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WEST ASIAN ISLAMIC NATIONS LOOKING TO M'SIA AS ROLE MODEL

KOTA TINGGI, June 11 (Bernama) -- Leaders of West Asian Muslim nations have asked Malaysia to play a role in making it a model on how an Islamic nation can respect religious issues in its multi-racial society.

Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar said he had received these views during his recent visit to countries like Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq and Jordan.

The visit was to gain the West Asian countries' views on the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) Foreign Ministers' meeting in Kuala Lumpur on June 27-30.

The visit was well received and Malaysia under the leadership of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamed was most respected by the countries, he said after opening the Johor Malaysian Association of Youth Clubs (MAYC) meeting here last night.

Syed Hamid said the West Asian nations also wanted to know more on Malaysia's strategy in surviving the recent economic downturn.

--BERNAMA

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