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Mahathir - Family

(EMBARGO: FOR RELEASE AFTER 9PM)

PARENTS SHOULD SET UP QUALITY FAMILY SYSTEMS, SAYS MAHATHIR

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KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 10 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad tonight stressed the need for parents to equip themselves with knowledge and skills in efforts to create family systems which are of quality.

This was because as the main educators, parents should study suitable methods to identify the situations and problems of their children, the Prime Minister said in his message over RTM on the occasion of the National Family Day 1992.

Communication strategies which nurtured close links with children as well as their patterns of behaviour should be studied in all earnestness, he said.

He said such efforts would have to be made to overcome negative influences which could affect the institution of family due to the process of economic transformation which was frequently accompanied by unhealthy individualism such as the ignoring of families and society.

Only when all these problems were overcome, could parents give special attention to the moulding of their children's character, mind and intellectual capacity, he added. -- more

10/11/18-58MST

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Dr Mahathir reminded parents that as the country strove towards progress, the government wanted to create a people who were responsible, considerate, loyal, courteous, mature and caring as these were the foremost qualities which would bring excellence to the next generation.

He said a society of excellence was the dream of the entire people and one of the challenges presented by Vision '2020 which envisaged a Malaysian nation which was progressive, had self confidence, proud of its achievements and had the zeal to face all challenges.

+Such a society will have qualities of excellence held in high esteem by the world,+ he added

As such, the Prime Minister said the theme of the celebrations +Anak Cemerlang Negara Gemilang+ was most suitable as aspects of character formation, the spirit of caring and being considerate should be inculcated at an early stage.

In conjunction with the celebrations, the Prime Minister expressed the hope that every parent would take serious interest in the development of their children from the aspect of emotional and physical wellbeing, as well as from the spiritual, mental and social aspects so that they would be in a position to contribute towards the prosperity and wellbeing of their families, society and nation. -- more

10/11/19-23MST

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The Prime Minister said that the 1990 statistics showed that 39 per cent of the country's population comprised children below the age of 14 and they had high potential and were a 'great asset to the country.

Hence they should be well brought up so that they could contribute to the progress and wellbeing of the nation.

On the celebrations, Dr Mahathir said the people should take just pride in the recognition accorded to families and this clearly proved that as the country enjoyed economic progress, social aspects and the family life and culture were not forgotten.

The family system as an institution and basis of society should be retained and strengthened as the family is the contributor towards national development, he said.

This was because the strength and vitality of the family could influence and ensure society's stability.-- Bernama

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