

'MORE POSITIVE STEPS'

# PM TO FULFIL GRAND IMAM'S MANDATE

This includes upholding Islamic ethics,  
strengthening bond among Malaysians

HAKIM MAHARI  
KUALA LUMPUR  
hakimmahari@nst.com.my

PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim has pledged to fulfil the mandate given to him by the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar Al-Sharif (Sheikh Al-Azhar) Prof Dr Ahmad Muhammad Ahmad At-Tayyeb, which includes uphold-

ing Islamic ethics in governance.

Anwar said Sheikh Al-Azhar also called for maintaining good relationships among Malaysians, both Muslim and non-Muslim.

He gave an assurance that the government would work towards fulfilling this mandate to the best of its ability.

"Last night (Wednesday), I was urged to work harder, to earnestly gather the strength of the com-

munity, and to ensure a more lenient and positive attitude, mutual respect, and understanding. This includes fostering good relations among Muslims and non-Muslims in our country.

"In fact, he (Sheikh Al-Azhar) proposed that we take more positive steps to uphold Islamic ethics in engaging with non-Muslim communities in Malaysia and across the Asian region.

"InshaAllah, we will fulfil this mandate to the best of our ability," he said at the Malaysia Madani International Symposium 2024: Islam and Modera-

tion.

At the event, an Honorary Doctorate in Quranic and Sunnah Studies from Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (Usim) was conferred on Sheikh Al-Azhar.

The conferment ceremony was officiated by Usim pro-chancellor Tunku Besar Seri Menanti Tunku Ali Redhauddin Tuanku Muhriz.

The honour intends to recognise Sheikh Al-Azhar's significant role in pioneering paradigm shifts within his field of expertise, Usuluddin.

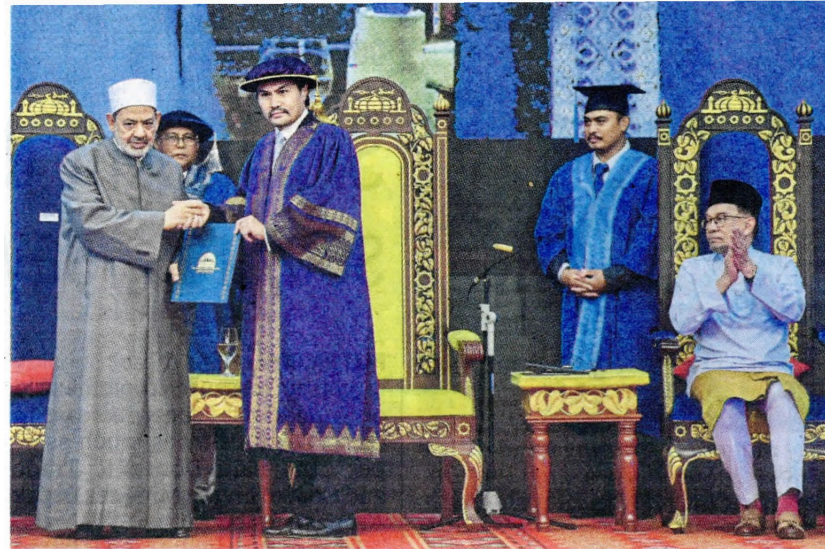
Sheikh Al-Azhar has been in-

involved in Quranic studies for more than 23 years.

He has served in various capacities within the Islamic education sector, including as president of Al-Azhar University for seven years, before he was appointed as the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar Al-Sharif on March 19, 2010, a position he holds to this day.

Under the Egyptian constitution, he is also Egypt's prime minister.

Sheikh Al-Azhar is on a four-day visit until today at Anwar's invitation.



Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia pro-chancellor Tunku Besar Seri Menanti Tunku Ali Redhauddin Tuanku Muhriz (standing, right) conferring an Honorary Doctorate in Quranic and Sunnah Studies on the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar Al-Sharif Professor Dr Ahmad Muhammad Ahmad At-Tayyeb at the Malaysia Madani International Symposium 2024: Islam and Moderation at World Trade Centre Kuala Lumpur yesterday. BERNAMA PIC