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DR MAHATHIR BEGINS "VILLAGE VISITS BY LEADERS" PROGRAMME

BANTING, Jan 20 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today begins the "village visits by leaders" programme by visiting Kampung Endah in Kuala Langat.

Dr Mahathir said such visits were to ensure that leaders did not neglect rural development after enjoying success in urban areas.

"All of us are from villages including Umno which was set up by villagers and if we forget the villages that means we also forget our past," he said.

Dr Mahathir said such an attitude would be detrimental to those who adopt it.

Kampung Endah, a remote village in the Kuala Langat district, emerged as a successful village due to the strong ties among its residents.

The Prime Minister's wife, Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali, Menteri Besar Tan Sri Muhammad Muamad Taib, Rural Development Minister Datuk Annuar Musa as well as National Unity and Social Development Minister Datin Paduka Zaleha Ismail were also present. -- Bernama