

# *Don't bite hand that feeds: Dr M*

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PENDANG, Fri. — Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today criticised those who "bite the hand that feeds them".

He said these people include the younger generation, adults and even Felda settlers.

The Prime Minister made this point before laying the foundation of the Felda Sungai Tiang Scheme mosque costing \$700,000 near here this afternoon.

He said the Government built mosques to provide the people with a place to pray, enhance their religious knowledge and foster solidarity among Muslims.

This effort is in accordance with the teachings of Islam and the people should be grateful to the Government.

"Unfortunately, there is a group of people who is going around preaching about Islamic values and yet this group tells people not to be grateful to the Government.

"They want the people to instead bite the hands

which have fed them. Of late, we have noticed such an attitude becoming rampant among the younger generation and even adults, including settlers in Felda schemes.

"I hope genuine religious classes, ceramahs and talks will be conducted to change this attitude," said the Prime Minister.

He pointed out that grateful people are always at peace and never

attempt to go against those who have helped them.

"Being grateful is one of the characteristics of a true Muslim," he said.

Dr Mahathir said that Islam taught its followers to be united and this could be achieved in the mosques.

"Besides being a place for prayers and to further spiritual knowledge, the mosque is also a place to foster closer relationship among Muslims.

"That is why Islam makes it mandatory for Muslims to pray in the mosques at least once a week.

"The Quran does not teach Muslims to be disunited and to pray separately.

"Our ideologies may be different but we are not different in religion," he said.

Dr Mahathir expressed regret over the activities of certain people who have been using the mosque to create confusion among Muslims and to pit them against one another.