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TUN HAMID'S POSITION SHOULD NOT BE DISPUTED, SAYS MAHATHIR

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KUALA LUMPUR, March 17⁹² (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said tonight the Malaysian Bar Council should not question the position of Tun Abdul Hamid Omar as Lord President and the head of the Judiciary.

+The question of Tun Hamid being Lord President and the head of the Judiciary does not arise as he was appointed in accordance with the law,+ he said.

+The Bar Council has no right to determine who should be Lord President,+ the Prime Minister told reporters after the presentation of Hari Raya assistance to eight orphans from the Federal Territory by his wife, Datuk Seri Datin Paduka Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali, here.

He also said that it was strange that some lawyers who did not recognise Abdul Hamid as the Lord President and head of the Judiciary were prepared to appear before him.

In his speech, Dr Mahathir called on parents to instill a sense of responsibility and care for each other in their children in line with the concept of a caring society and also to teach them to be independent.

President of the Federal Territory Orphans' Welfare Association Datuk Haji Hanafiah Ahmad said that the association allocated assistance totalling \$55,000 derived from public donation.

The eight children received \$800 each. They represent the 550 orphans under the care of the association.

Meanwhile, Puan Kamariah Afanfi, who has seven children aged one to 13, received similar assistance. -- Bernama

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