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Brunei-Degree

SULTAN OF BRUNEI CONFERRED HONORARY DOCTORATE BY IIUM

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 2 (Bernama) -- Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah of Brunei was conferred an honorary doctorate in political science by the International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM) at a special convocation here today.

The monarch received the degree on the second of his three-day visit to Malaysia for the fifth annual consultation with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad which took place yesterday.

Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah was conferred the honorary doctorate by the IIUM constitutional head, Sultan Ahmad Shah of Pahang, for his contributions towards the development of the IIUM and the Muslim ummah in general.

In his speech, Sultan Ahmad Shah said the conferment was a just recognition of the many contributions of the Brunei monarch to the preservation of the integrity of Islam, the development of the spiritual and intellectual life of Muslims and the promotion of human co-existence.

"It also serves to underline the close brotherhood and friendship between the IIUM and Brunei Darussalam," he said.

In his acceptance speech, Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah said the honour was not only for him but also for the people of Brunei.

He said IIUM and Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD) should forge closer cooperation for their mutual benefit.

The sultan expressed the hope that Malaysia and Brunei would continue to enjoy peace, prosperity and stability, and would always adapt to the changes taking place without compromising their fundamental values.

The two universities also signed a memorandum of understanding to enhance the scope and fields of their academic links.

These include the exchange of teaching staff, joint research, exchange of library materials, admission of postgraduate students and exchange of library, administrative and other staff.

The document was inked by IIUM rector Professor Dr Mohamed Kamal Hassan while UBD was represented by its vice-chancellor, Datuk Paduka Seri Setia Professor Dr Mahmud Saedon Awang Othman.

-- BERNAMA

MAM AHH JK