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Noordin - Congress

A POETICAL WELCOMING ADDRESS BY NOORDIN SOPIEE AT NATIONAL CONGRESS

PETALING JAYA, April 29 (Bernama) -- Some 800 participants and invited guests at today's opening of the National Congress on Vision 2020 had the pleasant and rare experience of hearing a welcoming address delivered in poetry.

The congress organising chairman, Datuk Nordin Sopiie chose poetry as the medium for his speech to welcome Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to open the two-day event.

In his poetry, entitled "futuristic", he said the future generation would be surprise to learn of a brave and determined leader, Mahathir bin Mohamad, who came 100 years before them and dreamt of an extraordinary vision which was accepted by the people who also helped to make the vision of making Malaysia a developed country into a reality.

Noordin, who is also Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) Director-General, said future historians would realise how grateful Malaysians then to the present generation.

This was because the success and progress they enjoyed were the result of this extraordinary vision of the Prime Minister, he said at the function at Bandar Sunway, near here.

Dr Mahathir, in response, hoped that 100 years from now no one would be surprise in seeing traces of history instead of the progress planned when visiting the venue of today's opening ceremony,

Although historical relics drew tourists, he hoped it would not happen to Malaysia.

"We hope what we plan now will succeed so that people will not come to see traces of history but our progress," he said. -- BERNAMA

AH ABG