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Mahathir-CNN

MAHATHIR CRITICISES CNN OVER INTERVIEW

SEPANG, May 17 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today criticised CNN for not allowing him the opportunity to explain important issues even though he has been invited for an exclusive interview which was aired last night.

"The CNN interviewer adopted the same approach which was to make a long statement accusing us of this and that and then put forward a question which was unrelated to her earlier statement," he told reporters at the KL International Airport (KLIA) on his return after a four-day visit to the United States.

Dr Mahathir said that in this way, it would appear as if the interviewee had agreed with the statement made by the interviewer.

"This was the dirty tactic employed by the CNN in not allowing me the opportunity to answer whereas they were the ones who had invited me for the interview," he said.

If the interview was observed carefully, he said, his interviewer could be seen more to be expressing her own opinion than asking him for his views.

"If he had wanted to express his views, then why interview me," he said.

Asked to comment on accusations by the foreign media that Malaysia was undemocratic towards the opposition, the prime minister said that some other countries, compared to Malaysia, was more merciless towards the opposition.

"...their actions are more cruel, there being no trials at all but this appeared to have been ignored...the actions of other countries are not focused, they only focus on Malaysia," he said.

-- BERNAMA

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