

MESSAGE FROM
THE HONOURABLE MINISTER OF CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORTS
BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

Alhamdulillah, our gratitude to Allah Subhanahu Wata'ala, with His blessings, the 5th Southeast Asian Youth Al-Qur'an Reading Competition can be implemented this year.

Retrospecting the history of this program, The Southeast Asian Youth Al-Qur'an Reading Competition was first held in 2000, then in 2003, 2005 and 2007. During these periods, the Al-Qur'an reading competition had successfully produced male and female Qur'an readers and some of them are still actively involved in the reading of the Al-Qur'an and had achieved international success.

This year, a total of fifteen youths from Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, as well as the host country Brunei Darussalam are taking part in the competition.

The Southeast Asian Youth Al-Qur'an Reading Competition is an effort that not only to foster the spirit of healthy competition among ASEAN youths, but also strengthen the spirit of Islamic fraternity among the Islamic youth of Southeast Asia which will contribute to ASEAN's unity and strength. The Southeast Asian Youth Al-Qur'an Reading Competition as well can contribute towards better understanding amongst the society at large that Islam is a religion of unity and peace.

Most importantly, this Southeast Asian Youth Al-Qur'an Reading Competition can encourage the Southeast Asia's Islamic youths to get closer to, study in depth and appreciate, the teachings contained in the Al-Qur'an, which may serve as a protection against social ills and to provide guidance in their lives.

In this opportunity, I wish to extend to all the participants my warm welcome to Brunei Darussalam, and may you have a successful competition.

Wabillahit Taufik Walhidayah Wassalamu'alaikum Warahmatulllahi Wabarakatuh.

[PEHIN ORANG KAYA PEKERMA LAILA DIRAJA]

Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Hazair bin Haji Abdullah

Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports

Brunei Darussalam