

Sarawak

## RM2.5 million needed to restore Al Qadim Mosque

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Dr Annuar (fourth right) presents the prize to the qariah champion as Temenggong Datuk Wan Hamid Edruce (third right) and others look on.

**SIBU:** A sum of RM2.5 million is required to restore Sibu's oldest mosque, the Al Qadim Mosque at Kampung Nyabor Road here.

Science Research and Biotechnology Assistant Minister Dr Annuar Rapae said the mosque had been allocated RM1.75 million from the government for the restoration work to commence in a month's time.

He called on the Muslim community in Sibu to contribute.

"Chip in any amount – be it big or small – for the mosque that caters to the Muslim community in Sibu," he said when officiating at the closing of Sibu Divisional-level Al-Quran Recital held in Sibu Islamic Complex here recently.

Dr Annuar said this was the only mosque gazetted by the state government as a heritage building.

"I will make sure there won't be any change to the building structure. The restoration is for the mosque to continue to be the symbol of arrival of Islam in Sibu about two centuries ago," he said.

The mosque was built not later than 1881, according to the website ii.islam.gov.my of Islam Grid, a project between Malaysian Administrative Modernisation and Management Planning Unit (Mampu) and Department of Islamic Development (Jakim).

It is said to have existed before the 'Lamong Pecah' incident in 1883 (no details available on the incident).

The wooden structure mosque was built on a 'gotong royong' basis, its construction led by Abdul Salam Minangkabau from Minangkabau, Indonesia.

Sibu Islamic Welfare Trust Board (Lakis) is the managing and administrative authority for the mosque.



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