

N107: (F)
MAHATHIR-UNIVERSITY
BM

82 (P)
KUALA LUMPUR, MARCH 7 (BERNAMA) — THE PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY WILL BE SET UP IN THE COUNTRY NEXT YEAR AND WILL BE OPENED TO STUDENTS OF ALL RELIGIONS, PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

ITS LOCATION HAD NOT BEEN DECIDED, HE ADDED, AND INITIALLY IT WOULD BE HOUSED IN TEMPORARY PREMISES.

THE MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION WOULD BE ENGLISH AND ARABIC WHILE ITS ADMINISTRATION MIGHT BE CONDUCTED IN BAHASA MALAYSIA, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID ON HIS RETURN FROM AN EIGHT-DAY VISIT TO THE GULF STATES AND JEDDAH.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE UNIVERSITY WOULD NOT ONLY BE MANAGED BY THE MALAYSIAN GOVERNMENT AS ARABIC COUNTRIES WOULD ALSO BE INVITED TO TAKE PART, HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THAT MALAYSIA HAD SET UP A COMMITTEE ON THE SETTING UP OF THE UNIVERSITY AND WOULD INVITE ISLAMIC COUNTRIES TO SEND DELEGATES TO SIT ON THE COMMITTEE. — BERNAMA MORE 1802/A1

N115:
MAHATHIR-UNIVERSITY 2 KUALA LUMPUR

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE TEACHING STAFF WOULD BE TAKEN FROM ISLAMIC AND NON-ISLAMIC COUNTRIES SO LONG AS THEY WERE PREPARED TO TEACH AND ACCEPT THE CONCEPT OF THE UNIVERSITY WHICH WOULD BE BASED ON ISLAMIC PHILOSOPHY.

THE CONCEPT OF THE UNIVERSITY WOULD BE MODELLED AFTER THOSE THAT EXISTED DURING THE GLORY OF ISLAMIC CIVILISATION.

ALTHOUGH THIS WAS A NEW PROGRAMME, THE UNIVERSITY DID NOT BELONG TO MALAYSIA AND AS SUCH IT WOULD NOT BE SUBJECT TO THE POLICY OF THIS COUNTRY, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID.

THE SETTING UP OF THE UNIVERSITY WOULD BE BASED ON THE SAME METHOD AS OTHER INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, SUCH AS THE SEAMEC CENTRE AND THE ASIAN INSTITUTE OF BROADCASTING DEVELOPMENT HERE.

HE ADDED THAT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY WAS SUPPORTED BY LEADERS OF THE COUNTRIES HE VISITED. — BERNAMA 1818/A1