

Islamic economic development week to be held in October

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KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs. — The Islamic Economic Development Week, to be held for the first time in October, is to give Muslims a better understanding of Islam and economics.

It is also to create awareness on Islamic financial products and raise understanding of Islam and economics.

Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Brig-Jen (R) Datuk Abdul Hamid Zainal Abidin said the Muslim society has to rid itself of its inferiority complex if it wanted to grow with globalisation.

"They need be more confident and original in their thinking," he said at a Press conference on the Islamic Economic Development Week.

The event, organised by the Ummah Development Action Plan

Council, will be held at the Putra World Trade Centre from Oct 26.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is expected to launch it and Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi will close it.

There will also be an Islamic Products Expo, Regional Islamic Pawnshop Convention (Ar-Rahnu), Know Your Gold Seminar and Mushaf Al-Quran Exhibition.

An inter-university debate, essay writing contest, story telling and drawing competition as well as a khat writing contest will also be held.

Abdul Hamid said the theme — "Experience the Beauty of Islam Together" — which invites Muslims to live all aspects of life fully, from the viewpoint of religion, politics, economy, education and society.

Abdul Hamid said Religious Ministers from neighbouring countries like Singapore, Thailand, Brunei, Indonesia and Cambodia have been invited to attend the Islamic Pawnshop Convention.

The convention is to make Ar-Rahnu widespread as a micro credit programme and financial instrument for the lower income group.

The Know Your Gold Seminar is to educate the society, especially women, on current developments and the potential of gold in the business arena, and use as a currency.

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