

18 JAN 1997

Award

KING FAISAL AWARD MOST APPROPRIATE FOR DR MAHATHIR, SAYS ABIM

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 18 (Bernama) -- The Muslim Youth Movement of Malaysia (Abim) said today that Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad appropriately deserves the 1997 King Faisal International Prize for Service to Islam.

"The implementation of Islamic policies and development in Malaysia under his leadership speak volumes of Dr Mahathir's achievements in the way of Islam," Abim secretary general Ahmad Azam Abdul Rahman said in a statement here.

"Malaysians of all walks of life, Abim in particular, are proud of Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's versatile leadership," he said.

The King Faisal award carries with it a certificate, a commemorative 200gm gold medallion and a cash prize of SR750,000 (RM500,000).

Ahmad Azam said Abim was also proud of Dr Mahathir's successful launching of Malaysia's Multimedia Super Corridor which has attracted 28 leaders in the information technology industry worldwide.

Meanwhile in a separate statement, Abim condemned a Western nation for masterminding the invasion on Sudan this week, with Ethiopia and Sudanese rebels as its proxy and main players.

The statement however did not name the Western nation.

"From the events that preceded the attacks, it was apparent that the Western nation was the power behind the campaign to destabilise Sudan. Coddling with Ethiopia and the Sudanese rebels, therefore, was the most logical step the Western nation could successfully launch her hidden agenda," said Ahmad Azam. -- BERNAMA

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