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AWARD BEFITTING PM'S EFFORTS TO PROMOTE ISLAM, SAYS ORGANISATION

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 17 (Bernama) -- The Dawoodi Bohra Muslim Association has described as "befitting" the award of the 1997 King Faisal International Prize to Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad for his service to Islam.

"The award is most befitting because the Prime Minister has earned it through his tireless efforts in propagating and implementing the universal message of this great religion," its honorary secretary, Sajad Hussein Kamarally, said in a statement today.

He said Islam in Malaysia had made a great impact since Dr Mahathir took office with the various policy changes he introduced having helped the nation to progress and enhanced the image of Islam in the country and the world.

Sajad Hussein said Dr Mahathir proved that Islam was vibrant and suitable for all times.

The announcement on the award was made two days ago by Prince Bandar bin Saud bin Khaled Al-Saud, the secretary-general of the King Faisal Foundation, who informed Dr Mahathir in Los Angeles by telephone.

The prize carries with it a certificate, a commemorative 200gm gold medallion and SR750,000 (RM500,000) cash. -- BERNAMA

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