

28th TEACHERS' DAY CELEBRATION OF BRUNEI DARUSSALAM, 2018
THEME: DEDICATED TEACHERS EDUCATION EXCELLENCE

DESCRIPTION

A dedicated teacher is a devout and sincere person who makes sacrifices in terms of time, energy, mind and materials for the sake of the development of the community. They are always diligent and earnest in mastering the subject knowledge, are able to plan teaching and learning procedures and are proficient in applying various types of educational skills and technology. These three aspects need to be mastered by teachers in a balanced and ethical manner and they should always be self-reflective of any shortcomings or weaknesses from time to time. This should happen repeatedly and unceasingly throughout life, especially during their term of appointment as an educator. Dedicated teachers are also desired in Islam which is synonymous with the nature of *mudarris* مدرس (educating), *muaddib* مآدب (forming manners and morals), *murabbi* مربى (nurturing and educating with love), *mualim* معلم (delivering the truth) and *mursyid* مرشد (guiding towards benefit). All these qualities need to be possessed by dedicated teachers using the Prophet Muhammad Sallallahu 'Alaihi Wasallam as a model of a devoted and *akhlakul karimah*¹ أخلاق الكريمة human being.

With the criteria described, the hope of creating an excellent education will be achieved. Excellent education can be formulated as a balance between knowledge, skills and religious values. This means that students should not only be knowledgeable, but they should also be equipped with a variety of skills. In other words, students need to master both the theory and the application. The acquired knowledge needs to be applied in everyday life, advancing themselves, their family, their nation and their country; as well as always being loyal to the king and to preserving the sanctity of Islam.

In short, knowledge and skills should be used to benefit the nation and the religion in the framework of achieving and maintaining *hablumminannas*² حبل من الناس and *hablumminallah*³ حبل من الله. This last objective will only be achieved if education is realised in a balanced way through education of moral values and religion in order to match the pace of the development of various knowledge and skills in science and technology.

To ensure a balance in educational excellence and in the pursuit of the current era of globalisation, teachers must prepare themselves to keep up with the rapid advances in fields such as the application of information and communication technology. They also need to prepare for a paradigm shift in education. Knowledge and skills delivered should be constantly updated, so that students are highly creative, innovative and willing to explore reforms and opportunities in all areas of work and discipline, as emphasised in the National Education System for the 21st Century (SPN 21), in line with social and economic development needs of the country.

'Dedicated Teacher Education Excellence' demonstrates the role of teachers as being crucial in determining the excellence of the country now and in the future, thus enabling them to both sustain and support the achievement and realization of the National Vision 2035.

¹ Noble characters / commendable

² Relationship with people

³ Relationship with Allah

