



A group photo taken at the signing ceremony

UNISSA partners with Syrian university in academic field

AS PART of the effort in increasing its reputation overseas, Universiti Islam Sultan Sharif Ali (UNISSA) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Bilad Al-Syam University (BSU), Syria.

The signing ceremony took place recently at Senate Hall, UNISSA, a press release said.

Signing the MoU on behalf of UNISSA was the Rector of UNISSA, Dr Haji Norarfan bin Haji Zainal, while on behalf of BSU was the university's Rector, Professor Dr Husam Eddin Farfour.

In the memorandum, the universities agreed to establish cooperation in academic field and research.

Also attending the ceremony was Deputy Rector, Dr Haji Mohammed Hussain bin Pehin Penyurat Haji Ahmad, and UNISSA officers.

BSU is a higher learning institution located in Damsyik, Syria which was upgraded into a university. BSU, Syria is also part of the Institute of Islam Al-Fatih branch.

Workshop on evidence-based research at Rizqun

| ACHONG TANJONG |

THE Department of Planning, Development and Research at the Ministry of Education (MoE) has been consistently conducting research to provide valid and reliable information for policy makers to make evidence-based decision in order to support educational policy formulation and revision.

With this in mind, the department will continuously develop its human resource capacity to produce quality and reputable policy research for the ministry.

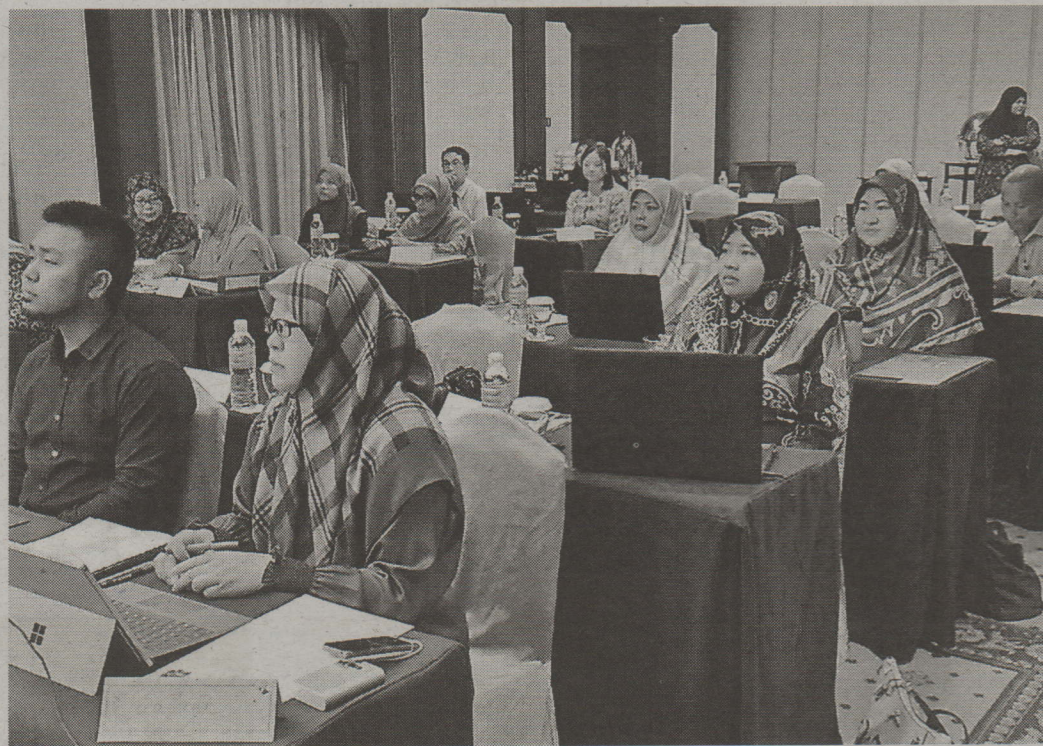
This was highlighted by Dr Haji Ashri bin Haji Ahmad, Assistant Director of the Department of Planning, Development and Research at the MoE in his welcoming remarks at the opening of the three-day workshop on 'Evidence-Based Decision Making and Statistical Meta-analysis with Application' held at a hotel in Gadong yesterday.

He said to maximise its benefits, the department has also invited officers

from other relevant departments at the MoE such as the Department of Schools, Department of Inspectorate, Institute of Brunei Technical Education, Strategic Enterprise Performance and Delivery Unit (SEPaDu), and the National Education System for the 21st Century (SPN21) unit.

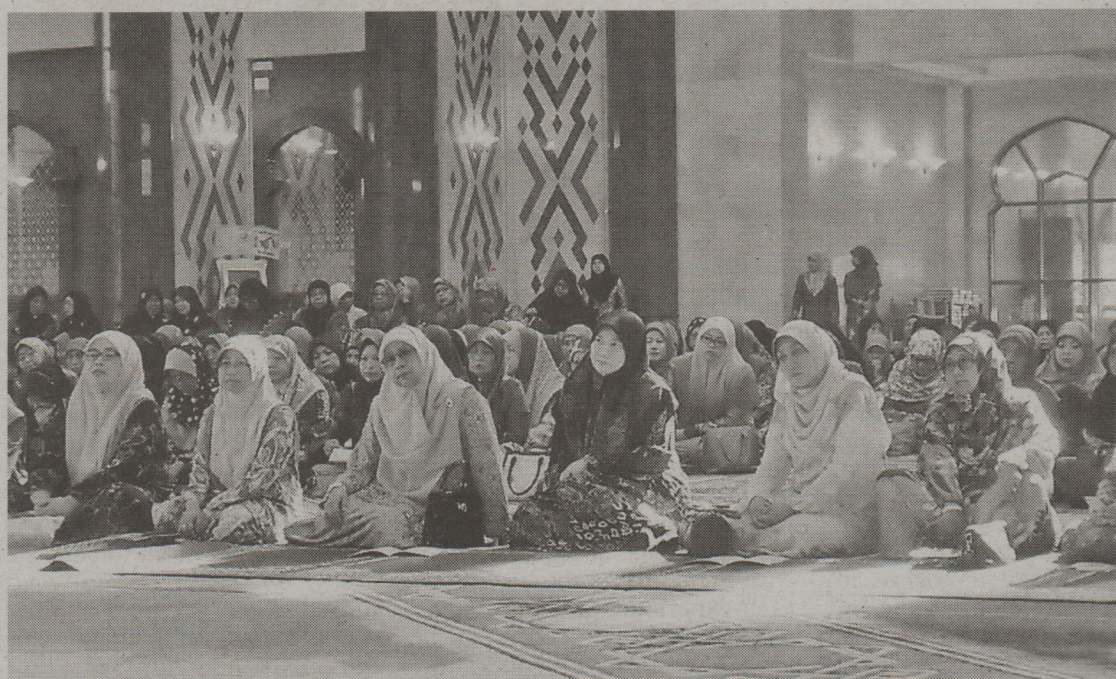
The objectives of the workshop are for participants to understand basic statistical concepts and methods essential for meta-analysis, to provide hands-on exercises and illustrations on relevant topics covered in basic statistical concepts, to discuss issues around evidence-based decision making and to be evidence-informed and to acquire knowledge on meta-analytical methods using MetaXL, software and interpretation of outputs.

The facilitator of the three-day workshop, which runs from January 23-25, is Professor Shahjahan Khan of University of Southern Queensland, Toowoomba, Australia, who has vast experience and background in the field.



Some of the officers who attended the workshop yesterday

Maulidur Rasul talk at Kg Jerudong mosque



Female attendees at the talk

THE Muslimah Affairs Division of the Ministry of Religious Affairs, in collaboration with the Takmir Committee of Al-Ameerah Al-Hajjah Maryam Mosque in Kampong Jerudong, held a Maulidur Rasul talk to mark the birth anniversary of the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh).

The guest of honour was the wife of the Deputy

Minister of Religious Affairs, Datin Zalinah binti Haji Omar.

The annual event aims to enrich the birthday celebrations of the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), develop Islamic beliefs, glorify the mosque and strengthen congregants' ties with officers and staff of the Ministry of Religious Affairs.

Kg Jerudong villagers visit Temburong



Kampong Jerudong village residents listen to an explanation on sago-making

THE Kampong Jerudong Village Consultative Council members and some of its village residents observed a sago-making (Ambulong) demonstration during their visit to Kampong Batu Apoi in the Temburong District over the weekend.

The delegation was led by the Chairperson cum the Village Head of Kampong Jerudong, Haji

Mohamad Rais bin Haji Ishak. The villagers also visited homestay accommodations in Kampong Belais and Kampong Buda-Buda, and had a closer look at the salted egg production in Kampong Puni and Ujong Jalan.

Haji Mohd Rais said the visit enhanced their knowledge and forged closer relations between the villagers.