

**SEMBAH ALUAN**

**YB. DATO' SERI IDRIS JUSOH  
MENTERI PENDIDIKAN TINGGI**

**HIGHER EDUCATION FORUM (HEF) 2018  
ISLAMIC ECONOMIES @4IR : WAQF REVIVAL**

**22<sup>nd</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> FEBRUARY 2018**

**Royale Chulan Hotel  
KUALA LUMPUR**

---

Bismillahir Rahman nir Rahim

Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh

Salam 1Negaraku Malaysia

Mengadap

Duli Yang Maha Mulia Paduka Seri Sultan Perak Darul Ridzuan, Sultan Nazrin Muizzuddin Shah ibni Almarhum Sultan Azlan Muhibbuddin Shah Al- Maghfur – Lah

Ampun Tuanku, beribu-ribu sembah patik mohon diampun,

1. Patik serta seluruh warga Kementerian Pendidikan Tinggi dengan sepenuh hormat dan takzimnya merafak sembah, menjunjung setinggi-tinggi kasih diatas limpah perkenan Duli Yang Maha Mulia Tuanku sudi Bercemar Duli berangkat ke **Higher Education Forum (HEF) 2018, ISLAMIC ECONOMIES @4IR: Waqf Revival** dan seterusnya berkenan untuk menzahirkan titah di forum pada pagi ini.
2. Sesungguhnya keberangkatan Duli Yang Maha Mulia Tuanku ke majlis yang tidak seberapa ini memberi penuh makna kepada patik sekalian.

Ampun Tuanku,

Izinkan patik untuk menyampaikan ucapan aluan kepada sidang hadirin sekalian dalam Bahasa Inggeris.

Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

3. We are indeed very grateful that **His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Sultan Nazrin Muizzuddin Shah ibni Almarhum Sultan Azlan Muhibbuddin Shah Al Maghfur-Lah, The Sultan of Perak Darul Ridzuan** has accepted our invitation to grace this occasion and to deliver the Royal Address at this event.
4. His Royal Highness has always been a great advocate of Islamic economics and today, His Royal Highness' presence and support for our event reflects his true statesmanship in waqf as a **revival for our OIC economies**.
5. Your Highness, thank you very much for your commitment and support once again, and to deliver the Royal Address at this event.
6. I also welcome all our guests to this forum. Your support has been overwhelming.

Your Highness, Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

7. There are just 3 brief items I'd like to share in my welcoming speech:
8. **First, despite Waqf being an age-old institution in Islam, it is very much vital to modern economic prosperity.**
  - a. The purpose of today's forum is to **revive waqf** as a viable, sustainable and progressive tool for the modern economy and its financial framework.
  - b. Waqf is based on human nature. It is about **enculturing altruism, promoting volunteerism and embedding selflessness**.
  - c. In this era of the 4<sup>th</sup> Industrial Revolution (4IR), where there is constant debate about the role of man versus machine, waqf brings us back to the basics – **it recognises the role of the people and empowers humanity. These are the basic building blocks of society.**
  - d. Waqf is an economic system led by the people, for the people. It leads to the **creation of the third sector that complements the public and private sector.**

- e. This essence was captured in the beautiful words of a writer named Baskan. When describing the importance of Waqf during the **Ottoman period**, he said:

*A person will be born in a waqf hospital,  
Sleep in a waqf cradle,  
Eat and drink from waqf property,  
Learn from waqf books,  
Earn salary from waqf administration,  
And upon death, buried in a waqf graveyard.*

Your Highness, Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

9. **The second point: it is our collective strength that will enable Waqf revival.**

- a. Around the world, there is growing scepticism that capitalism and the economic models that we use are not serving the interest of the many, but rather, the interest of the few.
- b. In the latest January 2018 Oxfam report, it is stated that 82% of all of the world's wealth went to the top 1%.
- c. This situation must change. Distribution of wealth must be more equitable, and I believe that waqf is the **“new” economic framework we need**.
- d. At its core, waqf is about recognising that we are trustees of our property and that Allah SWT is the ultimate owner. Waqf also promotes love and care for others and reminds us that it is better to give than to receive.
- e. As such, this forum is a platform for the ummah to work together and provide a **platform for collaboration, discussion and debate**. It also see the gathering of top minds to come up with ideas and innovations on how best to revive waqf for this contemporary period.
- f. Allow me to express my sincerest appreciation to all our 6 local and 9 international speakers, plus the 4 moderators for their passion in sharing knowledge in their areas of expertise. We have with us speakers from Turkey, the United Kingdom, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, India and of course Malaysia, hailing from various institutions and organisations

such as The World Bank, Oxford University, Madinah Institute for Leadership and Entrepreneurship, Academia Europaea and European Science Foundation, International Centre for Education in Islamic Finance (INCEIF) and more.

- g. I am not able to mention all of you by name, but do accept my humble gratitude. **Thank you for being part of our efforts today. A round of applause to all our speakers please.**

Your Highness, Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

10. **Thirdly, higher education can catalyse waqf revival.**

- a. **Embracing Waqf** is an important part of the Ministry's efforts to **redesign higher education** and **embrace 4IR**.
- b. I sincerely believe that higher education institutions play a vital role in catalysing and **providing the ecosystem** for the revival of waqf.
- c. As bastions of knowledge and enlightenment, I believe every level of higher education plays a role:

*Professors and researchers will discover new knowledge,  
Lecturers will spread awareness among students,  
Students will be agents of waqf revival in the future,  
And all of them can work together with the Islamic finance industry as well  
as the respective state religious councils.*

- d. Inversely, waqf can also enable our higher education ecosystem to diversify sources of income for our universities and achieve financial stability. This is one of our goals as outlined in shift No. 5 in the Malaysia Education Blueprint 2015-2025 (Higher Education).
- e. Towards this end, I am happy to share that to date, 14 of our public universities have set up Waqf units and begun collecting waqf contributions. I believe that this noble effort will go towards students scholarships and welfare as well as teaching, research and development endeavours.

- f. Alhamdulillah, our universities are working closely with their respective **Majlis Agama Islam Negeri**. Thank you to everyone involved.

Your Highness, Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

11. Today, I am pleased to announce that **a waqf Chair will be set up at University Malaya**. As our nation's oldest university, UM has shown impressive achievement by being as No.114 in the QS World University Rankings and will be top 100 in the world soon, InshaAllah. This Waqf chair will witness greater development of knowledge in the field and is indicative of the importance of this endeavour for the society. The person who will be selected as the first holder of the Chair must take into consideration the key points of this forum, especially the Royal Address.

Your Highness, Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

12. I would like to take this opportunity to say **thank you** to all the **waqafers** here today. These are the individuals who are working tirelessly to revive waqf in Malaysia. They are volunteers who have contributed their time, energy and resources to this noble endeavour. A round of applause for them. **Thank you**.
13. In conclusion, we believe this Higher Education Forum can provide ideas on a clear and consistent **development path** for waqf. There is much to be done and much to be learned. InshaAllah, the next 2 days will be an exciting journey for us all.

Ampun Tuanku,

Sekian sahaja sembah ucapan patik. Patik sekali lagi merafak sembah menjunjung setinggi-tinggi kasih diatas limpah perkenan Dulia Yang Maha Mulia Tuanku sudi bercemar Duli berangkat ke **Higher Education Forum (HEF ) 2018 pada pagi ini**.

Ampun Tuanku, sembah Patik Mohon diampun,

Wabillahi taufik Wal Hidayah WBT