

30 DEC 2002

DR MAHATHIR'S DIALOGUE WITH ISLAMIC THINKERS

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 30 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad held a closed-door dialogue with Islamic thinkers who attended a discourse, here tonight.

The discourse was organised by the Special Affairs Department of the Information Ministry, responsible to address various issues like Malaysia as an Islamic state, the Malay struggle and national unity.

The three-day discourse, that started yesterday, discussed various topics including jihad and challenges in the modern era, Islamic education to create a strong Muslim generation and Malaysia's efforts to be a developed Islamic country.

Among those who presented ceramahs were Dakwah Islamiah Malaysia Foundation President Datuk Nakhaie Ahmad, Academic Director of Islamic Studies of Universiti Malaya Prof Datuk Paduka Dr Mahmood Zuhdi Abd Majid and Dean of Islamic Studies Faculty in Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia Assoc Prof Mohd Yusoff Hussain.

Also present were Information Minister Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob, his Deputy Datuk Zainuddin Maidin and Prime Minister's Religious Adviser Tan Sri Dr Abdul Hamid Othman.

--BERNAMA

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