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cc:
Subject: Embargoed speech by Mr Abdullah Tarmugi (Malay & English), 7 Jan 2000, 8pm

Singapore Government

PRESS RELEASE

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**PERUTUSAN HARI RAYA AIDILFITRI 1420H/2000M
ENCIK ABDULLAH TARMUGI
MENTERI PEMBANGUNAN MASYARAKAT DAN
MENTERI BERTANGGUNGJAWAB BAGI
EHWAL MASYARAKAT ISLAM**

Assalammualaikum wr wb.

Marilah kita sama-sama mengucapkan syukur ke hadrat Allah swt

kerana kita berjaya menjalani ibadat puasa. Puncak kesyukuran itu ialah kegembiraan kita menyambut 1 Syawal.

2 Aidilfitri adalah simbol kejayaan daripada pelbagai cubaan sepanjang bulan Ramadan. Ia mendekatkan kita kepada Allah, mendisiplin diri dan berusaha kepada kebaikan.

3 Banyak yang boleh kita pelajari daripada pengalaman berpuasa. Antaranya ialah berdisiplin dan bekerja keras mencapai matlamat suci.

4 Kalau tahun lalu, masyarakat Islam menyambut Aidilfitri dalam suasana ekonomi yang agak muram, kini ekonomi Singapura semakin pulih. Tahun lalu, kita berhari raya dengan langkah-langkah penjimatan, kini kita perlu terus merancang keutamaan dengan lebih bijaksana.

5 Gerakan Ekonomi Berteraskan Ilmu atau KBE yang dilancarkan oleh Perdana Menteri baru-baru ini menggambarkan hasrat dan usaha masyarakat Islam untuk menjangkau lebih jauh dalam dalam bidang ekonomi dan pendidikan. Kini adalah masanya untuk bertindak melaksanakan apa yang telah kita lakarkan.

6 Gerakan KBE berkait rapat dengan sikap dan kesediaan membentuk masa depan. Peluang dan landasan untuk kita membuat lejangannya kini terbuka luas. Marilah kita meraihnya bersama. Ibu bapa harus terus mengukuhkan ciri-ciri keluarga Islam yang berjaya. Anak-anak kita perlu dipupuk dengan nilai-nilai motivasi yang tinggi. Para pekerja kita perlu terus meningkatkan kemahiran tanpa rasa jemu. Kita semua mempunyai peranan dan amanah untuk menjadikan wawasan kita membentuk masyarakat Islam cemerlang satu kenyataan.

7 Masa dan sekitaran berubah dengan begitu pesat. Ia menuntut perubahan perancangan, strategi dan tindakan selanjutnya. Marilah kita tanamkan semangat kejayaan mengharungi bulan Ramadan dan kegembiraan Aidilfitri sebagai iktibar untuk terus berusaha memperbaiki kehidupan masa hadapan.

8 Saya ucapkan Selamat Menyambut Hari Raya Aidilfitri kepada semua umat Islam di Singapura. Bersama-samalah kita memohon dan memberi kemaafan antara satu dengan yang lain. Bersama-samalah kita mengeratkan lagi perpaduan dan ukuwah kita sempena Syawal yang mulia ini.

9 Sekian. Wassalamualaikum wr wb.

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**HARI RAYA AIDILFITRI 1420H/2000 MESSAGE BY
MR ABDULLAH TARMUGI
MINISTER FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND
MINISTER-IN-CHARGE OF MUSLIM AFFAIRS**

In the name of Allah, the most gracious and the most merciful

Let us together express our gratitude to Allah as we have successfully performed our fasting. The culmination of our gratitude is the joy in celebrating 1 Syawal.

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2 Aidilfitri symbolises our triumph in overcoming various odds during the month of Ramadan. It brings us closer to Allah, disciplines us and makes us do good deeds.

3 We can learn a lot from fasting. It teaches us to be more disciplined and spurs us to work hard to achieve our noble objectives.

4 Last year the Muslim community celebrated Hari Raya in a rather gloomy economic atmosphere condition. This year we celebrate it in an atmosphere where the Singapore economy is recovering fast. Last year, we celebrated Hari Raya with

cost-saving measures, now we need to continue to plan our priorities more wisely.

5 The Knowledge-based Economy or the KBE movement launched by Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong recently illustrates the aspirations and efforts of the Muslim community to achieve higher in the economic and educational fields. Now is the time to implement what we have drawn up.

6 The KBE movement is closely linked to attitudes and the willingness to shape the future. The opportunities for us to make a quantum leap are now wide open. Let us seize them together. Parents should continue to reinforce the qualities of successful Muslim families. Our children should be nurtured with high motivational values. Our workers should continue to upgrade skills. All of us have a role and responsibility to make our vision of creating an excellent Muslim community a reality.

7 Times and the environment have changed rapidly. They demand a change in planning, strategy and follow-up actions. Let us instil the triumphant spirit of having gone through the month of Ramadan and the joy of Aidilfitri as an endeavour to continue improving our lives in the future.

8 I wish all Muslims in Singapore Selamat Hari Raya Aidilfitri. Let us ask for and grant forgiveness among ourselves. In the spirit of the holy month of Syawal, let us strengthen our cohesion and fraternity.

9 Thank you.