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Mahathir-Islam

MUSLIM NATIONS MUST STRIVE FOR STRENGTH. SAYS MAHATHIR

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KUALA LUMPUR, June 3 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today Islamic countries, including Malaysia, should strengthen themselves because the world today viewed that might is right.

To achieve this, the important thing was to ensure that a fair and efficient administration was established so that the country's achievement was at par with that of other developed countries.

"Only after we have developed can we undertake preparation to strengthen our defence capability to be on the same level with that of other developed nations in all fields," he added.

Opening the "Islam and Justice" Conference, organised by the Institute of Islamic Understanding Malaysia (IKIM), he said centuries after the decline of the Islamic Empire, the world was dominated by non-Muslim countries of the West.

They not only succeeded in dominating almost the entire world but also influenced the thinking of those they controlled and imposed their values and philosophy on them, he added. -- more

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Dr Mahathir said: "Their concepts and principles of justice are so widely disseminated so much so that the world is very engrossed with them and no one would question whether it is good or bad."

He said the actual principle subscribed to by the West and the majority of the present day world civilisation was based on "Might is Right".

"Since the West is powerful, everything they do is fair. Since the Serbs are strong, their annexation of Muslim land is condoned. As Islamic countries and Muslims everywhere are weak, everything they do is wrong and unfair," he added.

The Prime Minister said efforts by Muslims to re-assert the concept of justice, as expounded by Islam, were criticised by the West as an attempt to revive old and antiquated thinking.

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