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Mahathir-Puteri

MAINTAIN UMNO'S IMAGE AT ALL TIMES, DR M ADVISES PUTERI UMNO

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 3 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister and Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has advised Puteri Umno to maintain the party's good name at all times and function as one entity of Umno.

He hoped the movement of younger women would nurture a noble culture to ensure Umno remain attractive to the future generation which would have a higher idealism.

"This is the party's hope and the Malays in general for Puteri Umno. I'm confident Puteri Umno will not disappoint them," he said in his message in the souvenir programme in conjunction with the official launch of Puteri Umno at the Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC) here tonight.

In congratulating Puteri Umno as a new wing of Umno, he said the setting up of the wing showed Umno was open and sensitive to changes provided it brought goodness and befitted the party's needs.

He said Puteri Umno provided good opportunities to younger Malay women to take an active part in politics, especially in Umno.

Dr Mahathir said Puteri Umno could be regarded as preparing the second echelon leaders who would eventually take over the roles of Wanita Umno and Umno itself.

He said previously younger Malay women, who were keen to join and play a role in Umno, found that they had not much opportunities to enable them to move effectively.

Such opportunities could be provided through Puteri Umno and they could contribute in a more positive way, he said.

"Through Puteri Umno, we can identify new talents at an early stage," he said, adding that although not all would become leaders, the contributions of ordinary members were also important in the political arena.

The four-month-old Puteri Umno is led by its pro tem chief Azalina Othman Said, a lawyer by training.

-- BERNAMA

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