

# Don't be afraid to try out new ideas: Mahathir

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. — Malaysians should have the courage to try out new ideas for their common progress, the Prime Minister said today.

"There are many fields that Malaysians can excel in if we can shed our fears and be confident enough to try new ideas," Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamed said when opening the first Family and Children Development Institute (Nury) convention at Bandar Tun Abdul Razak, near here.

He said Nury, founded by its chairman Datin Dr Noor Laily Datuk Abu Bakar, was such an example.

Its objective is to develop "men and women of excellence" through their programme for intellectually-inclined children.

Dr Mahathir said it was likely, however, that those with ideas would face much criticisms from others.

"In such situations, you have to take things in your stride. The important thing is to try and never give up," he said. "You are not going to obtain any results — good or bad — if you do not try new ideas."

He also said Malaysians should not feel afraid to accept changes.

"Look at the comforts around you. Surely, these are the result of men who dared to be make changes," he said. "We hope there will be more people to do research and to think about things that are seemingly impossible yet not entirely out of reach."

Dr Noor Laily said that since the institute was set up four years ago, it had to a certain extent contributed towards the development of the institution of family as the most important institution in human development.