

---

**WORK ATTACHMENT AT THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MALAYSIA  
FUNDED BY THE COMMONWEALTH FUND FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION  
(CFTC)**

In 2010, Brunei History Centre under the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports of Brunei Darussalam sent two librarians and one archivist from Brunei Museum Department to do a work attachment at the National Library of Malaysia. The placement enables them to learn new ideas or best practices on how to improve the quality services and facilities. They are also able to learn and observe the latest techniques of using the library computerised system in borrowing, storage of materials like books, manuscripts, microfilms, newspapers and maps. The work attachment at the National Library of Malaysia highlighted the significance use of information technology (IT) for the public. They also observed that some of the library management system at the National Library of Malaysia is relevant and applicable to Brunei History Centre. For example, the management of Brunei History Centre should also provide a suitable place and a comfortable environment for researcher and student as well as providing them with a computerised system for researching facilities and transfer of data from paper records into electronic media. The Brunei History Centre has to upgrade the existing search at the Brunei History Centre official website by providing the researcher and the public with easy and fast search engine through the website.

Since the establishment of Brunei History Centre in 1982, the total of its collections have increased every year. The total number of collections has increased from 2,416 items in 1984 to more than 50,334 items in 2009 in multilingual and multiformat collections such as in the form of books, rare books, audio-visual, maps, microfilms, microfiches, newspapers, newspaper clippings; current periodicals, manuscripts; posters; and many more. Currently, Brunei History Centre is a resource and research centre which indirectly assists the nation in producing highly educated human resources in terms of individuals possessing vast knowledge and expertise in various fields. This is in line with one of Brunei's National Vision 2035 to develop an educated, highly skilled and accomplished people.

The centre provides various facilities for the public to conduct research and reference including teachers and school students. Among the facilities provided at the History Centre is a training programme of work attachments to university undergraduates and students from technical and vocational education institutions. The programme gives exposure on research, data collection and the preservation of the cultural heritage of the nation and the people, both tangible and intangible. It also means to stimulate and spark interest in engaging in the field of history, in line with the centre's efforts to produce local historians.

Due to the centre is one of the selected research institution for the training programme of work attachments of higher educational institution such as University of Brunei Darussalam and University of Sultan Sharif Ali (UNISSA) it is very important that the Brunei History Centre should provided the quality of services and facilities. One of the various facilities provides for the general public is the research and reference facilities. The number of university

---

undergraduates and students used the research and reference facilities will be increased every year. The total number of researchers used the research and reference facilities have increased from 40 researchers in 2006 to 149 researchers in 2009.

On the other hand, Brunei History Centre had conducted 30 University of Brunei Darussalam undergraduates for placement programme since 2001 to 2010. In 2010, Brunei History Centre had received 7 University Brunei Darussalam undergraduates which include two from The Islamic University of Sultan Sharif Ali y undergraduates to do a work placement at the Brunei History Centre. In 2011 Brunei History Centre received a work placement of 18 University of Brunei Darussalam undergraduates and 5 students from Islamic University of Sultan Sharif Ali.

---