

MONOGRAPH on selected **MALAY** **INTELLECTUALS**



Edited by
HAMAD @ MD. SOM SUJIMON



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Message from The President*

Great Muslim Thinkers

As it has been suggested that Islam will bloom again from the East, it is certainly a good idea to have a monograph of Malay intellectuals who have contributed in substantial ways to Islam, nationally and internationally.

One of the ten thinkers in this monograph is distantly related to me. Therefore, it is not improper for me to quote a saying attributed to him i.e. Islam does not need us in order to be supreme; it is we who need Islam.

Many of the problems in the Muslim world arise out of hero-worship and that far too many Muslims think that the world, particularly Islam, need them. As such, they try to be different when actually they should just serve.

Analysis

I noted that from among the ten names in the list of selected Malay intellectuals, eight of them are from the paddy growing areas. The eight are: Dato' Yusof Zaki Yaakob (Kelantan), Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra (Kedah), Haji Yusof Ahmad a.k.a. To' Kenali (Kelantan), Sheikh Daud Al Fatani (Patani), Dato' Hj. Ahmad Badawi (Province Wellesley), Dr. Burhanuddin Al Helmy (Perak), Sheikh Mustapha Abdul Rahman Mahmud (Perak), and Al Sheikh Dr. Mohd Idris Abdul Rauf Al Marbawi (born in Makkah and at the age of 10 returned to Perak for education).

* The text was based on the speech delivered at the launching of "Monograph on Selected Malay Intellectuals" on October 3, 2003.

MONOGRAPH on selected **MALAY INTELLECTUALS**






The Islamic civilization created great minds like Ibn Khāldun, Imam al-Ghazali, Imam Shafie and many more. In Malaysia where Islam is the integral part of the federation and its people, the rise of its very own exemplary minds was only natural. Scholars like Idris al-Marbawī, Sheikh Dā'ud al-Faṭānī To' Kenali, Haji Ahmad Badawi, Ahmad Ibrahim, Sheikh Mustafa, dr. Burhanuddin al-Helmy, Pendeta Zaaba, Yusoff Zaky and others greatly influenced the Muslim minds in the country. Another of Malaysia's prominent Muslim was its father of independence Tuanku Abdul Rahman Putra al-Haj who played a pivotal role in uniting the ummah at the global platform. Though they may not be with us anymore, the legacy that they left us is still very much alive. Muslims in Malaya and later Malaysia greatly benefited from their contributions. This book gives an overview of the role played by great minds from Tanah Jawi in enriching the Ummah's knowledge in Islam. This book also touches on the working of their minds, the way they disseminated their thoughts be it in politics or education and their writings. They all had one thing in common, to help fellow Muslims to dwell deeper into Islam and unite the ummah through their works and thoughts. It is hoped that this book would help the readers to appreciate the contributions of Malaysia's Exemplary Muslims.

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