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Mahathir-Youth

YOUTHS THE MOVERS OF DEVELOPMENT

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KOTA BAHARU, July 26 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today that youths should view positively all challenges facing them as a preparation to face the bigger challenge of liberating the country in the true sense of the word.

It was their responsibility to shoulder the challenge of preserving the country's independence by always striving to acquire knowledge in all fields so that Malaysia would be a truly independent nation, he said.

"If they are not prepared to tackle the minor problems in acquiring knowledge and skills, it is impossible for them to be the movers of the country's progress," he said when launching the National Youth Gathering 1993 at the Wakaf Mek Zainab schools complex here.

Dr Mahathir said if they were not willing to shoulder the burden of independence, the vision of making Malaysia a developed country by 2020 could not be realised.

If the younger generation did not want the country to be dominated or colonised again in other forms, they should work hard to preserve the independence it was enjoying, he said. -- more

▼26/07/13-25MST

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Mahathir-Youth 2 Kota Baharu

The Prime Minister said the youths of today should change their attitude to seek knowledge and skills so that Malaysia could become developed and could compete with other developed countries.

He said many fields were yet to be mastered by the country in its march towards developed status.

As such, it was the responsibility of the youths to strive to dominate these fields, he said.

Elaborating on the meaning of independence, Dr Mahathir said many nations had gained independence but still felt pressured by the big powers because of their dependence on these countries, including for loans and expertise.

Dr Mahathir urged the youths to work hard and master all fields of expertise to achieve excellence and make Malaysia a truly free country in all aspects. -- more

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Mahathir-Youth 3 Kota Baharu

He said that since the country was trying to catch up with the developed countries, the youths should keep pace so that they would not be left behind.

According to him, the youths in this country could actually compete with the people in developed countries "but only we ourselves have the feeling that we could not acquire the knowledge needed to be on par with them."

"The youths of this country are capable of gaining knowledge and skills to be on par with their counterparts in other countries if they are willing to work hard and face all challenges and obstacles," he said.

Dr Mahathir regretted that some youths were lazy to attend school and preferred to idle away their time at supermarkets.

It was the duty of all, like political and community leaders and teachers, to put a stop to the loafing habit, he said. -- more

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Mahathir-Youth 4 (last) Kota Baharu

He said teachers had an important role to play in this aspect as they were trained in psychology to guide youths.

The responsibility of realising Vision 2020 lay on the shoulders of the younger generation, and, as such, they should take early action to plan and seek guidance from the adults to ensure its success, he said.

Dr Mahathir said the youths of today would have a different role to play in 2020 as they would become adults by then and their present responsibility would be assumed by the generation after them.

He said Malaysia was the only country to have formed this vision, adding that it had attracted a lot of attention and interest, and become a talking point of discussions of developed countries.

Dr Mahathir, accompanied by Youth and Sports Minister Datuk Annur Musa, was greeted on arrival at the school compound by some 15,000 youths who staged a march-past.

A bunga manggar reception by young women, a silat demonstration, the beating of rebana ubi and pledge-taking by youths preceded the launching.

-- Bernama

NH HT YBY