

## Agong wants UNiPSAS to become distinguished Islamic university, produce quality graduates

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Yang di-Pertuan Agong Al-Sultan Abdullah Ri'ayatuddin Al-Mustafa Billah Shah delivers his keynote address during UniPSAS Proclamation ceremony in Kuantan. Also present are Raja Permaisuri Agong Tunku Hajah Azizah Aminah Maimunah Iskandariah (right) and Pahang Regent Tengku Hassanal Ibrahim Alam Shah.

KUANTAN: Yang di-Pertuan Agong Al-Sultan Abdullah Ri'ayatuddin Al-Mustafa Billah Shah today expressed hope for Universiti Islam Pahang Sultan Ahmad Shah (UniPSAS) to continue making a name for itself as a distinguished Islamic university producing graduates with quality to become the next generation of ulama.

His Majesty said in order to promote Islamic studies, UniPSAS, which began as a small college in 1996, needs to continue exploring new areas of studies and forging strategic cooperation with other universities, including overseas.

"UniPSAS must also become an exemplary model of an Islamic university that is administered efficiently, transparently and with integrity.

"Through the proclamation, I am confident that UniPSAS's name will be more well-known and turn it into a reputable university in religious studies and become the most preferred destination for young people, especially among religious school leavers, to pursue their tertiary education," he said.

Al-Sultan Abdullah said this when gracing the UniPSAS Proclamation ceremony here today, which was also attended by Raja Permaisuri Agong Tunku Azizah Aminah Maimunah Iskandariah.

Pahang Regent Tengku Hassanal Ibrahim Alam Shah and Tengku Panglima Raja Colonel Tengku Amir Nasser Ibrahim Shah were also in attendance.

Also present were Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Wan Rosdy Wan Ismail and the Pahang executive committee line-up.

During the ceremony, Al-Sultan Abdullah also presented instruments of appointment to Tengku Hassanal as UniPSAS Chancellor, Tengku Amir Nasser as Pro-Chancellor II, and Wan Rosdy as Pro-Chancellor I.

In his royal address, Al-Sultan Abdullah also said that UniPSAS is close to his heart as the establishment and development of the university were synonymous and closely related to his late father, Sultan Ahmad Shah.

"I believe I have fulfilled my father's dream to develop and turn an Islamic college in Pahang into an Islamic university.

"I would like to remind the chancellor, as well as the entire administrative team and board of directors, to continue to develop UniPSAS so that it will become the most distinguished Islamic university in the country," he said.

Al-Sultan Abdullah also expressed gratitude and pride over the establishment of UniPSAS Hadith Academy and Jawi Institution, both of which were mooted by him to promote the study of hadith and empower the Jawi script.



Yang di-Pertuan Agong Al-Sultan Abdullah Ri'ayatuddin Al-Mustafa Billah Shah (centre) presents the instruments of appointment to Pahang Regent Tengku Hassanah Ibrahim Alam Shah. Looking on is Raja Permaisuri Agong Tunjku Azizah Aminah Maimunah Iskandariah (right). - BERNAMA PIC

UniPSAS's history began in 1996 , with the first batch of 67 students, before it was known as Kolej Islam Pahang Sultan Ahmad Shah (KIPSAS) in November 2000 and upgraded to Kolej Universiti Islam Pahang Sultan Ahmad Shah (KUIPSAS) on Oct 20, 2015.

KUIPSAS was upgraded to full university status and known as UniPSAS on Dec 1, 2021, hence making it the first wholly-owned state government university offering study opportunities from diploma to doctorate level. – Bernama