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MAHATHIR-TALK
BM

EMBARGO: FOR AUTOMATIC RELEASE AFTER 7.30 P.M. TODAY, SEPT. 13.

KUALA LUMPUR, SEPT. 13 (BERNAMA) -- EDUCATION MINISTER/ DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED SAID TONIGHT AN ACADEMIC DEGREE ALONE IS NOT THE FINAL WORD ON JUDGING THE COMPETENCY OF ANY INDIVIDUAL. FORMAL SCHOOLING AND A UNIVERSITY DEGREE WERE ONLY PART OF THE TOTAL CRITERIA FOR MEASURING THE ABILITY OF A PERSON.

+A DEGREE IS NO QUARANTEE OF SUCCESS.+

+WE CAN ONLY SAY THAT A DEGREE HOLDER MIGHT HAVE BETTER CHANCES OF SUCCESS THAN SOMEONE WITH NO DEGREE,+ HE ADDED IN A TALK SHOW OVER TELEVISION MALAYSIA.

THE TALK WAS ENTITLED +EDUCATION AND THE INDIVIDUAL+.

THE MINISTER SAID PAST EXPERIENCE HAD SHOWN THAT SOCIETY GENERALL REGARDED FORMAL EDUCATION AS A STATUS SYMBOL AND PLACED TOO MUCH WEIGHT ON DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES.

THIS HAD REARED THE KIND OF THINKING THAT REGARDLESS OF HIS CAPABILITY, THE PUPIL MUST COMPLETE FORMAL SCHOOLING.--BERNAMA MORE 1738/BY

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MAHATHIR-TALK 2 KUALA LUMPUR (EMBARGO)

DR. MAHATHIR ALSO REFERRED TO THE OBJECTIVES OF EDUCATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SYSTEM OF EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS.

HE SAID IF SOCIETY ACCEPTED THE NOTION THAT FORMAL EDUCATION WAS NOT THE END--ALL FOR ANY PERSON, THEN THE FAILURE OF ANY INDIVIDUAL TO COMPLETE HIS EDUCATION AT ANY LEVEL WOULD NOT BE SO BITTER.

+THESE PEOPLE CAN ALWAYS CONTINUE WITH THEIR EDUCATION THROUGH THE NORMAL EXPERIENCES OF EVERY-DAY LIVING. FOR EXAMPLE, THE SON OF A BUSINESSMAN COULD ALWAYS WORK IN THE BUSINESS AND LEARN SOMETHING NEW,+ HE ADDED.

DR. MAHATHIR SAID: +WHAT WE MUST ALWAYS REMEMBER IS THAT AN INDUSTRIOUS AND DETERMINED PERSON CAN ACHIEVE SUCCESS WITHOUT HAVING TO UNDERGO FORMAL EDUCATION.

+NOT EVERYONE WHO HAVE SUCCEEDED IN THE WORLD PASSED OUT FROM UNIVERSITIES. THERE ARE MANY SUCCESSFUL PEOPLE WHO HAVE NEVER HAD FORMAL SCHOOLING BEYOND THE BASIC LEVEL.+--BERNAMA 1742/BY