GLOSSARY

‘alim : One who knows. A scholar (in any field of knowledge), such as a theologian (who knows religion). ‘ulama’ is a plural of ‘alim.

Baju kurung : A traditional Malay costume which loosely translated as enclosed dress.

Batik sarong : Sarong means ‘sheath’. It is a large tube or length of fabric often wrapped around the waist and worn by men and women throughout much of South Asia, South East Asia, and the Arabian Peninsula. The fabric most often has woven plaid or checkered patterns, or may be brightly coloured by means of batik or ikat dyeing.

Da’ie : Muslim missionary involved in dakwah. It can also have a general meaning referring to someone who calls others to a certain belief.

Dakwah : Inviting others to Islam, missionary work.

Fardhu ‘Ain : Obligatory on every individual Muslim to aid in any way he can.

Feqah or Fiqh : Jurisprudence built around the shari‘ah by custom (al-‘urf). Literally means understanding the Islamic laws.

Hadith : Literally means speech; recorded saying or tradition of the Prophet Muhammad S.A.W.

Hajj : Pilgrimage to Makkah during the month of Zul Hijjah. It is the fifth pillar of Islam.

Haji / hajah : Refers to a man and woman who have performed the hajj.

Jubah : A traditional garments for the Arabs. It is a loose fitting outfit.

Kafaah : Equivalence. It refers to a tradition requiring husband and wife (or wife’s family) to be of equal rank in religion, lineage, social status, and means.

Madrasah : Madrasah is an Arabic word for School. In the Malay society, madrasah refers to Arabic school.

Mentri or menteri : Minister.

Mufti : An Islamic scholar who is an interpreter or expounder of Islamic law (Shari’a), capable of issuing fatwa (plural of fatwa).
**Mutawwif**

*Mutawwif* is a person who is also known as *hajj* guide. The role of a *mutawwif* is to arrange transport, accommodation, food and water for pilgrims during the *hajj* season.

**Nahu**

*Arabic grammar*

**Nasab**

*Descent, lineage or genealogy.*

**Nazam**

*In Arabic, Nazam is generally meant poetry, but in the Malay society, it refers to a song or *nasyid* that contains a variety of advice and guidance normally associated with the knowledge of Tawhid, Fardhu 'Ain, the Attributes of Prophet Muhammad S.A.W. and the attributes of Allah.*

**Peranakan Arab**

*b*orn Arab of Arab father and non Arab mother.

**Pondok / Pondok school**

*A traditional Islamic education school in Malaysia.*

**Qādī**

*Judge of Islamic Law.*

**Rakyat**

*folk or the public.*

**Sayyid**

*(In everyday usage, equivalent to Mr.). Sayyid is a title given to the descent of Prophet Muhammad SAW through his grandson Husayn.*

**Sharif**

*Sharif is a title given to the descent of Prophet Muhammad S.A.W. through his grandson Hassan.*

**Syaikh al-Islam**

*A title of superior authority in the issues of Islam.*

**Surau**

*Prayer house where Muslims perform *solat*. Surau is not as big as *masjid* or mosque where the Friday prayer is held.*

**Tauhid/Tawhid**

*Monotheism; affirmation of the Oneness of Allah.*

**Tafsir**

*Exegesis, particularly such commentary on the Qur’an.*

**Tareqat/ Tareqah**

*A Muslim religious order, particularly a Sufi order.*

**Tasawwuf**

*Tasawwuf* is a branch of Islamic knowledge which focuses on the spiritual development of Muslim.

**Turban**

*A traditional Muslim headdress consisting of a long scarf wrapped around the head. Malays call it *serban.*

**Ummah**

*Literally means nation. It refers to the global community of all Muslim believers.*
| **Umrah** | A pilgrimage to Makkah performed by Muslims that can be undertaken at any time of the year. |
| **Waqf** | *Waqf* in the Arabic language means to stop, contain or preserve. Plural of *waqf* is *awqaf*. In Islamic terms, *waqf* refers to a religious endowment i.e. voluntary and irrevocable dedication of one’s wealth or a portion of it in cash or kind (such as house, building or a plot of land), and its disbursement for shariah compliance project (such as mosque, religious school or orphanage). |