

MAHATHIR-QURAN  
BN

JITRA, JULY 24 (BERNAMA) — DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TONIGHT THAT THE SUCCESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL-LEVEL QURAN READING COMPETITION SINCE ITS INCEPTION HAD ESTABLISHED MALAYSIA'S NAME AMONG THE COMMUNITY OF MUSLIM NATIONS.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT THE COMPETITION HAD ALSO SHOWN THE OTHER MUSLIM COUNTRIES THAT THE QURAN WAS GIVEN ITS RIGHTFUL PLACE HERE IN MALAYSIA.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THIS AT A BREAKING THE FAST AND MUZUL QURAN GATHERING AT KAMPUNG GELONG NEAR HERE.

HE SAID MALAYSIA'S WOMAN READER HAJJAH SEPINAH BINTI MAMAT, WHO WON THIS YEAR'S INTERNATIONAL-LEVEL COMPETITION, HAD GAINED HIGH PRAISE FROM THE FOREIGN JUDGES AND THIS REFLECTED THE HIGH STANDARD OF QURAN READING IN THE COUNTRY.

THE PRIME MINISTER ALSO URGED THE PEOPLE TO MAINTAIN THE EXISTING PEACEFUL SITUATION IN MALAYSIA WHICH ALLOWED THE PEOPLE TO FOLLOW THEIR OWN RELIGION WITHOUT ANY HINDERANCE.

THE PEOPLE SHOULD PRESERVE THIS FREEDOM AND THEY COULD DO THIS BY WORKING HARD FOR THE FUTURE FOR THE NATION. —BERNAMA  
MCRE 2312/MD

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HE ALSO URGED YOUTHS TO WORK HARD AND BE WILLING TO TAKE UP ALL TYPES OF EMPLOYMENT AND NOT JUST THE EASY JOBS.

HE SAID THAT AS MALAYSIA WOULD BE EXPANDING FURTHER IN THE FIELD OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES, YOUTHS, ESPECIALLY THE BUMIPUTRAS, SHOULD BE WILLING TO WORK IN SUCH INDUSTRIES AS THEY THEIR NUMBERS IN THAT SECTOR WAS STILL SMALL.

HE SAID NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT WOULD COME TO NOUGHT IF YOUTHS WERE NOT WILLING TO WORK HARD AND INSTEAD MERELY LEFT IT TO OTHERS. —BERNAMA 2315/MD