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MAHATHIR-ISLAM

KUALA LUMPUR, DEC 21 (BERNAMA) -- EGYPTIAN LEADERS RAISED THE QUESTION OF **INCREASING** ISLAMIC EXTREMISM DURING DISCUSSIONS WITH PRIME MINISTER **DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD** WHEN HE **VISITED** THE COUNTRY.

THEY EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER THE MATTER AND TALKED ABOUT HOW TO CONTAIN IT, **DATUKSERI DR MAHATHIR** TOLD REPORTERS ON **HIS** RETURN TODAY FROM A TWO-WEEK OVERSEAS TRIP THAT ALSO TOOK HIM TO LIBYA AND MALI.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID IT WAS ONLY NATURAL THAT EGYPT SE CONCERNED AS RELIGIOUS EXTREMISTS WERE **RESPONSIBLE**, AMONG OTHER **THINGS**, FOR THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT **ANWARSADAT** AND THE TORTURE AND DEATH OF ITS MINISTER OF WAKAF.

**DATUKSERI DR MAHATHIR** SAID THE EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT NOW HAS AN ABLE MINISTER OF **RELIGION** WHO HE SAID WAS SUCCEEDING IN DIFFUSING ISLAMIC EXTREMISM.

THE PRIME MINISTER ALSO SAID THAT GENERALLY LEADERS OF THE COUNTRIES HE VISITED **DESCRIBED MALAYSIA'S** APPROACH TO **ISLAMISATION** AS COMMENDABLE AND EFFECTIVE.

HE SAID MALAYSIA'S ROLE IN EFFORTS THAT RESULTED IN EGYPT'S REACCEPTANCE INTO THE **ORGANISATION** OF ISLAMIC CONFERENCE WAS APPRECIATED.

-- **BERNAMA**

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