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# Abbott lauds Najib's IS stand

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**MELBOURNE:** Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott has praised Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak for his leadership in voicing opposition to the so-called Islamic State (IS) militant group.

He said he admired leadership shown by Muslim statesmen such as Najib who had described IS as "against God, against Islam and against our common humanity".

Abbott said this at the opening of the regional summit on terrorism in Sydney yesterday.

He said he also saluted Egypt's President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi, who recently told imam of A1 Azhar University in Cairo that Islam needed nothing less than a "religious revolution" to reverse centuries of false thinking.

Abbott, whose speech was televised nationwide said IS had been spreading its tentacles beyond the borders of Iraq and Syria, with the ultimate aim of universal dominion.

Mincing no words, he warned that IS sought to expand its violent ideology into South Asia and beyond.

"We have all seen on our screen, the beheadings, crucifixions, mass executions and sexual slavery that the IS death cult had inflicted, mostly on Muslims in the Middle East," Abbott told regional leaders.

"That is what the death cult has in store for everyone if it has its way. This is not terrorism for a local grievance,- this is terrorism with global ambitions."

He said IS was coming with a simple message for every person and government, and that message was: submit or die.

"The declaration of a caliphate, preposterous though it seems, is a brazen claim to universal dominion.

"You can't negotiate with an entity like this; you can only fight it."

The two-day conference, a gathering of 27 ministers and officials from the region, is aimed at pooling knowledge on how to counter IS's extremist ideology and improve regional cooperation.

Executives from Google, Twitter and Facebook are also taking part in the summit to attempt to stem the flow of young people becoming radicalised by IS' oriline campaigns, which produce about 100,000 pieces ofpropaganda daily. **Bernama**