

25 OCT 2000

Saudi-Donation

SAUDI ARABIA'S FOUNDATION DONATES RM7.6 MILLION TO IIUM

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 25 (Bernama) -- The Prince Sultan Abdul Aziz Charity Foundation is donating US\$2 million (RM7.6 million) to the International Islamic University of Malaysia (IIUM).

"US\$1 million is for the students' fund and another US\$1 million for the university," said Saudi Arabia's Second Deputy Prime Minister Prince Sultan Abdul Aziz Al-Saud in his acceptance speech after receiving an honorary doctorate in political science from the university.

IIUM's constitutional head, Sultan Ahmad Shah of Pahang, conferred Prince Sultan Abdul Aziz, 70, the honorary degree in a special convocation, here, today.

The foundation was established by Prince Sultan Abdul Aziz, son of the late King Abdul Aziz Al Saud, founder of the Kingdom, in 1995 to provide social and health services in the Muslim world.

He arrived here yesterday for an eight-day visit to Malaysia.

Prince Sultan Abdul Aziz, who is also the Kingdom's Aviation and Defence Minister, is accompanied by a 164-member delegation including four Saudi princes and three ministers.

His visit is at the invitation of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and while here, they will discuss several issues, especially those relating to peace in West Asia and the Palestine-Israel conflict.

Sultan Ahmad Shah, in his speech, said he hoped the conferment not only served as just recognition for the numerous contributions of Prince Sultan Abdul Aziz but would also serve as a symbol of brotherhood and friendship between Malaysia and Saudi Arabia.

IIUM was founded in 1983 by the Malaysian Government and was co-sponsored by the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) and several Muslim countries.

The university occupies three campuses in Gombak here, Kuantan and Petaling Jaya.

Currently, IIUM has 8,689 undergraduate and 1,416 postgraduate students, including 1,434 international students from 92 countries.

-- BERNAMA

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