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UMP LAUNCHED ASARFONTS – ENRICHING JAWI WRITING USING TECHNOLOGY

R esearch conducted by Ustaz Asar from Centre for Modern Languages & Human Sciences (CMLHS), Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) produced a Jawi writing software called AsarFonts.

The commercialisation of the software was to re-elevate the significance of Jawi writing in this region.

The product was launched by State Islamiah Dakwah, Unity and Non-Governmental Organisation Committee Chairman Datuk Haji Mohamad Shafri Abdul Aziz, representing Menteri Besar Pahang, Dato' Seri Diraja Haji Adnan Haji Yaakob.

It was held at Astaka Hall October 18, 2012 in conjunction with a seminar on Jawi Writing and Technology 2012.

In his speech, he said he was proud with the lecturer's achievement in creating the software.

Datuk Haji Mohamad Shafri also said he hoped any proposals and outcomes from paper works presented in the seminar could be submitted to the state government.

UMP Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Dr. Daing Nasir Ibrahim said the success showed that technology could actually be fully benefitted and optimised and in this case, could further enrich and expand Jawi writing.

The adaptation of technology application for Jawi writing would ensure its continued existence and for it to remain relevant all time.

"Terengganu's Batu Bersurat dated 702 Hijrah or 1303 AD was in Malay and written in Jawi and is recognised as the oldest Malay manuscript artifact found in the country.

"This shows that the progress of Malay language and Jawi writing has always been in tandem since the olden days and only begun to decline during the British ruling, which was at the end of the 19th century until middle of the 20th century," he said in