

R E836 ENG MES
MAHATHIR-EDUCATION
BM

KUALA LUMPUR, JUNE 8, (BERNAMA) -- THE COUNTRY'S EDUCATION SYSTEM SHOULD EMPHASISE SPIRITUAL TRAINING SUITABLE TO THE PRESENT TIME AS WELL AS KNOWLEDGE THAT IS IN KEEPING WITH NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND NATION BUILDING, PRIME MINISTER, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

HE SAID HE BELIEVED ALL TEACHERS REALISED THIS BUT THE PEOPLE DID NOT REGARD EDUCATION THAT WOULD PRODUCE A NOBLE PERSONALITY AS EQUALLY OR MORE IMPORTANT THAN A DEGREE.

LAUNCHING THE NATIONAL-LEVEL TEACHERS DAY 1990 AT THE PUTRA WORLD TRADE CENTRE (PWTC) HERE, HE SAID IF SOCIETY IS ABLE TO SET ITS PRIORITIES AND ACCEPT THAT A NOBLE PERSONALITY IS IMPORTANT TO ENSURE SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS, TEACHERS SHOULD BE GIVEN A MAJOR ROLE IN DISSEMINATING SUCH VALUES TO THE YOUNG GENERATION.

+IF THIS IS DONE, GOD WILLING, A BETTER AND MORE SUCCESSFUL SOCIETY THANWHAT NO PREVAILS WILL EVOLVE,+ HE ADDED.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS LATER, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR INDICATED HIS REGRET AT THE NUMBER OF CRIMINALS IN THE COUNTRY FROM THE EDUCATED CLASS.

+WE APPOINT THEM AS BANK MANAGERS AND DIRECTORS BECAUSE OF THEIR VAST KNOWLEDGE BUT ON THE OTHER HAND THEY USE IT TO CHEAT,+ HE SAID.

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THE PRIME MINISTER SAID IT WAS NO USE HAVING VAST KNOWLEDGE WITHOUT HAVING A NOBLE PERSONALITY.

IN HIS ADDRESS TO MORE HAN 1,000 TEACHERS, HE SAID EDUCATION AIMED AT CREATING A NOBLE PERSONALITY WAS MORE IMPORTANT THAN EDUCATION MERELY TO ACQUIRE KNOWLEDGE.

IN SOCIETY NOW, THE ABUSE OF KNOWLEDGE BY THOSE WHO POSSESSED IT HAD BECOME WIDESPREAD, HE SAID.

HE ADDED: +NASTY WEAPONS ARE INVENTED AND MAJOR CRIMES ARE COMMITTED BY THOSE WITH KNOWLEDGE.

+THAT IS ALSO THE REASON WHY MAJOR FRAUDS TAKE PLACE IN BUSINESS AND INDUSTRIES.+

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THERE WAS STILL A ROLE, INDEED A NEED, FOR TEACHERS TO INCULCATE NOBLE PERSONALITIES AMONG STUDENTS WHO WILL BECOME FUTURE ADULT CITIZENS.

POLEMICS ON WHETHER TEACHERS OR PARENTS SHOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS SHOULD NOT ARISE.

+PARENTS HAVE THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES WHILE TEACHERS ALSO HAVE THEIRS,+ HE ADDED. -- MORE

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MAHATHIR-EDUCATION 3 KUALA LUMPUR

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID SINCE IT WAS NOT LIKELY THAT PARENTS WOULD BE GIVEN TRAINING, ESPECIALLY ON HOW TO FORM NOBLE PERSONALITY, TEACHERS COULD BE GIVEN SUCH TRAINING.

AN IDEAL SITUATION WOULD BE ONE WHERE EDUCATION EVOLVED A SOCIETY THAT IS NOBLE AND POSSESSING SUFFICIENT KNOWLEDGE WHICH ALLOWED FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS AS WELL AS SOCIETY AS A WHOLE, HE ADDED.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID ALTHOUGH THE HEREDITY FACTOR LIMITED THE ABILITY OF AN INDIVIDUAL, SUITABLE AND SUFFICIENT MORAL AND ACADEMIC EDUCATION WOULD BE ABLE TO DEVELOP HIS POTENTIAL TO THE MAXIMUM AND ENABLE HIM TO MAKE USE OF ALL HIS CAPABILITIES.

HE ADDED THAT QUALITY EDUCATION REQUIRED DEDICATION AND SPIRIT OF THE TEACHERS WHO SHOULD SET ASIDE OTHER MATTERS, INCLUDING PERSONAL MATTERS, WHEN CARRYING OUT THEIR TASK.

THE THEME FOR THIS YEAR'S TEACHERS DAY IS +PENDIDIKAN BERMUTU MASYARAKAT SEJAHTERA+ (QUALITY EDUCATION FOR A PEACEFUL SOCIETY). -- MORE

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MAHATHIR-EDUCATION 4 KUALA LUMPUR

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID QUALITY EDUCATION DID NOT MEAN THE KIND OF KNOWLEDGE BUT THE EFFECTIVENESS IN IMPARTING IT.

ALTHOUGH TEACHER TRAINING CENTRES PROVIDED TRAINING IN TEACHING TECHNIQUES THERE ARE TEACHERS WHO ARE LOVED BECAUSE OF THEIR ABILITY TO IMPART KNOWLEDGE IN A MANNER EASILY GRASPED BY PUPILS.

DURING THE FUNCTION THREE FORMER TEACHERS -- HAJI ABDULLAH SANI ABU BAKAR, 69, OF KELANTAN; DATUK HAJI IDRIS TAIN, 58, (NEGERI SEMBILAN) AND ENCIK MICHAEL GRAHAM PARRY, 59, (JOHOR) -- RECEIVED MODEL TEACHER AWARD FOR 1990 FROM THE PRIME MINISTER.

SEKOLAH MENENGAH DAMANSARA JAYA, PETALING JAYA (SELANGOR) WON SCHOOL OF NATIONAL HOPE AWARD FOR URBAN SECONDARY SCHOOLS WHILE SIMILAR AWARDS WENT TO SEKOLAH MENENGAH SULTAN ABDUL JALIL SHAH, SEBERANG PERAK (PERAK) AND SEKOLAH MENENGAH KEBANGSAAN SUNGAI BESAR, SABAK BERNAM (SELANGOR) FOR THOSE IN THE RURAL AREAS.

IN THE PRIMARY SCHOOLS CATEGORY, THE AWARD WAS WON BY SEKOLAH KEBANGSAAN SUNGAI GELUGOR (PULAU PINANG) FOR URBAN SCHOOLS AND SEKOLAH KEBANGSAAN TANAH MERAH (KELANTAN) FOR RURAL AREAS. -- BERNAMA 1350MST 08 06 90