

27 JUN 2000

OIC-Name

IT IS THE SAME BUT.....

KUALA LUMPUR, June 27 (Bernama) -- People say what is there in a name. To Muslims who are of various races and who come from all corners of the world, their names may be the same but because of language differences, the spelling however differs.

This can be seen from the list of delegates attending the 27th session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, which began here today.

For example the name Muhammad is spelt differently.

Apart from "Mohammed", "Mohamed" and "Mohammad", it is also spelt "Mamadou" in Guinea and "Mehmet" in Turkey.

In Gambia it is spelt "Momodou" and in Cameroon it is "Mohamadaou".

"Abdul" also has variations -- "Abdel" in several Arab countries, "Abdoul" in Guinea and "Abdus" in Bangladesh.

Burkina Faso Foreign Minister Youssof Ouedraogo has the same name as several delegates from other countries but the spelling differs.

Algeria's Foreign Minister is Youcef Yousfi whereas his counterpart from Oman is Yousuf Alawi.

A delegate from Libya is named "Yusef" and another person from Qatar is called "Yusuf". There is also a "Mohamadou Youssifou" from Cameroon.

The name "Rashid" also has variations -- Rashed of Pakistan, Rachid in Algeria and Morocco.

A total of 1,000 delegates from 56 OIC member nations are attending the four-day meeting opened by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

-- BERNAMA

AZZ AAM