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MAHATHIR-CULTURE  
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KUALA LUMPUR, JUNE 16 (BERNAMA)-- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TONIGHT INTERNATIONAL ART AND CULTURAL SHOWS CAN CONTRIBUTE TO WORLD PEACE.

THE HOLDING OF SUCH SHOWS AMONG NATIONS COULD HELP REDUCE INTERNATIONAL TENSION AND FOSTER UNDERSTANDING, HE SAID WHEN CLOSING THE ASEAN UNIVERSITIES FOLK ARTS FESTIVAL AT UNIVERSITI MALAYA

UNIVERSITIES IN MALAYSIA, INDONESIA, THE PHILIPPINES, THAILAND, BRUNEI DARUSSALAM AND SINGAPORE AS WELL AS CULTURAL INSTITUTES IN JAPAN, TURKEY AND THE SOVIET UNION TOOK PART IN THE EIGHT DAY FESTIVAL.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID SUCH CULTURAL FESTIVALS COULD ALSO STRENGTHEN FRIENDSHIP AMONG NATIONS.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE PERFORMANCES COULD HELP INTRODUCE THE CULTURES OF THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES TO OTHERS AND PROMOTE TOURISM.

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MAHATHIR-CULTURE 2 KUALA LUMPUR

THESE FOLK ARTS FESTIVALS WOULD GIVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO NATIONS TO LEARN ABOUT THE CULTURES OF EACH OTHER, HE ADDED.

THE PRIME MINISTER WAS CONFIDENT THAT THE HOLDING OF THE FOLK ARTS FESTIVAL HERE HAD PROVIDED A CHANCE FOR UNIVERSITY STUDENTS TO EXCHANGE IDEAS.

MALAYSIA'S HOSTING OF THE FESTIVAL WAS MOST APPROPRIATE IN VIEW OF THE VISIT MALAYSIA YEAR THIS YEAR.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR HOPED THE FESTIVAL WOULD BE HELD IN INDONESIA NEXT YEAR WHICH WAS VISIT INDONESIA YEAR. -- BERNAMA  
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