

Dr M on the Quranic path to prosperity

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KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs. — Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today called on Muslims to make use of this year's Quran reciting competition theme — Well-being in this World and the Hereafter through the Quran — as an inspiration for them to work towards greater prosperity.

The Acting Prime Minister said the choice of the theme was most

fitting considering that Muslims, especially in Malaysia, were weak.

He reminded Muslims that the Quran was the constitution outlining guidance and principles that could lead mankind to prosperity and well-being both in this life and the hereafter.

The Quran, he said, did not teach mankind to be lazy and wait for prosperity to come with arms folded without making any efforts.

Datuk Seri Dr

Mahathir said this when opening the national level Quran reciting competition organising committee meeting here. The meeting was chaired by Dewan Rakyat Speaker Tan Sri Syed Nasir Ismail.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir hoped that the committee would effectively project the theme and spread its message as widely as possible during the competition.

He also said the

ernment would, if necessary, call Quran reciting experts from abroad to train local Quran reciters so that Malaysia could maintain its high standard in the face of competition from other countries.

It was equally imperative for State Governments to conduct long and short term Quran reciting courses in order to extract new talents, especially from among the children.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir also said the international level competition has fostered cooperation and understanding among the competing countries and at the same time improving Malaysia's image internationally.