Majlis Perundingan Malaysia Agama Buddha, Kristian, Hindu, Sikh dan Tao

Malaysian Consultative Council of Buddhism Christianity, Hinduism, Sikhism and Taoism

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16 June 2026

MCCBCHST Calls for Full Investigation into Poster Promoting Conversion Through Financial Benefits

The Malaysian Consultative Council of Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Sikhism and Taoism (MCCBCHST) notes the statement by Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris (UPSI) denying that it had issued the poster circulating on social media inviting students to register as *"saudara baru / muallaf".*

While MCCBCHST takes note of UPSI's denial, we remain deeply concerned that such a poster could be circulated with official-looking logos and messaging that appears to promote religious conversion by highlighting benefits such as free tuition fees, free college fees, financial assistance and other forms of support.

This matter cannot end with a denial alone. The poster has caused serious anxiety among non-Muslim communities, particularly parents and students, because it gives the impression that financial or institutional benefits may be used as an inducement for religious conversion.

MCCBCHST therefore calls for a full and transparent investigation by the relevant authorities to determine:

1. who created and circulated the poster;
2. whether any official logos, names or identities were misused;
3. whether any internal or external parties were involved; and
4. whether similar materials or approaches have been used elsewhere.

MCCBCHST fully respects the right of every individual to freely choose and practice his or her religion. However, faith must never be promoted through material inducement, vulnerability or financial pressure. Any conversion, if it takes place, must be based on sincere personal conviction and free will.

We also stress that this concern is not about welfare support for persons who have already converted and genuinely require assistance. The concern is the public presentation of financial benefits in a way that may be perceived as encouraging or attracting conversion.

Malaysia's harmony depends on trust, restraint and respect between communities. Religious outreach must be carried out responsibly, especially within educational institutions where students must feel safe, respected and free from any form of pressure.

MCCBCHST urges UPSI, the Ministry of Higher Education and the relevant religious authorities to treat this matter seriously, investigate it fully, and provide a clear public explanation to restore confidence among all communities.

-Ends-

Statement Signed by:

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