

MAHATHIR-SCIENCE

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KUALA LUMPUR, OCT. 4 (BERNAMA) (DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD WANTS MALAYSIANS TO RELY ON THEIR OWN CREATIVITY IN ALL FIELDS AND NOT TO DEPEND ON OTHERS TO CARRY OUT WORK REQUIRING KNOWLEDGE IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.

HE HOPES EXPERTS AND THOSE INTERESTED IN THE VARIOUS FIELDS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WOULD PIONEER INVENTIONS AND START A NEW TRADITION FOR THE COUNTRY.

IT WAS HOPED THAT THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY WOULD ATTAIN SUCH CREATIVITY PARTICULARLY IN THE USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES, THE PRIME MINISTER ADDED WHEN OPENING THE UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MALAYSIA'S ELECTRICAL SCIENCE MUSEUM IN JALAN GURNEY HERE TODAY.

HE ASKED LOCAL EXPERTS NOT TO BE DEPENDENT ON ANYONE FOR DESIGNS TO PROVE THEIR OWN ABILITY.

"IN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, INVENTORS USUALLY SPEND THEIR OWN MONEY TO BRING OUT THEIR DESIGNS AND SOMETIMES THIS REQUIRES BIG EXPENSES," HE SAID.

-- MORE 1927/LK

ZCZC N137:

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DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR EXPLAINED THAT AN INVENTOR SHOULD BE MOTIVATED BY HIS OWN SENSE OF CREATIVITY AND SHOULD NOT BE DISCOURAGED BY EXHAUSTION OR FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS.

"AS SUCH, FOR THE SAKE OF SUCCESS FOR OUR INVENTORS, THOSE WHO CAN AFFORD, PARTICULARLY THE PRIVATE FIRMS, SHOULD HELP TO FINANCE ANY GROUP INTERESTED IN DEVELOPING SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN OUR COUNTRY.

"IF POSSIBLE, WE ALL WANT TO ENSURE THAT THE INVENTIONS TO BE BROUGHT OUT BY LOCAL INVENTORS WILL ATTAIN A LEVEL WHERE THEY WILL GET PATENT RIGHTS AND MARKETING AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL," HE SAID.

THE PRIME MINISTER STRESSED THAT THE PEOPLE SHOULD UPGRADE THEIR CAPABILITIES IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TO FULFILL THE GOVERNMENT'S ASPIRATIONS TO BRING OUT A PROSPEROUS WAY OF LIFE FOR MALAYSIANS.

HE STRESSED THAT WITHOUT SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY EXPERTISE, THE PEOPLE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO UTILISE ALL AVAILABLE POTENTIALS EFFECTIVELY.

THIS WOULD ULTIMATELY LEAD TO THE PEOPLE BEING LEFT BEHIND IN PROGRESS AND LEAVING THEM DEPENDENT ON OTHERS, HE SAID.

-- MORE 1932/LK

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"BECAUSE OF THIS, WE DO NOT FEEL CONFIDENT THAT OUR PEOPLE CAN REPAIR BROKEN-DOWN RADIO AND TELEVISION SETS AND OTHER ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT.

"AND AS MORE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL EQUIPMENT INCREASE, THE MORE WE ARE LEFT BEHIND," HE ADDED.

THE PRIME MINISTER FEARED THAT ALTHOUGH THE WORDS SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WERE OFTEN HEARD IN THE PROCESS OF THE COUNTRY'S DEME

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FOR THE SKILLED AND THAT THE LAYMAN WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO GRASP IT.

"BECAUSE OF THIS WIDESPREAD BELIEF, PEOPLE ARE AFRAID TO VENTURE INTO EDUCATION OR EMPLOYMENT WHICH INVOLVES A KNOWLEDGE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY," HE SAID.

HE SAID SCIENCE WAS NO MYSTERY BUT A FIELD OF KNOWLEDGE BASED ON LOGIC OF THE MIND AND THE NATURAL STRUCTURE OF THINGS CREATED BY GOD.

-- MORE 2008/LK

ZCZC N144:

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HE SAID, "EVERYTHING CREATED BY GOD HAS A PROPER STRUCTURE WHICH CAN BE EASILY UNDERSTOOD ONCE WE HAVE THE KEY. IT IS THE KEY THAT WE RECOGNISE ONCE WE STUDY SCIENCE AS HAS BEEN URGED BY THE QURAN."

HE TOLD THE PEOPLE TO EMULATE THE DEVELOPED NATIONS LIKE JAPAN WHICH THOUGH IT DID NOT HAVE RICH NATURAL RESOURCES HAD BEEN ABLE TO COMPETE WITH DEVELOPED NATIONS SUCCESSFULLY BECAUSE OF ITS PIVOTAL EMPHASIS ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.

"THIS SHOULD BE A LESSON TO US FOR WE SHOULD CONSIDER LONG-TERM INVESTMENT IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY," HE SAID.

ON THE MUSEUM, HE HOPED THAT ALTHOUGH THE EQUIPMENT HAD BEEN DESIGNED IN AND IMPORTED FROM JAPAN, THIS WOULD BE ONLY A TEMPORARY MOVE AND ULTIMATELY LOCAL INVENTORS WOULD FILL IT WITH THEIR OWN DESIGNS.

HE HOPED OTHER LOCAL UNIVERSITIES WOULD SET UP SIMILAR MUSEUMS IN SPECIFIC FIELDS IN THE EFFORTS TO PROMOTE THE INTEREST OF THE PEOPLE IN ALL ASPECTS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.

HE MENTIONED MEDICINE, AGRICULTURE, COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ASTRONOMY AS SPECIFIC FIELDS WHICH NEEDED SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENT.

-- BERNAMA 2014/LK