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Newspaper	The Star
Date	10 June 2015

Pak Lah: Muslims believe in moderation

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The Star - 10/6/2015

PETALING JAYA: Muslims in Malaysia still believe in the path of moderation and that there must be equal emphasis on finding success in the world and the hereafter.

Former prime minister Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said Muslims in Malaysia generally believe that they must achieve progress and development in the name of Islam.

"I humbly believe that there are lessons to impart and perhaps a model to showcase of a fairly successful modern Muslim country.

"Muslims in Malaysia have tried to walk the middle path - the path of moderation - and we

believe» that we are enjoined to find success both in the hereafter and in this world, giving equal emphasis to both," he said.

Abdullah was speaking at the launch of his book *Islam Hadhari: A Model Approach for Development and Progress* at the British Muslim Heritage Centre in Manchester, England, on Saturday.

The book explains the concept of Islam *hadhari* or "civilisational Islam" which he said was an approach to a progressive Islamic civilisation.

The concept was introduced by Abdullah during his tenure as prime minister.

He said it was not a new religion but a guiding principle for appreciating and practising Islam in modern times.