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Mahathir-Fanatics

DR MAHATHIR WANTS MUSLIMS NOT TO BE FANATICS

BUKIT KAYU HITAM, Jan 16 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamed tonight advised Muslims not to be extreme and fanatic in championing their political ideologies because this could endanger a country.

Dr Mahathir said fanaticism could cause the followers of a group to commit murder among Muslims themselves.

He said Muslims should practise moderation and abide by the true teachings of Islam.

"That is why the government is always calling on Muslims to be moderate, whatever their political ideologies," he said at a breaking of fast at the Immigration Complex, here.

Present was Besar Perlis Datuk Seri Shahidan Kassim.

The function was attended by about 150 people comprising state executive councillors, government officers and local residents. Also present were several Thai immigration officers on duty at the border checkpoint.

Citing the mass killing of Muslims in Algeria and the killing of foreign tourists in Egypt recently, Dr Mahathir said he was sad that such things happened in Muslim nations.

"I am very sad that although Muslims in Malaysia live in peace and harmony, there is terrible pressure on Muslims in other countries," he said.

Such things like the killings which cause pressure continue to occur in countries led by Muslims but not in non-Islamic countries, he added.

"What kind of Muslims are prepared to kill their brothers in religion solely to fulfil their political ideologies? Does our religion ask us to slaughter the aged and innocent children?" he said.

"We must guard from the start so that such terrible things do not happen to our country because small things can become big if left unchecked," he said.

He urged Muslims to keep their feelings in check in whatever situation so that peace and prosperity would prevail. -- BERNAMA

MZM MAI JK