

Speech by  
Honorable Professor Dato' Dr. Musa Ahmad  
Vice- Chancellor  
Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia

**Signing of Memorandum of Understanding  
(MoU)  
Between  
Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM),  
Prince of Songkla University (PSU), Thailand  
And  
International University For Renewal (IUR),  
Turkey.**

Lounge Excecutive, Level 6, Chancellory Building  
3.30 pm  
19 July 2016 / 14 Syawal 1437 (Tuesday)

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*Thank You to the Emcee*

*Bismillahirrahmanirrahim*

*Assalamualaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuh,*

*Salam Sejahtera,*

*Salam 1 Malaysia dan Salam Integrasi Ilmu Naqli  
dan Aqli*

**[SALUTATION]**

1. Alhamdulillah, gratitude to Allah SWT for with His blessing that we can gather together for this **Singing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM) and Prince of Songkla University (PSU), Thailand and between USIM and International University**

**For Renewal (IUR), Turkey.** On this occasion I wish to express my sincere appreciation for the willingness to cooperate with USIM. Indeed, we feel very fortunate to collaborate with PSU and IUR in our pursuit to become a regional and global reference centre for the integration of Naqli and Aqli Knowledge by 2016 and 2025, which is known by its branding tagline as USIM'16 and USIM'25. Basically, this kind of cooperation also in line with the Malaysian Education Blueprint (Higher Education) 2015-2025 in shift 8 which is global prominence where the Ministry of Higher Education insist all government universities in Malaysia to be an excellence university globally.

2. USIM is an Islamic university and has been a leader as a global reference for *Naqli* & *Aqli* integration in Malaysia. The approach brought by USIM is the holistic approach in delivering academic that combines the revelation science (*Naqli*) and rational science (*Aqli*). By having this, USIM is able to offer unique model for Islamic higher education that differentiates it from other Islamic universities in the world. Knowledge integration between social science and physical science in all available programs offered by USIM has

provided a comprehensive understanding that leads to new approach and solutions in current global issues.

3. Faculty of Quranic and Sunnah Studies (FPQS) is the first faculty in USIM in 2001. One of the main objectives of the faculty establishment is to uphold Quran and Sunnah study in Malaysia's education stream by emphasizing the information technology in education and research. This faculty is popular among new applicants in Malaysia due to the fact that it has the most number of students because it offers courses that are not available in other universities such as Quran Multimedia course as well as Sunnah with Information Management. Meanwhile the Quran and Sunnah course has received an overwhelming response by the collaboration of Memorandum of Agreement with *Darul Quran JAKIM* and *Kolej Universiti Islam Pahang Sultan Ahmad Shah (KUIPSAS)*. Courses offered by FPQS makes it unique by its own. Braille subject is also offered to fulfil disabled community requirements and the expected impact will be that we will have a new generation of graduates with sign language expertise. We also encourage our students to embrace the technology into

Islamic education in their assignments as well as course Hadith in the ICT Era.

4. There was also other relationship between other universities with USIM. One of it is the College of Islamic Studies, Prince of Songkla University here the USIM's former VC Prof Dato Dr. Muhammad bin Muda has been invited be the keynote speaker in a conference called '*Seminar Hala Tuju Pengajian Islam di Thailand*'. Then in 17 February to 19 February 2014, this relationship was further enhanced when the Dean of FPQS, Asst Prof. Dr. Adnan Mohamed Yusoff represented USIM VC to a Seminar in College of Islamic Studies, Prince of Songkla University. He was accompanied by the Head of Pengajian Quran & Sunnah studies, Dr. Shumsuddin Yabi. The seminar was called '*Seminar Serantau Pembangunan Modal Insan Muslim Berteraskan Quran dan Sunnah; Cabaran dan Halangan*'"
5. As a result the College of Islamic Studies, Prince of Songkla University was interested to adapt the teaching and learning modules from USIM to be applied to the Muslim community in Thailand. Apart of College of Islamic Studies, Prince of Songkla University there

are also Qatar University, Jordan University, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) and Universiti Islam Antarabangsa Malaysia (UIAM). Representatives from PSU were invited to present in Seminar Warisan Nabawi on 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> November 2014 at FPQS. An agreement was made to have credit transfer program. As a result 4 students from PSU University attended the credit transfer program last semester starting from 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2015 to January 2016. This program is continued by additional 3 more students from PSU in this semester. A few continuous activities were organized whereby the deputy dean of academic of FPQS, Dr. Khairul Nizam Zainan Nazri and a few other lecturers and academic staffs had visited College of Islamic Studies, PSU on January 2016. Then the Dean of FPQS himself visited PSU university on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2016 to visit each other followed by USIM delegations participated by the Vice Chancellor, Deputy of Academic Chancellor, Deputy of Student Affairs Chancellor and USIM management team recently.

6. USIM is very keen to have academic relationships with Thailand universities like Yala Rajabhat University, Narathiwat University and Fatoni University. Until today, there has

been a series of successful collaborations between FPQS and Thailand universities such as International visits, GISO. FPQS had sent over their students to attend activities in Thailand universities that were also attended by other Malaysian Universities student from University of Malaya, Malaysian National University, International Islamic University and many others. Besides, our conference *Seminar Warisan Nabawi* (SWAN) will be held at Fatoni University in this coming October with collaboration between FPQS USIM, Fatoni University and *Kolej Universiti Islam Perlis* (KUIP). FPQS is also keen to have their students for a credit transfer program to College of Islamic Studies, PSU Uni. FPQS has been working very hard to achieve this and I have been informed that MoU is part of the effort towards that.

7. Furthermore, International University for Renewal, Turkey (IUR) delegation already visit USIM on last June 2016 where after the visit both institutions hope that fruitful and mutual academic relations between both universities can be established. We do understand that IUR is really interested in getting accreditation collaboration with USIM for Undergraduate and Post graduate programmes. As I

mentioned before, USIM is an Islamic university and has been a leader as a global reference for *Naqli & Aqli* integration in Malaysia and due to this IUR interested to offer pure Islamic Studies Programme at IUR with collaboration from USIM. USIM will arrange a few discussions with IUR delegations to discuss regarding this matter.

8. Besides IUR, USIM also keen to have academic relationship with other universities in turkey such as Sakarya University, Atartuk University and Suleyman Demirell University. As a start USIM will collaborate with these universities through Mevlana Exchange Programme (MEP) which MEP is a Programme which aims for the exchange of students and academic staff between the Turkish higher education institutions and higher education institutions of other countries. MEP is different from other exchange programmes where it includes all higher education institution in the world regardless of their region.
9. I have high hope that through this collaboration and relationship will continue and become a historical moment of a starting point to create a closer relationship and

understanding between these 2 universities. Hopefully there would be more academic programs, researches, and human capital development involving students, staff and lecturers attachments will be held that could benefit these 2 institutions. In sya Allah.

On that note, I would like to conclude my speech, *Wabillahit Tawfiq wal Hidayah, Wassalamu 'alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuh.*

*Thank you very much.*