



# Brunei Darussalam

**The 11<sup>th</sup> ASEAN & Japan High Level officials  
Meeting on Caring Societies:  
“Active Aging”  
(Social Involvement and Contribution of Elderly)**

**3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> December 2013, Japan**



# Brunei Darussalam Demographic Profile

- Total Population in 2012 : **399,800**  
: Male: **206,700** Female: **193,100**
- Age between 15-59 : **276,000 (69%)**
- Age 60 and over : **24,200 (6.1%)**
- Life Expectancy : Male: **76.6** yrs Female: **79.8** yrs
- Healthy Life Expectancy  
at 60 years old : **16.2** years.

# SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT FOR ELDERLY IN BRUNEI DARUSSALAM



1. Establishment of **National Council of Social Issues** in 2008.
2. Establishment of **Plan of Actions for Older Persons and People with Disabilities 2011**. Addressing 9 issues: Law and Regulations, Health, Employment, Education, Transportation, Housing, Social Participation and Recreational, Infrastructure and Research.
3. **Old Age Pension and Disabled Act 1954.**
  - ✓ A non-contributory assistance of BND250/USD201 to all citizens and residents upon reaching 60 years old regardless of the economic status and gender.
4. Draft of the formulation of a Disability Order.
5. Convention on the Rights of People with Disability.
  - ✓ BD became signatory to the convention in Dec 2007.

## 6. Setting up activity center for elderly in March 2013.



### ❖ Objectives:

- ✓ To ensure the elderly will continuously live an active and meaningful life.
- ✓ As of the "Support Centre" for the community and individuals to provide in the community development.
- ✓ As a symbol of our appreciation for the elderly.
- ✓ Reducing the "Empty Nest Syndrome" (loneliness and boredom) when the care giver go out to work.
- ✓ As a focal point for senior citizen interact with their peers and do not worrying.
- ✓ As a place for younger generations to learn and acquire gainful knowledge and wisdom from older generation.



7. Celebrates the International's Day for Older Persons since 1999.
  - ✓ Several activities and programs were organized such as forum, seminars, workshop and sports for elderly.
  - ✓ On 7<sup>th</sup> November 2013, a workshop was held as to hear the voice of older persons under POA.



## 8. Setting up of Homecare Program For Older Persons in 2005.



### Objectives:

- Improve quality of life of the elderly.
- Maintaining the family values .
- Raise public awareness on volunteer work.
- Raise awareness of the responsibility to protect and care for the elderly.
- Improve the quality of life of the older person's physically, emotionally and socially as well as provide assistance in the activities of daily living.

Volunteer	OP
84	33



## 9. Active participation of NGOs in caring for the elderly

- ✓ Establishment of Majlis Kesejahteraan Masyarakat (Brunei Council on Social Welfare ).
- ✓ Fund raising for vulnerable elderly.
- ✓ Home Visit



# MEASURES TO PROMOTE ELDERLY CARE



1. In 2012, His Majesty has declare 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month of May as the National Family Day.
2. Maintain the extended-family system.
3. Introduce civic subject in schools (Malay Islamic Monarchy).
4. Provide free medical treatment and care for the elderly.
5. Provide special fare for public transport.
6. Provide old age pension and monthly financial assistance allowance.
7. Provide disability allowances.
8. Setting up of the activity centre.
9. Provide special lane and queue for senior citizens such as in the hospitals, to make and renew passport and renew road tax at the Department of Land Transport.
10. Encourage NGO's to participation.



# CHALLENGES



1. To maintain the extended family system.
2. To ensure the sustainability of the financial resources especially for the delivery of old age pensions scheme and social assistance.
3. To encourage the people practicing a healthy life style in order to achieve active ageing.
4. Maintaining a sustainable delivery of healthcare.
5. Promoting committed volunteer workers especially for the care of lonely and frail.
6. Addressing the issue of "empty-nest syndrome" among the elderly as more children are going to work.
7. Achieving all the plans and activity in the POA on Elderly.
8. Providing sustainable care for the elderly especially to those who are vulnerable.
9. Establish a database on Elderly.
10. Limited Healthcare resources.
11. Multi-sectorial intervention on achieving Healthy Ageing.

# Way Forward



1. Support systems for those elderly who need long-term care.
2. Setting up laws for elderly.
3. Capacity-building programs for NGOs and volunteers on social work.
4. Conduct research/studies on elderly.



Thursday, 8 August 2013 | THE BRUNEI TIMES  
NATIONAL

## Legal Clinic claims first victory

Quratul-Ain Bandial  
BRUNEI-MUARA

The Council on Social Welfare (MSM) legal clinic claimed its first victory in the High Court when a 78-year-old man was returned his land after the court voided an illegal land transfer due to "fraud and misrepresentation".

Ya'akub Israil, who cannot read or write, claimed that the defendant Hjh Afsah Hj Adol duped him into transferring a 0.25 acre plot of land in Kg Batu Ampar to her name.

Ya'akub said the defendant and her husband approached him back in 2003 wanting to rent the land for a tailor shop and that they would pay him \$500 a month plus a portion of the profits.

However Hjh Afsah denied this claim saying the elderly man had agreed to sell the land for \$23,000, and she had paid him \$10,000 as the first down payment on the property.

Sometime in 2003, the plaintiff signed a Memorandum of Transfer to the defendant by affixing his thumbprint to the document. In the transfer document, Ya'akub stated that he was transferring the land to Hjh Afsah as his adopted daughter.

Because the land was under "Temporary Occupation License" (TOL) through a government resettlement scheme, it could not be legally sold but only transferred to designated heirs. TOL also states that the plot could only be used for residential purposes.

Reviewing all the evidence, Chief Justice Dato Seri Paduka Hj Kifrawi Dato Paduka Hj Kifri said the transaction was illegal and a breach of government policy because land under TOL could not be sold.

He also doubted the veracity of the plaintiff's claim that he unknowingly transferred the land title.

"It is likely that the plaintiff later changed his mind when he found out that the value of the land was higher than the amount he sold to the defendant," he said in a written judgement.

"It is obvious that His Majesty in Council... was fraudulently misrepresented by both parties that the transfer was a gift when in actual fact it was sold to the defendant.

Where the court will not allow Hjh Kifrawi added.

The court order returned by Agnes parties participate transaction no awarded.

In a press statement today, MSM said happy the land to the plaintiff, they with the court's MSM officers.

Mr Ya'akub and lived alone on the elderly people with in their daily lives survives on his pension and was his case if brought.

"He sought MSM to help him. The case was then to the MSM Legal Clinic with the Sankaran Halim Solicitors giving a pro bono basis.

Appearing for Siva Sankaran at Malai. Hj Ham Sankaran Halim for the defendant Ibrahim of U Co Advocates and S

The plaintiff Ya'akub Israil (2nd R) stands inside the High Court with his legal counsel Siva Sankaran (C) and Syarifah Safina Malai (H) Hamid (R). Picture: Courtesy of MSM



Regular Home Visits    Activity Center

Free Legal Advice & Advisory

**Thank You**