

MAHATHIR-JAPANESE

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KUALA LUMPUR, APRIL 5 (BERNAMA) -- (DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAYS HE DOES NOT WISH TO SEE MALAYSIANS +SLAVISHLY COPY EVERYTHING THE JAPANESE DO+ IN ORDER TO INCREASE PRODUCTIVITY.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT HE WAS FULLY AWARE THAT THE CLIMATE, ENVIRONMENT AND CULTURE IN JAPAN WERE NOT THE SAME AS IN MALAYSIA, HENCE IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO DO SO.

+WHAT I DO SUGGEST IS THAT WE COULD LEARN ALOT FROM THE JAPANESE PARTICULARLY THE WORK ETHICS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO HIGH PRODUCTIVITY,+ HE ADDED IN HIS KEY NOTE ADDRESS WHEN LAUNCHING THE NATIONAL PRODUCTIVITY CAMPAIGN TODAY.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THERE WERE TWO WAYS IN WHICH MALAYSIA COULD ACHIEVE HER AIM OF INCREASED PRODUCTIVITY.

ONE WAS THROUGH COMPULSION, THAT IS, BY LEGISLATION, AND THE OTHER WAS THROUGH CHANGING OF THE PEOPLE'S ATTITUDE AND MAKING THEM FEEL PROUD OF THE JOB.

HE FELT THAT THE SECOND ALTERNATIVE OF INSTILLING PRIDE IN THE PEOPLES WORK WAS FAR MORE PRODUCTIVE. -- BERNAMA MORE 1505/SZ

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THE PRIME MINISTER PAID TRIBUTE TO THE ARMED FORCES, POLICE, FIRE SERVICES AND THE MEDICAL SERVICES.

HE CALLED ON THE PEOPLE TO EMULATE THE WORKERS IN THESE SERVICES WHO +WORKED LONG HOURS OFTEN IN CONDITIONS OF GREAT DANGER SIMPLY TO SERVE THEIR FELLOW MEN.+

+WHEN DISASTER STRIKES - FLASH FLOODS, FIRES, AIR CRASHES ETC; - EVERYBODY BANDS TOGETHER TO GIVE THEIR TIME, EFFORT AND OFTEN THEIR PERSONAL POSSESSION IN ORDER TO HELP THE UNFORTUNATE VICTIMS.+

+WHY CANNOT WE INTRODUCE A BIT MORE OF THIS SPIRIT INTO OUR DAILY WORKING LIVES?+ DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR ASKED.

+IF WE CAN IMPROVE OUR ATTITUDES AND REGARD WASTE IN ALL ITS FORMS AS AN UNFORGIVEABLE CRIME DIRECTED AGAINST OURSELVES, THEN WE WILL ACHIEVE A HIGH LEVEL OF PRODUCTIVITY SO ESSENTIAL TO OUR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT,+ HE ADDED.

-- BERNAMA 1510/SZ