

The Re-visiting History of Languages in Brunei and the Role of English

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The official language of Brunei is Bhasa Melayu or Standard Malay. The majority of people are bilingual; they speak Dusun, Tutong, Malaya, English etc. languages in Brunei. In this paper, I use the methodological framework of history as a tool to understand that history of languages in Brunei. In addition, this paper will also underpin the role of English and other languages as well as their impacts in the social and academic life of the people. It is significant to search the answers of the queries such as: (i) What is the history of languages and English in Brunei? (ii) How does it effect in the present? (iii) What is the role of English in Brunei? All the questions answers need to search to understand the role of English in Brunei and influences of regional and local languages on Brunei English. The needs of re-visiting history come close to know the emergence of English language and the impact of the society in twenty-first century. To put in a nutshell, I come to conclude that the English language is a lingua franka though the other languages have to preserve equally.

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