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PM regrets tarawih prayers misused for political gains

LANGKAWI, Mon. - Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has expressed regret that tarawih prayers are being made use of by certain people for political gains.

The Prime Minister said this unhealthy trend was prevalent in various parts of the country.

Tarawih prayers are held after the Isyak prayers during the fasting month.

Dr Mahathir, who did not identify the people concerned, said he was saddened by this as the fasting month was a period to forgive and forget amongst Muslims.

He said Muslims went to mosques for the prayers but their peace of mind was being disturbed by people who gave sermons which were scandalous and belittled others.

Speaking before breaking fast with Muslims at the Al-Hanna mosque in Kuah tonight, Dr Mahathir said the fasting month was a time for Muslims to get together and forget whatever differences.

He said there was no reason for supporters of political parties to continue with their grievances as the election was over.

"Some lost and some gained and even formed State Governments. So why must we continue to sow discord and disunity?" he asked.

"Once the election is over, the people should unite and forget their political differences for the sake of the country."

He said there was no reason why peace loving Malaysians could not do the same.

Earlier on arrival at the Langkawi International Airport he was met by Menteri Besar Datuk Syed Razak Syed Zain and State Exco members. He later visited various tourism projects.

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