



TOKEN OF APPRECIATION: Abdullah receiving a souvenir from Media Prima Berhad and TV3 chairman Datuk Abdul Mutalib Mohammed Razak (left) and Permodalan Nasional Berhad chairman Tan Sri Ahmad Sarji Abdul Hamid after launching the new programme yesterday.

Pak Lah: Learn from past Muslim scholars

PETALING JAYA: Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi has asked Muslims to learn from the achievements of Muslim scientists and scholars who had contributed immensely to the world.

The Prime Minister said past Muslim scholars had been successful in various fields of knowledge, including mathematics and medicine, at a time when Europe was in the

Dark Ages.

"But today, the situation in some Islamic countries is very regrettable.

"Why are we not a progressive and successful ummah today? What are our inadequacies?

"What we need to prove is our determination to acquire knowledge and develop in any field of knowledge that we choose," he said when launch-

ing the *Islamic Scholars* programme produced by TV3 at Sri Pentas.

Abdullah cited some famous scholars such as Ibnu Sina, who was noted for his medical knowledge, and mathematics scholar Al Khawarizmi during the Islamic Civilisation.

"They were not merely religious people who prayed five times a day, observed the fasting month and went on

pilgrimage to Mecca for the haj.

"What was even more important was that they had made extraordinary contribution towards human civilisation, to enrich mankind with various knowledge ... and to be civilised," he said.

The programme will feature renowned scholars including Al-Jazari and Admiral Zheng He.