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Tun Abdullah Tells Muslims World Over To Unite And Live In Peace And Harmony

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 4 (Bernama) -- Former Prime Minister Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said Muslims all over the world should be united to ensure that the Islamic world will live together in peace and harmony.

He said many parts of the Islamic world were not peaceful because they had problems that lasted for years and could not be solved like what happened in the Middle East.

"We have Islam, we have the Quran, we pray five times a day and only one God, Allah, regardless of what state we live in. But despite all that, we still have problems, we have problems amongst ourselves, we cannot work together and be united.

"In the Middle East...I don't have to repeat this, you know, the picture is a picture of something that cannot make you feel happy, something that makes you feel disappointed and angry because of the problems that we have and the ones we cannot solve," he said in his keynote address at the 'Peace and Security - The Islamic Perspective' forum here.

The forum is organised by the Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations Malaysia (IFDR) and the Institute of Advanced Islamic Studies (IAIS).

Abdullah said in order to gain peace and security, the process must involve Muslims and non-Muslims worldwide and find some common ground that all people could work together to achieve peace.

"We have been talking for a long time on the issue of peace and security and what the Muslims should do, we have tried to introduce Islam Hadhari (civilisational Islam), this is our common platform which we can work together and achieve peace together," he said.

On the issue of Palestine, which wants to be accepted as a member of the United Nations (UN), Abdullah, who is also the patron of IAIS, said there should be unity between Hamas and Fatah.

"We have to ensure that there is unity between Hamas and Fatah, if they are not going to be united then we will have problems, get yourself united if you want others to help you.

"The issue of Palestine is not only important to the Middle East but it is also important to us, if it can affect the Middle East, it can affect us as well," he said.

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