

06/06/2001

Read history books, says PM

PUTRAJAYA, Tues. - Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today urged Malaysians to read history books as they can learn lessons from them and not repeat past mistakes.

He said the problem in Malaysia now was that many people still did not know the country's history.

"We should, therefore, read more history books to widen our knowledge and to ensure we do not repeat the mistakes."

He was speaking at the launching of the book entitled The Propagation of Islam in the Indonesian-Malay Archipelago at his office.

The book is written by Malaysian Sociological Research Institute chairman Dr Alijah Gordon.

On the book, Dr Mahathir said there were many things Malaysians, Muslims and non-Muslims, could learn, especially how the archipelago was colonised by many quarters, including the Portuguese and the Japanese.

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