

Open your minds, Muslims urged

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KUALA LUMPUR: The Yang di-Pertuan Agong has made a royal plea to Muslims to be open-minded in understanding what Islam truly wants of them.

Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin Tuanku Syed Putra Jamalullail said Muslims should not close their mind towards changes happening around them, including technology breakthroughs, as long as these were not against the teachings of Islam.

Muslims must equip themselves with knowledge as required by the Al-Quran and only then will they be able to find an antidote that is plaguing the progress of the Ummah, he said when opening the 48th International Quran Reading Competition last night.

The King said in line with this year's theme *Excellence of Knowledge is the Core of the Ummah's Glory* Muslims must understand the concept of integrated knowledge outlined in the

teachings of Islam.

Accompanying the Yang di-Pertuan Agong was Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Fauziah Tengku Abdul Rashid.

Among those present at the opening was Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Dr Abdullah Mohd Zin.

A total of 78 participants from 50 countries are taking part in the six-day competition, which ends on Aug 10.