

**Set up more Muslim centres so poor are not forced to Christian centres, says Umno leader**

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BAHAU, Aug 24 — An Umno leader urged Muslim non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to open up more centres to help their impoverished brethren.

Umno Supreme Council member Dr Puad Zarkashi said today that this will reduce the chances of these Muslims being exploited in Christian-run centres, Bernama Online reported today

Puad (picture) was worried that their acceptance of Christian help there might lead to apostasy.

He was speaking to media yesterday after breaking fast and passing out donations to orphans at the "Lambaian Kaabah" programme launch by Jempol Umno economic bureau at the Tuanku Muhriz Mosque in Bandar Sri Jempol.

The deputy education minister also hoped that the social welfare department would increase their efficiency in helping the underprivileged Muslims.

At the same time he called out for government wings like Department of Islamic Development of Malaysia (Jakim), Yayasan Dakwah Islamiah Malaysia (Yadim) and Federal Territories Islamic Religious Department (Jawi) to improve their preaching.

Puad also supported an apostasy law to ensure all parties are clear of the country's Constitution. He did not want apostasy to get out of control.

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