

Halal Science: A Successful Journey from Brunei Darussalam to Osaka University



海外交流

Quamrul HASAN*

In October 2009, Professor Eiichi Tamiya, Graduate School of Engineering, Osaka University was invited and delivered a key note presentation on the advanced technology (e.g., biosensor) of meat species

detection (beef, pork) in the Halal Conference in Brunei Darussalam. This paved the way for his involvement with the Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources of Brunei Darussalam to help

Biosensors and Halal science

Ihm conference, 2009



Halal Science Center in Brunei



Govt mulls using new halal detector

Genevieve Tan
BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN

BRUNEI is interested in a Japan-made portable halal detection device that is seen to improve the efficiency and speed of government inspectors' work in food quality certification.

Expressing keen interest in the new device, Brunei's Director of Agriculture Haji Normah Suria Hayati PUSMDSU (Dr) Hj Mohd Jamil Al-Sufri requested for the device to be demonstrated to the Brunei Minister of Industry and Primary Resources.

Two representatives from Japan introduced the new equipment yesterday to Haji Normah at the Raffles International Hotel on the



Halal detector: A Japanese businessman shows the portable DNA Sensor which is being marketed to governments of Muslim countries for use in halal food inspection and certification. It is said to yield results in an hour. *Picture: Raffles International Hotel on the left.*

cular food, and viruses, as one's palm. "Any meat said Quamrul and principle Bismillah C explaining th to be connect computer or process the d

He also Times in an e yesterday th building of th complete, son quire develop "We are en there is still validation to whether the are accurate Most Muslim countries in- cluding Brunei are using the



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them in the establishment of a Halal Science Center in Brunei Darussalam (Brunei), which continued for a few years. This was the key for selecting Brunei and adding in the list of Osaka University's ASEAN Campus partners as the fourth country (in addition to Thailand, Indonesia, Vietnam).

ASEAN Campus partners as the fourth country (three others are: Thailand; Indonesia; Vietnam). In February 2018, an office representing Osaka University was opened in Brunei, which was officiated by the Executive Vice President Prof. Genta Kawahara in his physical presence. In the meantime, Osaka University completed signing of MoUs with the three national universities of Brunei—Universiti Brunei Darussalam; Sultan Sharif Ali Islamic University, Universiti Teknologi Brunei. One of the niche areas of collaboration with these three universities from Brunei is the Halal Science (though Sultan Sharif Ali Islamic University is the best match in this considering their focus). This influenced Osaka University to select Halal Science and adding it (in 2018) as the new academic discipline under the platform of ASEAN Campuses. As one of main and big activities, since the official

establishment, every year a joint symposium in partnerships concurrently with the three universities (in Brunei) have been held alternatively in Brunei and Osaka University. The last joint symposium (the fourth) was organized, for the first time due to COVID-19, in a virtual set up by Osaka University on October 1, 2020. In this, the welcoming remarks were delivered by the Executive Vice President of Osaka University, Prof. Genta Kawahara followed by Dr. Haji Azman Bin Ahmad, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education, Brunei. The theme of this symposium was Halal Science. About 150 students from the three universities of Brunei and 50 faculty members, including 14 professors from Osaka University, participated in this symposium. In this, four professors from Osaka University’s graduate school of engineering, and graduate school of pharmaceutical sciences; and six



The fourth joint symposium with 3 universities of Brunei in a virtual setup



The Executive Vice President of Osaka University, Prof. Genta Kawahara (the left photo) and professors from Osaka University (the right photo)

faculty members from the three universities of Brunei introduced their research interests.

In addition, a new academic program on the Halal Science was established in Osaka University in May 2020. The objectives of this new program- Osaka University International Certificate Program (OUICP) on Halal Science, Technology and Innovation (HaSTI) are:

- To help in becoming broadly knowledgeable on the Halal Science, Halal Technology, and Halal Product and Service Innovation
- To expose to the Halal Industry to be able to interact with the industry professionals in Japan and outside (especially Muslim majority countries) for gaining further practical knowledge and experience
- To be able to make the successful utilization of the new and practical learnings and connecting those with the new/future or current professional careers (though not limited to the Halal related jobs only)

On December 8, 2020, the OUICP-HaSTI was kicked off. In this, in addition to several professors from Osaka University seventeen invited lecturers from Brunei will be partnering. A total of 35 (post) graduate students have enrolled in this new program.

Japanese government is seeking for the realization of the “knowledge-intensive society” that incorporates natural science, new technologies and social sciences. For Osaka University ASEAN Campus project, contributing to the formation of a knowledge-intensive society in ASEAN and Japan through the implementation of education and research is the main objective. Global Halal industry is rapidly emerging with an estimated value of USD 2.3 trillion a year. However, the advancement in manufacturing and technology for Halal products have not yet been fully addressed and understood. Therefore, Halal industry is certainly a typical open

space (opportunity) for various stakeholders that include academia and Japanese industries to achieve a good example of the knowledge-intensive society.

筆者の所属する大阪大学グローバルイニシアティブ・センターでは、大阪大学 ASEAN キャンパス・プロジェクトを推進しており、ブルネイも ASEAN の4つカウンターパートの国の1つとなっている。ブルネイが参加国の一つになったことは、2009年10月に大阪大学大学院工学研究科の民谷栄一教授(当時)がブルネイのハラール会議に招聘され、食肉の種の選別に関するバイオセンサーなどの先端技術を紹介したことに端を発している。大阪大学 ASEAN キャンパスの設置準備のために、2018年2月に大阪大学の代表オフィスがブルネイにオープンし、大阪大学はブルネイの3つの大学とMOUを締結し、新しい学問領域であるハラールサイエンスについての教育と研究を推進してきた。これまでの間、毎年、学術シンポジウムを開催し、2020年5月には、オンライン授業と現地留学を含む大阪大学の国際教育プログラムである Osaka University International Certificate Program (OUICP) on Halal Science, Technology and Innovation (HaSTI) が創設され、30名以上のブルネイの大学院生が参加して、2020年12月8日に開講した。

日本の政府は「知識集約型社会」の形成を科学技術政策の基本に置いている。そして、大阪大学 ASEAN キャンパスにおいても、日本との連携のもとに ASEAN 諸国で「知識集約型社会」を実現するのが、プロジェクトの基本的な理念となっている。ハラール産業とそのグローバルな市場は、成長著しい ASEAN 地域において急速に拡大しており、新しい科学技術の適用が求められている。しかしながら、宗教が基盤にあるハラールの領域では、生産性・質・安全性などの向上を目的とした単純な技術の適用では済まない側面がある。だからこそ、我々は、ハラール産業が、学術や日本の企業を含む、多様なステークホルダーにとって開られているべきであり、知識集約型社会の形成の典型的な実践の場であると考え、これを推進しているのである。