

Maha thir-museum

PM LAUNCHES IBRAHIM HUSSEIN'S MUSEUM AND CULTURAL FOUNDATION

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KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 11 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad tonight praised local artists for producing works of significance, saying that the development of local arts has been generally commendable.

He said this was because their creative works had incorporated local cultures .

+They represent one dimension of our culture which we will pass on from one generation to another.

+They are our traditional heritage, reflecting achievements of Malaysian society in time,+ he said when launching the Ibrahim Hussein Museum and Cultural Foundation (IHMCF) here.

The IHMCF, involving some RM10 million, includes the setting up of a 'museum on an 18-hectare site in Langkawi.

As such, the Prime Minister said local culture should be shaped and moulded to portray the country's uniqueness. --more

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Dr Mahathir said it was vital for individuals to be encouraged to enhance local works of arts and cultures.

+Creative individuals among the artists should not only be given the opportunity to create but be given a place where they can interact among themselves and with their international counterparts, + he said.

The Prime Minister said that with the establishment of the museum, local talented artists would have the opportunity to interact and obtain ideas for their paintings .

Dr Mahathir said: +A good example in paintings can be seen from the achievements of Ibrahim Hussein himself. +

+If we are to take an appropriate place in the modern world, we must encourage fresh and dynamic development of arts, + he added. --more

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In this respect, he said Malaysia had talented artists and what was needed was undivided support especially from the private sector.

He also said the interaction between local artists and artistes and their international counterparts was vital in efforts to enhance further their creativity and image,

+I believe the country can take advantage of Ibrahim Hussein's connections to promote Malaysia in general and Pulau Langkawi in particular, +

He said the country's development depended not only on socio-economic development but that of culture as well.

As such, he said the setting of the IHMCF should receive the support of, all since it would be in line with the country's aspirations to become a developed nation', --Bernama,

▼12/12/00-20MST