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Shah Alam MP calls for revamp of religious bodies

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SHAH ALAM: Shah Alam MP Khalid Abdul Samad yesterday urged the sultan of Selangor, as head of Islam in the state, to intervene and revamp the leadership at the Selangor Islamic Religious Council (MAIS) and Selangor Islamic Religious Department (JAIS).

"I urge His Highness, to look into revamping the leadership of MAIS and JAIS so that these religious bodies are managed by people with a better understanding of Islam," Khalid said at press conference yesterday.

He said the manner in which the religious bodies had handled the is-

sue on the use of the word "Allah" by Catholics was immature and did not augur well towards fostering unity in a multi-racial country.

Khalid said the actions of these religious bodies did not portray Islam in the right light.

"It is our sincere hope that religious bodies in the state are free from political baggage and are more open-minded," said Khalid.

"Only then can we bring about changes as desired by the people in Selangor," he added.

He said, he wants to raise the issue of JAIS and MAIS, allegedly encouraging people to join street protests and demonstrations on Jan 8.