

PM: REVIEW ISLAMIC CIVILISATION SYLLABUS

This will diminish influence of those who stoke religious sentiment for support, says Anwar

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PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim yesterday said the Islamic civilisation education syllabus in education institutions and universities must be reviewed.

Anwar said the review would

provide an enhanced understanding of Islam in the country and diminish the influence of those who stoked religious sentiment to garner support.

"Islamic principles must be referred to the authority, hadith and the Quran.

"However, people now do their own fatwa and when we reprimand them, we are labelled as anti-Islam.

"If a religious teacher issued a wrong statement, he must be called out.

"It doesn't mean that you are right even if you are a political figure or an ulama. That is not Islamic teaching," he said at a book launch here.

It is believed that Anwar was taking a jab at Pas president Tan



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim receiving a copy of a book from Emeritus Professor Datuk Dr Osman Bakar at the latter's book launch in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. With them are Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin (left) and International Islamic University Malaysia president Tan Sri Samsudin Osman (right). PIC BY ZULAIKHA ZAINUZMAN

Sri Abdul Hadi Awang's statement that videos purportedly showing Pas members handing out money to voters during the 15th General Election were ordinary people giving charity and

not acts of bribery.

Anwar said the review would be done by Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin, and he hoped that the views of prominent Is-

lamic civilisation scholars would be included in the syllabus.

"Khaled will head the review of the Islamic civilisation concept for Malaysia as a multicultural ethnic and civilisation country."