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VISION 2020 IS FOR OUR CHILDREN, SAYS MAHATHIR

Mahathir - children

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KUALA LUMPUR, April 25 (Bernama) -- The present generation has the role and responsibility to ensure that today's children will grow up to be responsible citizens or leaders, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

The Prime Minister said they should also ensure that the children were well-mannered and patriotic through proper education and emulation of good examples.

Dr Mahathir's message was delivered by former special adviser to the Education Ministry, Tan Sri Dr Awang Had Salleh, at the 25th anniversary of Dewan Pelajar, a magazine published by the Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka, at the Merdeka Square here.

The Prime Minister said the progress or setback of a nation was not caused by the size of its people but by the culture of the nation.

+If the culture of the nation stresses on good values the nation will progress. On the other hand, even a developed nation can suffer setbacks if the people practise bad values in life,+ he said.

+Vision 2020 is for our children and efforts should be made to cultivate in them the values suitable for progress,+ he said. -- more

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Mahathir - children 2 (last) Kuala Lumpur

The Prime Minister, who was present at the function, launched a book +Kenangan dan Harapan Dewan Pelajar 25 Tahun+ in conjunction with the anniversary.

The function, themed +Anak Malaysia Membina Malaysia+ (Malaysians build Malaysia), was attended by about 1,000 children. The Suara MAS Choir of City Hall was in attendance.

Various performances were staged by the schoolchildren and the 2+1 group comprising Imuda, Sabri Yunus, Susan Lancaster, Ahmad Busu and Zami Ismail, and guest singer Ruhil Amani Husin.

Accompanying Dr Mahathir were his wife, Datuk Seri Datin Paduka Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali, their children Mazhar and Maizura and grandchild Ineza Mohamed Ikhlas.

Deputy Education Minister Dr Leo Michael Toyad, Datuk Bandar Tan Sri Elyas Omar and DBP Chairman Datuk Abdul Rahim Bakar were also present. -- Bernama

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