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Muslims urged to emulate the high morals and virtues of the Prophet

KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs. - The Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah today urged Muslims to emulate Prophet Muhammad in promoting good morals and virtues in all aspects of life.

This would help them become successful, respected and united, he said.

Good morals are an important element with strong influence on civilisation.

"In Islam, the meaning of good morals covers all aspects of our lives encompassing the community, economic activity, relationship between races and nations, even during wars.

"Good morals are called for to guide and influence the behaviour of Muslims," he said in his address at the national-level Maulidur Rasul celebrations at Stadium Putra in Bukit Jalil.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and Cabinet Ministers were also present.

The King said courtesy and good conduct in relationships among mankind was as important as the relationship between mankind and God.

"Islam forbids any action that gives rise to disunity among Muslims. In business transactions, for example, courtesy and good conduct are demanded.

"It requires certain rules and if practised, will strengthen the relationship among the ummah and spur the economic progress of Muslims.

"Such is the universal nature of Islam. The good manners introduced should be observed and practised by everyone. The moral principles must be adhered to in all aspects of our life."

However, the King said mankind often remained indifferent to the laws of God.

When these rules are not adhered to, calamity and misfortune occur, including economic depression, environmental pollution, social problems and disunity among the people.

"These are caused by the indifferent attitude and greed of mankind."

The King said the Maulidur Rasul celebration provided many lessons and guidance as it reminded Muslims of the struggle of Prophet Muhammad in propagating Islam.

The Prophet bore heavy responsibility to exhort man to practise a good, civilised, progressive and peaceful way of life according to the true teachings of Islam.

"Because of the Prophet, we are now professing Islam as our religion and we practise his noble teachings which bring peace and prosperity to our lives in this world and the hereafter."

More than 20,000 people, most of whom represented government departments, agencies, statutory bodies, associations and the private sector, took part in the procession over a two-kilometre stretch to the indoor stadium.

The crowd was later treated to an hour-long play with a chorus comprising students portraying the hardships faced by Muslims before the glorious years of Islam.

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