

Headline	Tabung Haji finalising land sale, says chairman		
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# Tabung Haji finalising land sale, says chairman

**MUHAMMED AHMAD HAMDAN**

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Lembaga Tabung Haji is still in the process of selling the RM188.5 million land it bought from 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB), falling behind its target to conclude the deal by May 24.

Its chairman Datuk Seri Abdul Azeez Abdul Rahim said the pilgrims fund had secured a buyer and is finalising the transaction which is expected to rake in a "small" profit.

"We will announce the buyer after we have finalised the deal. There will be a small profit and not loss,"

he told reporters after presenting prizes to winners of the 58th National Quran Reading Competition, here, yesterday.

Tabung Haji had last month bought the 0.63ha land at the Tun Razak Exchange (TRX) project site from master developer and 1MDB's property arm, 1MDB Real Estate Sdn Bhd.

The plan to develop a residential tower with projected annual returns of nine per cent was scrapped following the Prime Minister's advice on May 9 to sell the land due to controversy surrounding the purchase.

On May 10, Abdul Azeez was quoted as saying that three companies had offered to buy over the land from Tabung Haji, with one company offering to pay an additional RM5 million over the price of the land.

"These are private, and not government-linked companies, and the deal should be completed in a week or two," he was quoted as saying.

Tabung Haji's purchase of the plot of land from 1MDB for RM2,774 per sq ft (psf), had created an uproar among its depositors, some of whom withdrew their savings from the fund.

Tabung Haji chairman **Datuk Seri Abdul Azeez Abd Rahim** with champion quran reciter (women's category) **Siti Husnaa Hassan** at the prize-giving ceremony yesterday. Bernama pic

