

MEDIA RELEASE

25 November 2010

EMBARGOED UNTIL 25 NOVEMBER 2010, 3PM

2010 PRIMARY SCHOOL LEAVING EXAMINATIONS (PSLE) - PERFORMANCE OF MADRASAH STUDENTS

1 342 students from the 2005 Primary 1 cohort in the madrasahs sat as candidates for the PSLE this year. Madrasah candidates can collect their results from their respective madrasahs.

2 Majlis Ugama Islam Singapura (MUIS) congratulates all successful madrasah candidates and their madrasahs.

Top Madrasah Students

3 The top madrasah PSLE students are:

Name	School
Sakinah Bte Yusof	Madrasah Irsyad Al-Islamiah
Nur Hijannah Bte Roszaima	Madrasah Irsyad Al-Islamiah
Farah Nadiyah Bte Muhamad Ishak	Madrasah Aljunied Al-Islamiah
Zubaidah Bte Dadlani	Madrasah Alsagoff Al-Islamiah

Madrasah benchmark

4 Of the six madrasahs that offered students for the PSLE, four have attained scores higher than the Madrasah PSLE benchmark set by the Ministry of Education¹. They are (in alphabetical order) Madrasah Al-Irsyad Al-Islamiah, Madrasah Al-Maarif Al-Islamiah, Madrasah Aljunied Al-Islamiah, and Madrasah Alsagoff Al-Islamiah.

¹ Under the Compulsory Education Act, a madrasah's average PSLE aggregate score must meet the PSLE benchmark to continue admitting P1 students exempted from national schooling. The PSLE benchmark is pegged at the average PSLE aggregate score of Malay pupils in the six lowest-performing national primary schools who take 4 Standard-level subjects. To be able to take in P1 students, the madrasah must meet the PSLE benchmark at least twice in every three-year period.

5 Madrasah Al-Arabiah Al-Islamiah and Madrasah Aljunied Al-Islamiah had joined the Joint Madrasah System and had ceased taking in Primary 1 students from 2009. They will therefore not be affected by the benchmark. The Ministry of Education has stated that Madrasah Wak Tanjong having not met the benchmark in 2008 and 2010 (twice in a three-year block) will not be able to admit Primary 1 students for the three years 2012 – 2014. MUIS will continue to facilitate the overall annual madrasah intake of a maximum of 400 Primary 1 students. MUIS remains open to including more madrasahs in the Joint Madrasah System in order to improve the usage of limited resources and to offer better pathways for full-time madrasah students.

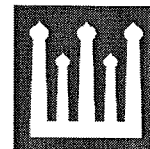
MUIS Assistance for Madrasah PSLE students

6 MUIS will continue to extend its PSLE Assistance Package to all six full-time madrasahs whose students will be taking the PSLE in the coming year. The details of the assistance are attached at Annex A.

7 For general enquiries relating to madrasah PSLE, the public can contact MUIS at 6359 1154. The line will be available 9am to 6 pm on weekdays until Wed 1 December 2010.

For further information on this media release, please contact Mr Jamari Mokhtar at 6359-1434 or jamari@muis.gov.sg

MAJLIS UGAMA ISLAM SINGAPURA



Annex A

MUIS' ASSISTANCE TO ALL MADRASAH

PSLE GRANT

The PSLE-ready package was introduced in 2007 to better equip all Madrasah students for their first sitting of the PSLE in 2008. All Primary 5 and Primary 6 Madrasah students receive this funding which can be used for PSLE-related workshops and supplementary learning activities. The amount expended over the past 4 years is as follows:

YEAR	No of P5 & P6 Students	Amount Allocated
2007	807	\$121,050 (\$150/student)
2008	753	\$225,900 (\$300/student)
2009	758	\$227,400 (\$300/student)
2010	700	\$210,000 (\$300/student)

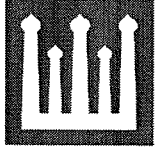
TEACHER'S TRAINING

2. Since 2003, MUIS has collaborated with the Edith Cowan University (ECU) of Australia and the National Institute of Education (NIE) to train Madrasah teachers. These programmes are meant to better equip the teachers for curriculum and pedagogy development, and to improve their skills and knowledge in the teaching and learning process. MUIS has sponsored the training of:

- (i) 75 teachers for ECU's Diploma in Education programme;
- (ii) 21 teachers for the Specialist Diploma in English, Mathematics & Science programme by NIE
- (iii) 78 teachers for NIE Specialist Diploma in Teaching & Learning programme. This programme will be enrolling its 4th cohort of madrasah teachers in Q1 2011 with an additional two cohorts later.

3. Madrasah teachers have also benefited from various workshops and professional training programmes under Muis sponsorship such as:

- NIE's Management and Leadership in School Programme (17 teachers)
- NIE's Leaders in Education Programme – International (14 principals & teachers)



4. Since 2008, Muis had spent \$560,791 on teachers' training which include both the structured programmes run in partnership with NIE and ECU and workshops and seminars.

SHARING SESSIONS

5. In 2010, MUIS organized several sharing sessions for all madrasahs as follows;
- sharing on 2009 PSLE best practices;
 - sharing and discussion on 2009 PSLE results;
 - PSLE Oral Malay Language briefing;
 - sharing on cooperative learning techniques;

APEX MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME

6. The Apex Mentorship Programme started in 2008 with 26 aspiring undergrads from the various tertiary institutes, who were keen to provide academic help to the Madrasahs in Singapore. Currently, the Apex Programme is running in three Madrasahs namely Madrasah Al-Irsyad Al-Islamiah, Madrasah Al-Arabiah Al-Islamiah and Madrasah Wak Tanjong Al-Islamiah. The weekly 3-hour mentoring program implemented thus far has benefited students through the small student mentor ratio. MUIS has also sponsored a 3-day PSLE-readiness camp that the APEX Mentors organized for these Madrasah students in June 2010.