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Mahathir-Orphans

SOCIETY SHOULD HELP ORPHANS, SAYS DR MAHATHIR

PETALING JAYA, Dec 21 (Bernama) -- The welfare of orphans in the country is the responsibility of society, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

"The life of orphans should be the same as that of children with parents, and it is the duty of society to realise this objective," he said.

He said as long as there was willingness to help, the well-being of the less fortunate could be improved.

"When the less fortunate are helped, they will help others when they grow up, and this will create a caring society," he said when presenting Hari Raya and schooling aid to orphans here.

Present were the Prime Minister's wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali and Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Paduka Abdul Hamid Othman.

A total of 352 orphans received RM80 each in Raya aid and between RM200 and RM250 each in school aid.

The prime minister said orphans should be grateful for the aid extended to them by society.

"Don't be influenced by the teaching that we need not be thankful to the people who help us as the aid comes from God...although it is true the aid comes from God, there are people doing good deeds to help us and we should also thank them," he said.

He said if the less fortunate showed a lack of gratefulness, the number of people willing to help them would decrease.

-- BERNAMA

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