



MINISTRY OF NATIONAL UNITY

PRESS RELEASE

SHARED VALUES ON PEACE AND HARMONIOUS COEXISTENCE

Kuala Lumpur, 8 September 2024: YB Datuk Aaron Ago Dagang, Minister of National Unity, today inaugurated the exhibition “Shared Values on Peace and Harmonious Coexistence,” featuring two exhibitions: *Islam on Peace and Harmonious Coexistence* and *The Lotus Sutra – A Message of Peace and Harmonious Coexistence*. This program was co-organized by the International Institute of Islamic Thought and Civilization (ISTAC-IIUM) and Soka Gakkai Malaysia.

This event is a vital platform for emphasizing universal values of peace and harmonious coexistence. Through such exchanges, dialogues, and collaborative initiatives, we can foster understanding, trust, and mutual respect among different communities. The two exhibitions launched, beautifully illustrate these shared values. Through sacred texts, wisdom, and scholarly insights, these exhibitions invite us to explore the teachings that unite us and reflect on how these values can be applied in our daily lives and communities.

These exhibitions have the power to transform the perception and actions of communities. YB Datuk Aaron emphasized that these teachings are not just historical artifacts but living philosophies that continue to inspire and guide us.

He also informed that the Ministry of National Unity launched the MADANI Harmony Initiative on April 27, 2024. This initiative aims to enhance Malaysians' understanding of the diversity of religions, cultures, and customs in our country and to cultivate the practice of spreading harmony and goodwill (muhibah) among followers of various religions. The initiative emphasizes the basic concepts of national integration: ‘Understanding (Faham), Respect (Hormat), and Acceptance (Terima)’ to ensure that the culture of harmony between communities is always preserved.

The exhibition is open to public until 27 September 2024, from 10.00am to 5.00pm daily at ISTAC-IIUM, admission is free.

We hope this program will mark the beginning of sustained interfaith cooperation and dialogue that honors and respects the beautiful diversity enriching our communities.

Ministry of National Unity
8 September 2024