

40th ANNIVERSARY

PM TO LECTURE AT OXFORD

Sultan Nazrin proud of Malaysia's association with Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies

KUALA LUMPUR

PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim will deliver a lecture at the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies (OCIS) early next year, following an invitation at a meeting with its board of trustees on Oct 2.

The announcement came as OCIS celebrated its 40th anniversary with a dinner in Kuala

Lumpur on Sept 29, honouring Malaysia's and Asia's longstanding ties with the centre, particularly in advancing Islamic economics and finance.

OCIS said the dinner was part of its year-long anniversary celebrations. King Charles III, patron of OCIS, graced a ceremony in Oxford on July 17.

Sultan of Perak Sultan Nazrin Muizzuddin Shah, vice-chair of the OCIS Board of Trustees, hosted the Kuala Lumpur dinner in honour of the trustees and other dignitaries

In his message in the commemorative book *Malaysia and the Centre*, Sultan Nazrin expressed pride in Malaysia's deep association with OCIS.

"Many of my royal colleagues have visited it and successive



Sultan of Perak Sultan Nazrin Muizzuddin Shah at the 40th anniversary dinner of the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies in Kuala Lumpur on Sept 29.

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prime ministers have lectured there. Malaysia is physically represented at the centre by the beautiful Malaysia Auditorium."

He said several OCIS fellowships were named after distinguished Malaysians, including Sultan Azlan Shah, Sultan Nazrin Shah, Tun Abdul Razak Hussein, Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, Tan Sri Mohammed Noah and Tan Sri Azman Hashim.

The Albukhary Foundation and the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office have supported fellowship programmes at the centre.

Sultan Nazrin highlighted the establishment of the Merdeka Scholarships, a collaboration be-

tween OCIS and Khazanah Nasional, to mark Malaysia's 50th independence, enabling Malaysians to pursue studies at Oxford.

He said the Securities Commission (SC) has held an annual roundtable on Islamic finance with OCIS for 16 years, reinforcing Malaysia's position as a global leader in the field. The collaboration includes the SC-OCIS Scholar in Residence Fellowship Programme.

Present at the dinner were former Turkiye president Dr Abdullah Gul and former Kuwait prime minister Sheikh Dr Mohammed Al-Sabah.

Also in attendance were Yang di-Pertua Negeri Melaka Tun Mo-

hd Ali Rustam, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, Sarawak Premier Tan Sri Abang Johari Openg, former prime minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, cabinet ministers, Bank Negara governor Datuk Seri Abdul Rasheed Ghaffour, Securities Commission chairman Datuk Mohammad Faiz Azmi, ambassadors, corporate leaders, muftis and scholars.

Founded in 1985, OCIS promotes a more informed understanding of Islam and the Muslim world through scholarship and international academic collaboration. Based in Oxford, its outreach extends across Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas.