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Scholars-Japan

JAPANESE MUSLIMS BELIEVE THEY CAN CONTRIBUTE TO BETTERMENT OF UMMAH

By: Mohd Shukri Ishak

PUTRAJAYA, July 9 (Bernama) -- Despite being a minority group, Muslims in Japan believe they can contribute much toward the betterment of the ummah worldwide, said a leading Japanese Islamic Scholar.

Visiting Professor of the Shariah Research Centre at the Takushoku University, Hideomi Muto said there are about 8,000 Japanese Muslims and they have no difficulty in practising Islam.

"I believe we can also share our ideas and work together with other Muslims in the world," he told Bernama here today.

Muto, who is the director of the Japanese Muslim Association, is leading the Japanese delegation to the three-day inaugural World Conference of Islamic Scholars here.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will open the conference tomorrow.

He praised Dr Mahathir's able leadership for developing Malaysia as a model Islamic country.

He also commended the Malaysian government for organising the conference to provide the ulamas with a platform to voice out their stand on issues affecting the ummah.

Some 900 scholars including 90 from overseas will take part in the conference to discuss current issues and challenges facing Muslims in the era of globalisation.

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