

12 NOV 2001

DR MAHATHIR ATTENDS GATHERING OF ISLAMIC INTELLECTUALS

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 12 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad tonight attended a gathering here of some 1,000 Islamic intellectuals and ulama from all over the country.

The gathering, part of a three-day programme, is to have a close look at actions and approaches in supporting the declaration of Malaysia as an Islamic state.

Dr Mahathir also addressed them during the closed-door session.

The programme is organised by the Special Affairs Department of the Information Ministry, Umno's Islamic Affairs Bureau and Yayasan Dakwah Islamiah Malaysia.

The objective is to foster closer ties between the ulama and government leaders as well as setting up a network of intellectuals and ulama, capable of explaining to the people the government's policies, role and actions in religious issues.

Several working papers on Islamic state are also tabled during the programme.

-- BERNAMA
MAM MAM ABG