

Bruneian student awarded S'pore Scholarship

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From left to right: Wong Jit Bing (brother), Wong Jit Ru, Rajpal Singh (Acting High Commissioner of Singapore to Brunei Darussalam), Mdm Yong (mother), Nurizyenny Muslim (former Singapore Scholar), Lim Sheng Ming (former Singapore Scholar), Danial Phua (First Secretary). – COURTESY OF SINGAPORE HIGH COMMISSION

A BRUNEIAN student, Wong Jit Ru, will be heading to Singapore to further his study by pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in Mathematics and Economics at the Nanyang Technological University, Singapore after he was awarded the 2013 Singapore Scholarship.

The announcement of the recipient for the 2013 Singapore Scholarship was made yesterday when Jit Ru received the award from the Singapore High Commission.

The ceremony followed with a Sungkai hosted by the High Commission for Jit Ru and his family as well as some of the past Singapore scholarship recipients from Brunei Darussalam.

The Singapore Scholarship was introduced in 1999 for students from Asean countries. Each scholarship is for a full-time undergraduate degree course at National University of Singapore, the Nanyang Technological University or the Singapore Management University. The scholarship covers the tuition fees for the duration of the undergraduate studies as well as living, accommodation and travel allowances.



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The scholarship is part of Singapore's modest contributions at regional capacity building efforts. The scholarship also promotes people-to-people linkages, especially amongst the youths of Brunei and Singapore. It is an important part of strong educational links.

Providing detail of the allowances given to the scholars, Mr Rajpal Singh, the Acting High Commissioner of Singapore to Brunei Darussalam said, "The scholarship covers the tuition fees for the duration of the undergraduate studies, which may be for three or four years depending on the discipline. Scholars will be given an annual living allowance of S\$4,300 in addition to an accommodation allowance. On top of that, we will pay for an economy class ticket from Brunei to Singapore and return."

One of the most frequently asked questions is if there a bond attached to the scholarship. The Acting High Commissioner replied, "No. In fact, we expect scholars to return to Brunei and contribute towards the development of their country and community."

Touching on the response of the scholarship since its inception 13 years ago (1999), he pointed out, "We have attracted many applicants from Brunei and have awarded 28 scholarships to Bruneian students. There are currently two scholars studying in NTU. One is in the Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information whilst the other is pursuing Mechanical Engineering."