

# West can learn from Islam, says Charles

THE Prince of Wales has called for a better understanding of the Moslem faith and urged the West to learn from Islam.

His speech, his strongest statement yet on Islam, also condemned society as materialistic and lacking in meaning.

Speaking at a private conference in Sussex, Charles — who takes regular advice on Islamic issues and has expressed strong sympathies with the Moslem faith — said Islam had “an important message for the West”.

And he called for the recruitment of more Moslem teachers in Bri-

By **JACQUI GODDARD**

tain's schools to help build “mutual understanding and appreciation”. He added: “Everywhere in the world people want to learn English. But in the West, in turn, we need to be taught by Islamic teachers how to learn with our hearts as well as our heads.”

The Prince provoked controversy two years ago when he expressed a wish as future king to act as “Defender of faith” rather than “Defender of the Faith”.

Many Anglican clerics believe his enthusiasm

for Islam and other religions could jeopardise his future role as head of the Church of England and lead to a constitutional crisis.

In his speech, he spoke of the merits of Islamic culture, promoting it as an example of how spirituality could be integrated with modern life.

“Islamic culture in its traditional form has striven to preserve this integrated, spiritual view of the world in a way we have not seen fit to do in recent generations in the West,” he said.

Calling for a renewed sense of the sacred, he



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