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DR MAHATHIR AND DR SITI HASMAH WISH M'SIANS A MERRY X'MAS

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 24 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah wish all Malaysians of the Christian faith a merry Christmas.

He said the country was very fortunate because its multi-racial and multi-religious people were able to celebrate their festivities one after another without any obstacles.

"This testifies to Malaysians being tolerant and respectful of each other's religions," he said in a message released here today.

"There is no doubt that it is this tolerance which has resulted in the country being peaceful and prosperous," Dr Mahathir added.

The Prime Minister said that where people were intolerant, even when there were no religious or ethnic differences, there was no peace and prosperity.

He said Malaysians should all continue to be tolerant and careful about each other's sensitivities.

"We will lose nothing by doing so. In fact we have much to gain, for peace is one of the most sought after situations in human society. We will only realise how important peace is when we lose it. But we need not allow this loss to take place before we appreciate it," he said.

On the occasion of this joyous day, Malaysians should not forget to continue the tradition of visiting their friends who celebrate Christmas, Dr Mahathir said. -- BERNAMA

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