

# PM: Maintain harmony by respecting the law

JITRA, Mon. — Prime Minister (Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad) said today the nation's harmony can only be maintained if the people show the highest respect for the law.

He said there would be chaos if people showed disrespect to the law.

Any dissatisfaction over certain matters should be resolved by referring to the proper channels such as the courts and law enforcers.

He said, however, when such matters were referred to the court, the people must be prepared to accept the verdict.

"When we go to court, we must accept the decision of the court. There are times when the decision may not be to our expectation and there are times it will be against us.

"We must accept whatever the decision of the court because they are the judges. There will be chaos if we do

not respect the decision.

"It is vital that we uphold the rule of law because a nation without law will be in disarray," the Prime Minister said.

Dr Mahathir said this after the breaking of fast at Masjid Kampung Wang Tepus here. Also present were his wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali, Menteri Besar Tan Sri Osman Aroff and Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Dr Abdul Hamid Othman.

About 1,000 people joined the Prime Minister in breaking fast.

The Prime Minister said the people should appreciate harmony.

They should also be grateful to live in a country like Malaysia which was not beset with natural disasters.

"We read about the shooting incident which killed Muslims while they were praying and the incident in

Bosnia-Herzegovina where 60 people were killed when a market was bombed.

"But here in Malaysia, we are not scared of anything. We don't even think of such terrorism here. In many countries, people feel unsafe."

Dr Mahathir said the prevailing peace in the country should be protected, adding that people must respect the law enforcers like the police and the army who were entrusted to uphold the law.

Dr Mahathir called on the people to respect and cooperate with the police when they were performing their duties.

Dr Mahathir later donated prayer mats to the mosque.

Earlier today, Dr Mahathir visited Pekan Rabu in Alor Star, the market where he started his business venture as a trader in his younger days, to shop for some traditional *kuih*.

Dr Mahathir was accom-

panied by Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah.

They also visited stalls offering Hari Raya cookies and Dr Siti Hasmah ordered some.

Dr Mahathir never fails to visit Pekan Rabu every Ramadan when he returns to Kedah to break fast with his constituents in Kubang Pasu.

He and his wife were here to break fast with the people at Masjid Wang Tepus in Jitra.

Dr Siti Hasmah, who is president of Bakti, the Ministers and Deputy Ministers' Wives Welfare Organisation, also presented donations and clothes to the poor at her house in Titi Gajah.

Dr Siti Hasmah also presented donations for the poor in Tunjang and Perlis.

She said Bakti had donated RM18,900 to the victims of the Kuala Perlis fire last week.