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Mahathir-Knowledge

KNOWLEDGE AND CULTURE FOR COUNTRY'S DEVELOPMENT, SAYS DR MAHATHIR

KOTA KINABALU, Feb 19 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said the people need to pursue a combination of knowledge and culture in order to ensure the country's progress.

No country could be successful as planned without such a combination, said the Prime Minister at a meeting with academic staff and students of Universiti Malaysia Sabah here today.

"It will be a waste if we are given assistance such as a scholarship and we do not value it," he said.

Dr Mahathir said only those who realise that wastage was bad would make progress.

"Only those who know how to value the assistance given and to use it in the pursuit of knowledge would be successful," he said.

Dr Mahathir hoped university students would make full use of their time to pursue knowledge, to identify and to be imbued with the appropriate cultural values as well as to have a vision for the future.

"Having a vision should be our cultural trait as when we have a vision, we are then ready to achieve our aims," he said.

The Prime Minister also said that he was proud of the establishment of the UMS in Sabah as it meant the vision and aim of the government has been achieved.

"When I officiated at the university's ground breaking in 1994, I had promised that a university would be built if the Barisan Nasional won and now I could be proud since the construction of UMS is now into its second phase," he said.

He also referred to the two bridges, one old and the other new, which he noticed while on his way to the university.

"The old bridge appears empty as it is for use by pedestrians, cyclists and light vehicles while the new bridge under construction appears wide and steady... with a vision as it seems to be a 30-year into the future planning," he said.

UMS took in its first intake of 270 students in 1995 and it now has 3,000 students.

-- BERNAMA

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