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Mahathir-leaders

LEADERS SHOULD BE SELECTED IN A FAIR MANNER, DR MAHATHIR

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KUALA LUMPUR, June 3, (Bernama) -- A meticulous exercise should be undertaken to find the most suitable candidate for an important post so that injustice will not be done, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

He said that in selecting someone for any post or function, especially for important posts such as that of a judge, Islam demands that only the most qualified person be given such responsibilities.

"If we appoint someone who is not an expert in a particular field, we would be committing two acts of injustices," he said when opening the "Islam and Justice" Conference organised by the Institute of Islamic Understanding Malaysia (Ikim) here.

He said that the first injustice was on the person so appointed because he would not be able to perform his duties as he lacks the necessary expertise. He would feel pressured, bored, lacked confidence and has no interest in doing his job.

The second injustice was on the people or community whom the appointed person was supposed to serve as the individual would not be able to provide the service expected of him, he added. -- more

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According to the Prime Minister, in Islam, justice meant placing something in its rightful place.

He said that three very important aspects of justice in this context were first, to place someone in a post or function appropriate to his capabilities and second, to mete out sentence or make a decision appropriate to a situation or the person about to receive it.

The third aspect was to place wealth or property to those who rightly deserves them.

When meting out sentences, Dr Mahathir said that Islam provided various guidelines as contained in the Quran and the Prophet's traditions so that the sentences were fair.

"The method to be used in meting out sentence should enable that all relevant facts be obtained, scrutinised and considered so that all doubts are removed," he said. -- more

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Islam demands justice not only from its leaders but also from the community. as long as one of the said three aspects were present, he said.

"If the masses are given the right to choose their leaders, they must select the most qualified and capable. All forms of corruption, such as demanding personal rewards, or for certain quarters to reciprocate an earlier assistance. run counter to Islamic justice," he said.

He said that in making decisions, be it social, political, economic, management or administrative, justice must prevail as decisions which could lead to adverse situations were unfair and unjust. -- Bernama

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