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Mahathir-Children

SOWING THE SEEDS OF HATRED WILL DESTROY SOCIETY, SAYS PM

PETALING JAYA, Jan 21 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today the act of inciting children to hate certain people would destroy society and themselves.

On the other hand, Dr Mahathir said, if the children were allowed to live without instigation by certain groups, they would become good citizens and contribute to national development.

He said every child was born free of hatred and had no evil intention.

"But if the children are imbued with the feeling of hatred...and they are taught to hate certain people and call other people by such names as 'Pharoah' and so on, and if this is allowed to go on, it will not only destroy society but also themselves," he said.

Dr Mahathir said this when launching the community centre sponsored by the Puteri Umno Malaysia movement at the Taman Seri Manja flats, here.

He said those who were sowing the seeds of hatred among the children hoped that when these children grew up they would hate certain people, and on the other hand support the people who had imbued them with the feeling of hatred.

"This is their evil intention. There are also people who give pictures to the children to be torn and stepped upon. Certainly the mind of these children would be filled with hatred without knowing the reasons for it," he said.

Dr Mahathir said the act of sowing the seeds of hatred against certain people among the children was against the teachings of Islam but those who indulged in such acts were not bothered about this fact.

He said there were certain people in the country who set up kindergartens with the intention of polluting the mind of these children and sowing the seeds of hatred among them.

"If they are imbued with certain beliefs, such beliefs will remain in them and their mind, and this will influence their lives for ever," he said.

Dr Mahathir praised the Puteri Umno movement for providing the community centre to enable the children to acquire knowledge.

The prime minister said those who refused to acquire knowledge would suffer in future and might not get good job opportunities.

-- BERNAMA

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