

Press Release

Information on BAJA

BAJA stands for Brunei Association of Japan Alumni. The alumni is made up of a group of Bruneians who have studied in Japan in any field of study for at least 6 months. The association was founded in 1986 by YAM Pg Setia Negara Pg Dr Hj Mohd Yusof Bin Pg Hj Abdul Rahim, who is also the patron. The current adviser is Dr Chim Yam Chin.

Currently, Dr Chin Wei Keh is the new BAJA president and Hasrin Bin Hj Masri is the vice president. Dr Suwarni Binti Hj Mohd Diah is the secretary; Dk Habibah Binti Pg Hj Hidup is the treasurer and Andree Asmara Bin Haji Abidin is the public relation officer. BAJA has a total of 30 members who have participated in a variety of exchange and scholarship programmes in Japan.

There are 4 main objectives of BAJA which are as follow:

1. To unite the former Bruneian students who studied in Japan
2. To promote the ambitions and dedications of its members by participating in the development of the nation
3. To exchange culture differences between the nations of Brunei Darussalam and Japan
4. To contribute to the transfer of knowledge in all fields, therefore ensuring the success of development in education and technology. Hence, the sharing session of Dr Fadil's research as one of BAJA's community outreach programmes.

Some of the activities carried out by BAJA members are as follows:

1. Members involve either as working committee or audiences and supporters of any cultural activities and functions held by Embassy of Japan such as Japanese Speech Contest whereby BAJA's president was appointed as the head judge and other members competed. Some work as invigilators during the Japanese Language Proficiency Test held every December.

2. Provide assistance to new students who are going to study in Japan by giving background information on study life, Japanese culture and social adjustment undergone based on BAJA members personal experiences.
3. BAJA also sent some participants to attend seminars around the region such as ASEAN COUNCIL OF JAPAN ALUMNI (ASCOJA) and reunion of ex-students in Tokyo, Japan. Recently, Herryanto Bin Sipun represented BAJA for ASCOJA Meeting in Bangkok, Thailand from 24th to 26th February 2012.
4. Organise activities relating to Japanese public holidays.

BAJA is first and foremost an alumni association, i.e. helping former Bruneian students in Japan catch up with other alumni and be of help to the Japanese community in Brunei as an appreciation of the friendship they have offered us in our studies and life in Japan

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