

MAHATHIR
BM

83 (P)
KUALA LUMPUR, JUNE 24 (BERNAMA) -- IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EVERY MUSLIM TO HELP RESTORE THE GREATNESS AND GLORY OF ISLAM, (DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD) SAID.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID IN A SOUVENIR PROGRAMME OF THE 24TH INTERNATIONAL QURAN-READING COMPETITION THAT ISLAM IS NOT AGAINST PROGRESS.

IT IS A LIVING RELIGION WHICH COULD BE THE MOTIVATING AGENT TO SPUR GREATER PROGRESS.

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT EVERY MUSLIM IMBIBE THE NOBLE VALUES IN ISLAM WITHOUT COMPULSION, HE SAID.

ISLAM, HE SAID, DOES NOT ADVOCATE FORCE BUT INSTEAD STRESSES ON DIPLOMACY AND PROPER MISSIONARY WORK.

-- MORE 1501/LK

MAHATHIR 2 KUALA LUMPUR

THE QURAN DOES NOT ONLY PROVIDE GUIDELINES FOR THE INDIVIDUAL TO BE RELIGIOUS BUT ALSO HOW HE SHOULD LIVE IN A COMMUNITY.

ON THE THEME OF THE COMPETITION - THE PRINCIPLE OF PURITY - DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THAT THE PRINCIPLE HAS BEEN WIDELY ACCEPTED BY ALL BUT IT WAS ISLAM WHICH PROVIDES A COMPREHENSIVE GUIDELINE FOR THE INDIVIDUAL AND SOCIETY TO LEAD A COMPLETE LIFE.

-- BERNAMA 1502/LK