

MAHATHIR - ISLAM

BM

82 (P)
KOTA KINABALU, APRIL 13 (BERNAMA)-- (DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD) TODAY URGED THE MUSLIMS TO WORK HARD IN ALL FIELDS SO THAT THEY WOULD NOT BE REGARDED AS THOSE WHO ALWAYS HAD TO DEPEND ON OTHERS.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THEY SHOULD ALSO PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO EDUCATION.

ISLAM DID NOT PREVENT ITS FOLLOWERS FROM SEARCHING FOR KNOWLEDGE, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID WHEN HE LAID THE FOUNDATION STONE FOR THE HEADQUARTERS BUILDING OF THE SABAH ISLAMIC RELIGIOUS COUNCIL (MUIS) COSTING \$156.4 MILLION HERE.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID HE WAS DISAPPOINTED WITH THE ACTIONS OF CERTAIN MUSLIM GROUPS WHICH HAD CREATED MISUNDERSTANDINGS THAT COULD HINDER THE DEVELOPMENT OF ISLAM AND SPOIL ITS IMAGE AMONG THE NON-MUSLIMS.

THESE GROUPS INCLUDED THE EXTREMISTS AND THE +CRYPTO+ UNCOVERED RECENTLY.--BERNAMA MORE 2045/AH

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THERE WERE OTHERS, HE ADDED, WHO HAD MADE WILD ALLEGATIONS AGAINST OTHER MUSLIMS.

THEY HAD EVEN BRANDED MUSLIMS WHO DID NOT BELONG TO THEIR GROUPS AS NON-MUSLIMS.

SUCH ACTIONS WOULD HINDER THE PROGRESS OF ISLAM, HE ADDED.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR HOPED THAT THE MUSLIM COMMUNITY IN SABAH WOULD CONTINUE TO WORK FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE RELIGION IN A PROPER MANNER.

THE MUSLIMS, HE SAID, SHOULD PROVE TO OTHERS THAT THEY WERE CAPABLE OF FACING ALL CHALLENGES IN A MODERN SOCIETY AND ABLE TO WORK TOGETHER WITH NON-MUSLIMS FOR THE GOOD OF THE NATION.

--BERNAMA 2047/AH