

**Embargoed till 2.30pm, 5 July 2017**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

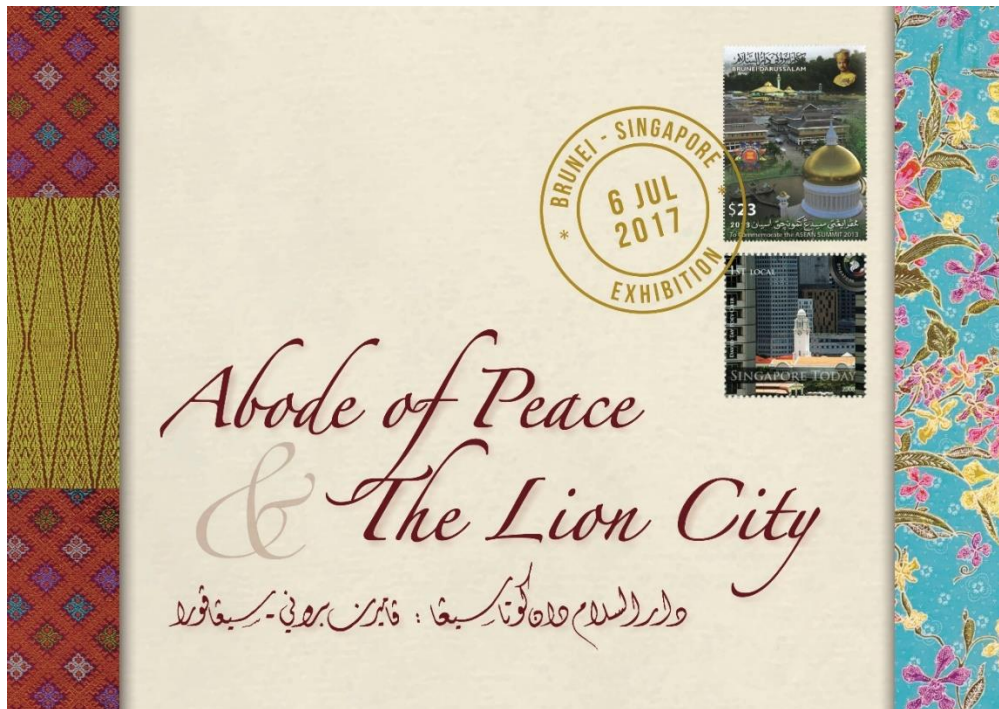
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**SINGAPORE PHILATELIC MUSEUM HOSTS EXHIBITION  
CELEBRATING DEEP-ROOTED FRIENDSHIP AND DIPLOMATIC  
RELATIONS BETWEEN SINGAPORE AND BRUNEI**

*Exhibition showcases treasures from Brunei's Royal Regalia, on display for the first time in Asia, and brings to life the culture and people of Brunei through stamps, artefacts and multimedia exhibits*

COMPANY. REG. NO. 199502248C  
a National Heritage Board Museum



**Singapore, 5 July 2017** – To celebrate the deep-rooted friendship between Singapore and Brunei Darussalam, and to commemorate the Golden Jubilee of the Currency Interchangeability Agreement between both countries, the Singapore Philatelic Museum (SPM) is launching the *Abode of Peace & the Lion City: A Brunei-Singapore Exhibition*. This exhibition is jointly curated by SPM and the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, Brunei Darussalam, and will be on show at SPM from 6 July 2017 to 28 February 2018. A second component that focuses on Singapore's

multiculturalism and efforts at urban greening will take place in Brunei from November 2017 to April 2018.

Says Ms Tresnawati Prihadi, General Manager of SPM, “The Singapore Philatelic Museum is honoured to jointly organise this exhibition with the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, Brunei Darussalam. We have always sought to feature not only Singapore’s history and heritage, but also our connections with the rest of the world. This exhibition will enable the peoples of Brunei and Singapore to gain a deeper appreciation of each other’s history and culture, as well as long-standing political, social and economic ties.”

Mr Abdoh Damit, Acting Director of Culture and the Arts, Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, Brunei Darussalam, says, “We are very pleased to have this opportunity to work with the Singapore Philatelic Museum. The Royal Regalia and other artefacts on display are treasures of Brunei, and we are proud to be able to share our culture with Singapore.”

*Abode of Peace & the Lion City: A Brunei-Singapore Exhibition* showcases the links between the two countries – in history and in bilateral cooperation, and brings to life the stories of the people and culture of Brunei through stamps and artefacts, as well as multimedia exhibits.

The Singapore leg of the exhibition will highlight colourful, interesting and informative facets of the Brunei Sultanate, Brunei’s history, its ethnic communities, and world-renowned flora and fauna. Treasures from the Royal Regalia will also be on display for the first time in Asia, outside of Brunei.

Highlights of the exhibition include:

- Close to 600 stamps and philatelic materials from SPM’s Permanent Collection and Postal Services Department, Brunei Darussalam.

- 33 items from the Brunei Royal Regalia, which are on show in Singapore for the very first time, as well as the first time in Asia, outside of Brunei. These items were used during the Coronation Ceremony (1968) and Silver Jubilee Ceremony (1992) of Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah.
- 66 artefacts dating from 960 AD to 1970s which are on loan from Brunei Museums Department. The items include early forms of currency, blue porcelain ware from a shipwreck in Brunei, textiles, and 19th century brass containers.
- 42 pieces of currency notes and coins from 1967 to 2017, on loan from Autoriti Monetari Brunei Darussalam and the Monetary Authority of Singapore.
- Interactive multimedia exhibits:
  - *Take Home A Stamp* vending machine created by students from Nanyang Polytechnic's School of Interactive and Digital Media, where visitors can choose a Singapore or Brunei stamp and download it onto their mobile device.
  - 360 degree photos of the Royal Regalia.
  - An interactive 360 degree video of the Temburong River, located in the Ulu Temburong National Park, which is known as the 'Green Jewel of Brunei' and is home to endangered wildlife.

(Please refer to **Annex A** for more information on exhibition highlights.)

To enrich the experience for visitors, SPM will also organise a *Brunei Cultural Showcase!* on 8 and 9 July 2017, which will feature cultural performances by musicians and dancers from the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, Brunei Darussalam. Visitors, especially families with young children will also get to enjoy handicraft activities; play dress-up in ethnic Bruneian costumes; and sample Bruneian delicacies such as *ambuyat* (a dish of starchy sago palm), the national dish of Brunei, and other tasty treats prepared by Bruneian chefs. (Please refer to **Annex B** for information on SPM's public programmes.)

**Details of Abode of Peace & the Lion City: A Brunei-Singapore Exhibition**

**Singapore**

Venue: Singapore Philatelic Museum  
23-B Coleman Street, Singapore 179807

Date: 6 July 2017 to 28 February 2018

Opening hours: Monday – Sunday  
10.00am – 7.00pm

Admission charges: Free admission for Singaporeans and  
Permanent Residents  
Admission charges for foreigners:  
Adult \$8  
Child (3 – 12 years) \$6

Tel: 6337 3888

Website: [www.spm.org.sg](http://www.spm.org.sg)

**Brunei Darussalam**

Date: November 2017 to April 2018

## **Acknowledgements**

Singapore Philatelic Museum would like to thank the following individuals and organisations for supporting the exhibition.

### **Brunei Darussalam**

- Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- Museums Department
- Autoriti Monetari Brunei Darussalam
- Brunei History Centre
- Postal Services Department
- Information Department
- Language and Literature Department
- Forestry Department
- National Philatelic Association
- Brunei Shell Petroleum Company

### **Singapore**

- National Heritage Board
- Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Monetary Authority of Singapore
- Ministry of Defence
- Ministry of Education
- School of Interactive & Digital Media at Nanyang Polytechnic

## **ABOUT SINGAPORE PHILATELIC MUSEUM**

The Singapore Philatelic Museum officially opened on 19 August 1995, showcasing Singapore's rich philatelic heritage using postal artefacts dating from the 1830s to today. The museum's family-friendly galleries use stamps as windows to introduce Singapore's heritage and culture, as well as the world's. From telling Singapore's story to showcasing pop culture themes, the museum has brought to life many of these philatelic wonders to the public. Exhibitions on show feature a wide range of stamps from the rare collections of world-class philatelists to contemporary collections from around the world. To complement these exhibitions, the museum runs educational programmes, guided tours, school holiday workshops and public programmes. Visitors can go on a journey of discovery on how significant and important the little stamp is in today's world.

The mission of the Singapore Philatelic Museum is to stimulate an interest in philately. The museum is a fully-owned subsidiary of the National Heritage Board and an institution of Public Charter (IPC) Status. For more information, visit [www.spm.org.sg](http://www.spm.org.sg).

## **ABOUT THE NATIONAL HERITAGE BOARD**

The National Heritage Board (NHB) was formed on 1 August 1993. As the custodian of Singapore's heritage, NHB is responsible for telling the Singapore story, sharing the Singaporean experience and imparting our Singapore spirit. NHB's mission is to preserve and celebrate the shared heritage of our diverse communities, for the purpose of education, nation-building and cultural understanding. It manages the national museums and heritage institutions, and sets policies relating to heritage sites, monuments and the national collection. Through the national collection, NHB curates heritage programmes and presents exhibitions to connect the past, present and future generations of Singaporeans. NHB is a statutory board under the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth. Please visit [www.nhb.gov.sg](http://www.nhb.gov.sg) for more information.

### **For media enquiries, please contact:**

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## ARTEFACT HIGHLIGHTS

Brunei Royal Regalia items	
	<p><b>Tarian Karajaan (Silver Long-Necked Vase)</b></p> <p>Four of these regalia items are usually carried by the four sons of <i>Cheteria</i> (nobles) dressed in ceremonial attire.</p> <p>These items were used during the Coronation Ceremony of Sultan Haji Hassanah Bolkuah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah held on 1 August 1968.</p> <p><i>On loan from Museums Department of Brunei Darussalam</i></p> <p><b>Tarian Karajaan</b></p> <p><b>31 May 1982 Royal Regalia Series 3</b></p> <p><i>On loan from Postal Services Department, Brunei Darussalam</i></p>
	<p><b>Puan Kerajaan (Royal Octagonal Vase)</b></p> <p>This octagonal-shaped vase is made of silver. It is used for displaying flowers and is usually carried by the four sons of <i>Cheteria</i> (nobles) dressed in ceremonial attire.</p> <p>These items were used during the Coronation Ceremony of Sultan Haji Hassanah Bolkuah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah held on 1 August 1968.</p> <p><i>On loan from Museums Department of Brunei Darussalam</i></p>





## ***Puan Kerajaan***

### **31 May 1982 Royal Regalia Series 3**

*On loan from Postal Services Department, Brunei Darussalam*



### ***Pedang Kerajaan & Perisai (Royal Sword & Shield)***

The golden swords with curved hilts and the engraved royal shields are carried by four *Anak Cheteria* (nobles) on their right shoulders during traditional royal ceremonies.

These items were used during the Silver Jubilee Ceremony of Sultan Haji Hassanah Bolkihah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah held on 5 October 1992.

*On loan from Museums Department of Brunei Darussalam*







***Pedang Kerajaan & Perisai***

**18 January 1981 Royal Regalia Series 1**

*On loan from Postal Services Department, Brunei Darussalam*



***Pedang (sword)***

16 swords with gold, silver and brass bands on their hilts and 16 shields are carried by 16 *Awang-Awang* (court officials) dressed in black.

These items were used during the Silver Jubilee Ceremony of Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkhiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah held on 5 October 1992.




*On loan from Museums Department of Brunei Darussalam*










***Pedang***




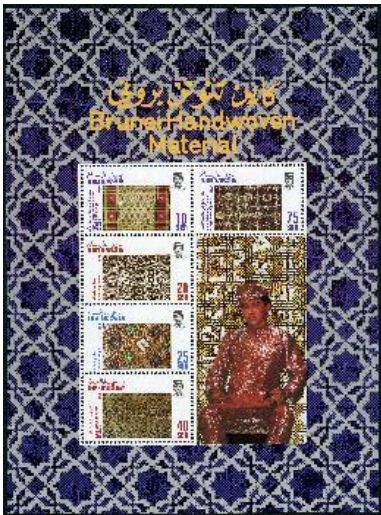
**15 July 1981 Royal Regalia Series 2**

*On loan from Postal Services Department, Brunei Darussalam*

 	<p><b>Taming (shield)</b></p> <p>40 spears decorated with flags at their tips and 40 shields were carried by warriors dressed in red.</p> <p>The <i>taming</i> was used during the Silver Jubilee Ceremony of Sultan Haji Hassanah Bolkuah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah held on 5 October 1992.</p> <p><i>On loan from Museums Department of Brunei Darussalam</i></p>
	<p><b>Taming (Shield)</b></p> <p>Six gold spears and shields; eight silver spears and shields, and eight brass spears and shields carried by <i>Biduanda Kecil</i> (court officials).</p> <p>These items were used during the Coronation Ceremony of Sultan Haji Hassanah Bolkuah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah held on 1 August 1968.</p> <p><i>On loan from Museums Department of Brunei Darussalam</i></p>

Artefacts dating from 960 AD to 1970s	
	<p><b>Blue and white porcelain plate from shipwreck in Brunei (1368-1644)</b></p> <p><i>On loan from Museums Department of Brunei Darussalam</i></p>
	<p><b>Chinese jarlet from shipwreck in Brunei (1368-1644)</b></p> <p><i>On loan from Museums Department of Brunei Darussalam</i></p>

	<p><b>Ancient Chinese coins</b>  Circa 960AD - 1296</p> <p>Early form of currency used in Brunei.</p> <p><i>On loan from Museums Department of Brunei Darussalam</i></p>
	<p><b>Bedil (Brass Canon)</b>  Circa 19th century</p> <p>Early form of currency used in Brunei.</p> <p><i>On loan from Museums Department of Brunei Darussalam</i></p>
	<p><b>Cupak</b>  Circa 19th century  Brass</p> <p>Early form of weight used in Brunei during the maritime trading period.</p> <p><i>On loan from Museums Department of Brunei Darussalam</i></p>
	<p><b>Pelita</b>  Circa 19th century</p> <p>Brass oil lamp used in homes.</p> <p><i>On loan from Museums Department of Brunei Darussalam</i></p>
	<p><b>Kiri</b>  Circa 19th century</p> <p>Brass container for water, used in ceremonies such as weddings.</p> <p><i>On loan from Museums Department of Brunei Darussalam</i></p>

	<p><b>Celapa</b> Circa 19th century</p> <p>Brass container for areca nut cutter and various small brass bowls of lime, gambier and small pieces of areca nuts. It was usually used at weddings and religious functions.</p> <p><i>On loan from Museums Department of Brunei Darussalam</i></p>
	<p><b>Gangsa</b> Circa 19th century</p> <p>A brass tray for plates and bowls to contain rice, dishes of fish, meat and vegetables served at weddings and religious functions. It was also used to present dowries to brides.</p> <p><i>On loan from Museums Department of Brunei Darussalam</i></p>
	<p><b>Kain Jongsarot</b> From <i>Kain Tenunan</i> Collection Circa 1970</p> <p>Weaving of the <i>Kain Tenunan</i> is a skill that is passed down from one generation to another. The designs have survived many centuries. The most well-known is the <i>kain jongsarot</i>.</p> <p><i>On loan from Museums Department of Brunei Darussalam</i></p>
	<p><b>30 April 1988 Brunei Handwoven Cloth Series 1</b></p> <p><i>On loan from Postal Services Department, Brunei Darussalam</i></p>



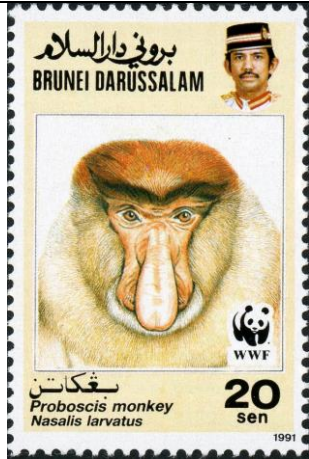
 <p>Handwoven Cloth Materials</p>	<p><b>29 September 1988 Brunei Handwoven Cloth Series 2</b></p> <p><i>On loan from Postal Services Department, Brunei Darussalam</i></p>
	<p><b>Kain Beragi Si Lobang Bangsi Bunga cendera Kesuma</b></p> <p><i>On loan from Museums Department of Brunei Darussalam</i></p>
	<p><b>Kain Beragi</b></p> <p><i>On loan from Museums Department of Brunei Darussalam</i></p>
	<p><b>Kain Bertabur</b></p> <p><i>On loan from Museums Department of Brunei Darussalam</i></p>
	<p><b>Kain Si Lobang Bangsi</b></p> <p><i>On loan from Museums Department of Brunei Darussalam</i></p>



**Kain Si Pugut Bunga Berlapis**

On loan from Museums Department of Brunei Darussalam

**Stamps that depict endangered animals that can be found in Ulu Temburong National Park**



World Wildlife Fund – Proboscis  
30 March 1991

On loan from Postal Services Department, Brunei Darussalam

**Proboscis Monkey (*Nasalis larvatus*)**

This monkey is a large tree-dwelling primate native to Southeast Asia. Known for their large noses, the monkeys are excellent swimmers with partially webbed feet and are often seen jumping into waters to cross rainforest rivers.

The proboscis monkeys can still be sighted in the rainforests of Brunei. But their population has declined to the endangered level. Threats include habitat loss, as well as being hunted for food and for the bezoar stones (masses stuck in their stomachs) that are believed to have healing powers in traditional Chinese medicine.




Animal Series – Tarsier  
29 September 1990

On loan from Postal Services Department, Brunei Darussalam

**Western Tarsier (*Cephalopachus bancanus*)**

Tarsiers are primates found in Southeast Asia. In Brunei, wild Tarsier can be spotted in the jungle of Ulu Temburong National Park. They are very shy animals, and are as small as a human hand. These nocturnal animals hunt insects for food. Their feeding requirements make them difficult to be reared in captivity.

Most Tarsier species are now endangered or threatened, and some are critically endangered. Threats include habitat destruction and fragmentation, hunting, agricultural pollutants and human disturbance.

 <p>Birds Series 1</p> <p>30 December 1992</p> <p><i>On loan from Postal Services Department, Brunei Darussalam</i></p>	<p><b>The Great Argus (<i>Argusianus argus</i>)</b></p> <p>The Great Argus can be found in the jungles of Brunei. These beautiful pheasants have a remarkable breeding display. The male clears an open spot in the forest to be its dancing ground. He announces himself with loud calls to attract females. Then he dances before the female bird with his wings spread into two enormous fans, revealing the hundreds of flashy "eyes". These "eyes" gave this species its name - Argus, the hundred-eyed giant in Greek mythology.</p> <p>These birds are classified as "Near Threatened" as their population has declined due to habitat loss and hunting.</p>
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## MULTIMEDIA EXHIBITS

### Take Home A Stamp

The 'vending machine' invites visitors to choose a Singapore or Brunei stamp and download it onto their mobile device. The multimedia programme was created by students from Nanyang Polytechnic's School of Interactive and Digital Media.

### Royal Regalia Touchscreen

The Royal Regalia Museum is presented in a 360 degree format. Visitors will be able to view the Royal Chariot, close-ups of Brunei Royal Regalia items that show the intricate engravings and details, as well as the beautiful ceiling and surroundings of the museum.

### 360 Degree Video of the Temburong River

This interactive presents a 360 degree video of the Temburong River, located in the Ulu Temurong National Park and known as the 'Green Jewel of Brunei'. The river cuts through the jungle, leading to the heart of Temburong, which is home to endangered wildlife such as the Proboscis Monkey, Tarsier, Great Argus, and Belalong Tree Frog, which can only be found in Brunei.



**Public Programmes: Brunei Cultural Showcase!**

**Saturday 8 & Sunday 9 July 2017**

Admission charges apply. Free admission for Singaporeans and Permanent Residents.

10am – 5pm

- **Fun Quiz** – take part in the fun quiz and find out fascinating facts about Brunei and Singapore!
- **Craft Activity** – Make *Dastar* (headgear) & *Batik* Craft.
- **Dress-up** – Put on Brunei ethnic costumes and learn to tie *samping* and *dastar* with *baju kurong*.

11am – 11.30am; 2.00pm – 2.30pm; 3.30pm – 4.00pm

**Dance with Brunei**

Watch a traditional Bruneian dance performance accompanied by live music and participate in the dances!



*Tipa*

*Image courtesy of Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, Brunei Darussalam*

11.45am – 12.15pm; 2.45pm – 3.15pm

**A Taste of Brunei**

Taste Brunei's well-loved dish, *ambuyat*, and other tasty treats prepared by Bruneian chefs.