PGSM chief says sorry to ex-mufti

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By Zieman & Ariffuddin Ishak, The Star

The president of the Malaysian Syariah Lawyers Association (PGSM) has apologised to former Perlis mufti Dr Mohd Asri Zainul Abidin.

It is learnt the apology by Moha-mad Isa Abd Ralip was over a memorandum the association submitted to the King protesting against Dr Mohd Asri's proposed appointment as head the Islamic Da'wah Foun-dation Malaysia (Yadim).

According to close aides, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Mej-Jen (R) Datuk Jamil Khir Ba- harom mediated a meeting that involved Mohamad Isa, Dr Mohd Asri and Islamic Development De-partment (Jakim) director-general Datuk Wan Muhammad Sheikh Abdul Aziz in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

Dr Mohd Asri told mStar later that the meeting went well and they had ironed out the matter.

However, he declined to comment further as a token of respect to the others involved in the meeting.

He said this was in line with the teachings of Islam that emphasised forgiveness and acceptance.

"I hope something good will come out from this meeting. Now we shall wait for PGSM for up- dates," Dr Mohd Asri said.

The meeting, which lasted more than an hour, was arranged after Mohamad Isa stated his readiness to meet Dr Mohd Asri in person and explain the matter.

Meanwhile, it is understood that Jakim's involvement in the meeting was over a statement by its deputy director-general Zamihan Mat Zain Al-Ghari accusing Dr Mohd Asri of forging his syariah qualifications.