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EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN THE SOUTH-EAST ASIAN REGION

Abstract: *This article discusses higher educational institutions of the South-East Asian region, educational institutions of Indonesia, Malaysia and Brunei-Darussalam. Institutions such as Islamic University of Indonesia, Ayirlangga University, and activities of Islamic University of Bandung, International Islamic University of Malaysia and University of Brunei Darussalam are discussed in details. Research finds that mentioned institutions are well established and highly ranked among the world universities rankings. Moreover, Malaysian and Bruneian institutions' success secret they are attracting international professors as well as many of their classes are delivered in English.*

Key words: *Islamic University of Indonesia, Ayirlangga University, and activities of Islamic University of Bandung, International Islamic University of Malaysia, University of Brunei Darussalam.*

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Introduction

Indonesian, Malaysian and Bruneians are always stayed close nations, even they call themselves as Nusantara or the Malay world. Historically these countries had strong ties. For instance, many Indonesians moved to Malaysian lands. This increase in the population of Selangor and other Federated states was mainly due to the contribution of the inflow of immigrants from Indonesia, Kelantan, Kedah, Perlis and Patani. Javanese immigrants settled in coastal areas such as in Klang, Kuala Langat and Kuala Selangor [2, p.61]. Hence, such mixture made possible these countries have similar culture and worldview. In case of education, closeness can be seen in the language aspect, where all Malay, Brunei-Malay and Indonesian languages are very close and widely accepted in all three countries. However, there are different history path for all three countries. Below

we discuss above mentioned countries' education systems on the example of their educations institutions.

Islamic University of Indonesia is a private university in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. It was established on 27 Rajab 1364 (Islamic calendar) or 8 July 1945 as STI (Sekola Tinggi Islam - Islamic Higher School) by political figures of the time. STI was transformed into the University of Islam Indonesia on December 14, 1947 in Indonesia. Historically, the university was the first national university in Indonesia and the oldest private university in the country.

The Islamic University of Indonesia strives to improve the integration of Islamic values into education, research, community development and Islamic endeavors. Its mission is to uphold Islamic teachings and values through the development and

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dissemination of science, technology, culture and art to produce knowledgeable, professional, independent and morally responsible individuals with leadership skills.

In order to strengthen internationalization and actively participate in the international direction, the Islamic University of Indonesia has established the Directorate of Cooperation, Marketing and Alumni.

Ayirlangga University is the oldest university in Indonesia and a public university located in Surabaya, East Java. Although it was officially established in 1954 by a decree of the Indonesian government, Ayirlangga University was first established in 1948 as a branch of the University of Indonesia. Its roots date back to 1913 and began as a medical and dental school. Currently, Ayirlangga University has more than 35,000 students (during the 2015-2016 academic year) and 1,570 professors and teachers and 15 faculties. Ayirlangga University has university hospitals for the faculties of Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, Nursing and Dentistry, as well as a Tropical Infectious Hospital for the Institute of Tropical Diseases.

Ayirlangga University is consistently ranked among the top universities in the world and is one of the "Big 5" universities in Indonesia, along with the University of Indonesia, Bandung Institute of Technology, Bogor Agricultural University and Gadjadara University.

Ayirlangga University has international partnerships around the world, including the University of Bonn, Seoul National University and the University of Adelaide.

Bandung Islamic University. Founded in 1958, Bandung Islamic University (Universitas Islam Bandung) is located in the large city of Bandung in West Java (population 2.5 million). Officially accredited by the Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education of the Republic of Indonesia. Bandung Islamic University is very large and has more than 10,000 students. It is a higher educational institution officially associated with the Islamic religion. The university offers courses and programs leading to officially recognized higher education degrees in several fields of study [16, p. 130].

Acceptance and selection. Bandung Islamic University admits only 25% of the 10,000 applicants each year from its entrance exams.

The university received A (very good) accreditation from the Higher Education Accreditation Council. Accreditation of higher education institutions was received in 2017. The accreditation score includes 15 indicators covering leadership, student affairs, personnel, curriculum, infrastructure and facilities, funding, governance, education system, academic environment, quality assurance: systems, alumni, research and community service, and academic programs.

According to the Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education College Ranking (2015), the University was ranked 32nd among 3,320 educational institutions in Indonesia. In mid-2017, the University won the 1st award in Indonesia from the Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education. The university also won the Best Regional University in Education award from the Oxford European Business Assembly.

Bandung Islamic University has 18 Academic and 4 professional programs and 10 faculties:

- Faculty of Sharia: Sharia economic law, Islamic family law;
- Faculty of Education: Islamic Education, Early Childhood Education;
- Faculty of Law: Islamic Broadcasting Communications;
- Faculty of Law: Legislation;
- Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences: Statistics, Mathematics;
- Professional pharmaceutical program;
- Faculty of Psychology;
- Faculty of Economics and Business: Business and Management, Accounting, Economics, Professional accounting program;
- Faculty of Engineering: Mining Engineering, Industrial Engineering, Urban Planning and Regional Planning, Professional Engineering Program;
- Faculty of Communication: Research on communication;
- Faculty of Medicine: Medicine, Professional medical program

Master's programs. Bandung Islamic University has eight graduate programs:

1. Master's programs in Islamic economics: Islamic finance; Islamic Bank, Sharia Business Management [12, p.128];
2. Islamic education master's fields: Islamic education, Early childhood education, Islamic education management;
3. Master of Law: Islamic Law, Criminal Law, Business Law, International Law, Public Administration Law, etc.;
4. Doctoral program;
5. Doctor of legal sciences.

Ibn Khaldun Institute of International Scientific Research (ISLAH) of the International Islamic University of Malaysia is a research center of the International Islamic University (IIUM) located in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. It was founded in 1987 by the Muslim philosopher Syed Muhammad Naqib al-Attos. Until 2015, the center, which was known as ISTAC, was renamed the Ibn Khaldun Institute for International Scientific Research (ISLAH). Later, all program courses housed at ISLAH were consolidated and its faculty and students moved to the main building of the International Islamic University of Malaysia in Gombak. The center can also be considered as an "Islamic University" based on

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religious principles [3, p. 879]. It tries to unite the Islamic world through the various educational programs it offers. The center's academic programs offer master's and doctoral degrees in Islamic thought, culture, and science. The program includes the study of the most widespread religions in the world today and the modern world. Its professors and students are trying to raise the center's position on the international level.

The International Institute for Advanced Islamic Studies (IAIS) was established in Kuala Lumpur in September 2007 as an independent non-profit research center based on an initial grant from the Government of Malaysia. On October 9, 2008, the institute was officially launched by the Prime Minister of Malaysia and its founder, Tun Abdullah Haji Ahmad Badawi. The Institute conducts objective scientific and political research on Islam, as well as research aimed at solving the problems of the global ummah relevant to Malaysia. Also, he deeply studies the actual problems of relations of Islamic civilization with other civilizations.

At the same time, IAIS is based on the original teachings of Islam and seeks to promote the renewal (tajdid) of Islamic civilization based on the Qur'an and Sunnah. By studying the texts of Islamic sources, the Institute provides scientific and practical recommendations to governmental organizations, multinational organizations [5, p.55] and non-governmental organizations, taking into account the serious problems facing Islamic societies [4, p. 909]. It supports activities and projects that contribute to the formation of modern Islamic thinking and the improvement of human well-being.

University of Brunei Darussalam. The University of Brunei Darussalam was the first university in Brunei and was established in 1985 and has since become the largest university in the country in terms of student numbers and curricula offered. Universiti Brunei Darussalam in 1985 and the first intake was a total of 176 students. [14, p. 92] The University of Brunei Darussalam is based on its four core values: people, experience, relevance and leadership. These values include eight academic faculties, eight research institutes and faculties and centers in Islamic Studies, Business, Arts, Science, Health Sciences, Asian Studies, Political Science, Education, Biodiversity and Integrated Technology, which play an important role in the development and operation of the University.

In a relatively short period of time, the University of Brunei Darussalam has developed and expanded in both education and infrastructure, delivering influential leaders, entrepreneurs and professionals.

In 2009, the University of Brunei Darussalam introduced the GenNEXT program, a broad-based and interdisciplinary framework that allows students to tailor their curriculum to their individual learning

styles. This is the discovery year of the University of Brunei Darussalam, which currently provides its students with opportunities to study on a global platform through partnerships with universities and institutes on six continents.

International reputation. The University of Brunei Darussalam is one of the leading higher education institutions in the Sultanate of Brunei Darussalam. The University of Brunei Darussalam has been ranked globally for the first time this year in the Times Education World University Rankings, in the 401 to 500 group. This places the University of Brunei Darussalam fourth in ASEAN's ranking of the world's most prestigious universities, confirming its status as an internationally recognized institution for teaching and research.

The University of Brunei Darussalam has also shown steady growth in the QS World University Rankings. It currently ranks 298th in the latest edition, up 25th from last year's 323rd. In all indicators, the University of Brunei Darussalam showed significant improvements in academic reputation, employer reputation, faculty, student ratio, citations per faculty, international faculty, and international students. The University of Brunei Darussalam is currently ranked 100th in the QS Asian University Rankings and ranked 34th among universities established 50 years ago.

The university ranks 1st in numerous categories, including 1st in foreign student exchange, 13th in international faculty, 15th in the number of faculty and students, and 23rd among international students in the 2019 QS Asian University Rankings.

The QS ranking also measures research performance as the practical part of its ranking. Since 2011, the university's research activity has grown exponentially, and the number of articles published annually has tripled over the past 5 years.

University research is conducted on the basis of national relevance, with a special focus on innovative and entrepreneurial initiatives. Such initiatives are carried out by collaborating with industry players to ensure that the university's active networks and its research and teaching are relevant to market needs.

In the past three years, the university has filed more than 40 patents through its Innovation and Corporate Office, eight of which were granted both in Brunei and internationally. The university is focused on its comparative advantages and major research projects in the fields of biodiversity, herbal medicine, halal products, Islamic governance and energy, all of which are of interest and have global impact.

The success of university students is not limited to academic fields. In essence, the university strives to create a mature generation with innovative and entrepreneurial skills, industry-specific skills and a passion for lifelong learning based on three principles. Its motto is: "Ke Arah Kesempurnaan Insan" or "Towards Human Perfection".

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There are 4 higher education institutions in the Sultanate: University of Brunei Darussalam, Brunei University of Technology, Islamic University named after Sultan Sharif Ali and College of Religious Education Teachers University. In the country, education in universities is completely free for citizens of Brunei, with monthly stipends and free bed and 3 meals. Classes in universities are conducted in English, Arabic and Malay. Almost all foreign students receive education on the basis of the Bruneian government grant. Every university has religious subjects taught by experienced professors [1, p. 562].

Sultan Omar Ali Saifuddin Center for Islamic Studies (SOASCIS) at the University of Brunei

Darussalam. The Sultan Omar Ali Saifuddin Center for Islamic Studies (SOASCIS) was established on September 30 with the approval of the Sultan of Brunei, Haji Hassanah Bolkhiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah. One of its main goals is to produce graduates and scholars [7, p. 12; 8, p. 6736; 9, p. 9; 10, p.207; 11, p.886; 13, p. 127; 15, p.157] equipped with the necessary knowledge and experience to educate Muslims facing the changes and challenges of today's world. At the same time, this center prepares intellectuals who think about modern issues and have a high intellectual potential, who have strong Islamic thinking.

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