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THE STAR

DATE: 22/1/2010

Christian leaders, politicians condemn attacks in Muar

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PETALING JAYA: Christian leaders have joined politicians in condemning the arson attacks on two surau in Muar.

Herald editor Father Lawrence Andrew said attacking any places of worship was not something that Malaysians as a multi-racial community could tolerate.

"We must respect everyone and not take to damaging places of worship as they are premises that ought to be honoured and respected," he said.

Father Lawrence hoped swift action would be taken to find and punish those behind the attacks.

"The police have been doing a great job so far. Hopefully all those responsible for the

attacks will be apprehended," he added.

Council of Churches president Dr Thomas Philips said the attacks came as a shock to him.

"There must be some people out there who are not happy with the peaceful nature of Malaysians and their tendency to be proactive in finding a solution," he said, while calling for everyone to remain calm.

MCA central committee member Datuk Ti Lian Ker said the recent burning of holy premises could well be the work of those intending to create chaos in the country.

"We must continue to jealously guard our peace, and not be trapped or provoked to an act of war against one another based on misunderstanding," he said.

Penang Chief Minister Lim Guan Eng also condemned the two attacks, saying they had caused more anxiety among the people.