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From: Unit Komunikasi Korporat
Sent: Sunday, July 29, 2018 11:24 AM
To: UUM - All Staff; UUM - All Students
Subject: Baitulmaqdis Monograph Reveals The Role Of Islam In The Promotion Of Peaceful Coexistence



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Universiti Utara Malaysia

29 JULY 2018 / 16 ZULKAEDAH 1439H

"UUM : UNIVERSITI PENGURUSAN TERKEMUKA"
(THE EMINENT MANAGEMENT UNIVERSITY)

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BAITULMAQDIS MONOGRAPH REVEALS THE ROLE OF ISLAM IN THE PROMOTION OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE



UUM ONLINE: Kuala Lumpur, July 28 - The launch of the Baitulmaqdis Monograph becomes a new benchmark for academic research and development of IslamicJerusalem Studies, especially in promoting peaceful coexistence amongst Muslims, Christians and Jews.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Dato' Seri Dr. Mohamed Mustafa Ishak said the IslamicJerusalem model refers to a comprehensive vision of the concept of peaceful coexistence.

"The leadership of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) in a multi-cultural society in Medina is an early example of how Islam always accepts inclusive approaches and promotes peaceful and harmonious coexistence, similarly the situation in Jerusalem which is a holy land for Muslims, Christians and Jews," he said.

According to the Vice-Chancellor, the history, of Jerusalem during the reign of Caliph Umar- Al Khattab laid the essential foundation in peaceful coexistence while managing the plurality in the region known in history as Al-'Uhd al-Umariyya or Umar's Assurance of Aman (Safety).

"This concept was then continued in the days of Salahuddin Al Ayubi when he liberated Jerusalem from the Crusaders in 1191 where in his reply to King Richard I, Salahuddin stated that "Jerusalem is ours just as much as yours" which clearly shows how Islam respects the rights of Christians at Jerusalem, even though Muslims were in power at that time," he said in his address at the Charity Hi-Tea Amal cum launch of the Baitulmaqdis Monograph organized by Institute Of Excellence For IslamicJerusalem Studies (IEIJS), UUM here.

He added that the event marked an important milestone in understanding the Jerusalem model as a fundamental landmark on the role of Islam in promoting mutual understanding, mutual respect and co-existence among human beings.

The Baitulmaqdis Monograph, the product of research done by Prof. Dr. Abd Al-Fattah El-Awaisi, a Visiting Professor at UUM IEIJS, among others also discussed the background of a new research field in the Jerusalem Studies since 1994, the introduction of two new terminologies: IslamicJerusalem and IslamicJerusalem Studies as well as the progress and the latest research developments in IslamicJerusalem Studies.

Prof. Dr. Abd. Al-Fattah is a British citizen from Palestine who has lived and served in several Islamic countries, as well as in the West.

He has devoted himself as a lecturer and researcher at some of the world's leading universities for more than 30 years, including in the UK, Turkey, Syria, Yemen, Palestine and Malaysia.

Also present at the event were President of Muslim Care Malaysia Society, Tuan Haji Zulkifli Wahijan; Dean of Ghazali Shafie Graduate School of Government, Prof. Dr. Mohd Kamarulnizam Abdullah; Director of IEIJS UUM, Dr. Aminurraasyid Yatiban, and author of the Baitulmaqdis Monograph, Prof. Dr. Abdul Fattah El-Awaisi.

The event also saw the launch of the Welfare and Development of Baitulmaqdis Fund.

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