Ain Basyirah binti Pengiran Haji Besar, the Counsellor; and Chua Hui Feng, the Senior Academic Teacher I.

Among the highlighted issues was the Foster Guardian 2018 programme, which aims to monitor the academic and disciplinary progress of Year 8 students by means of a WhatsApp group for parents and guardians.

Also highlighted was the 'Extended Curriculum' for Year 11 students, which will act as a preparation prior to the GCE 'O' Level examinations and boost their chances of obtaining at least five credits.

'Ikhlas 7.0' school supply drive gets support from public, local businesses

| WANI ROSLAN |

THE recent 'Ikhlas 7.0' project at the Hassanal Bolkiah National Stadium drew more public participation than the previous 'Ikhlas 5.0' in January 2017.

The charity drive was organised by the Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society (BDRCS), to collect school essentials for distribution among needy

schoolchildren and new Muslim converts.

A representative of the BDRCS, Siti Ummi Az-Zahraa binti Haji Suhaili, told the Bulletin that they also received some contributions from Pustaka Remaja and Mubarak Book Emporium.

"The donated items will be distributed to 20 selected recipients in the Brunei-Muara District," she said.



Participants sorting the supplies