

Encyclopaedia on Mahathir launched

BY CELESTE FONG

STAR

22 SEP 2003

KUALA LUMPUR: Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi launched the *Encyclopaedia of Dr Mahathir Mohamad* last night, saying that the Prime Minister's ideas, thoughts and vision would continue to inspire Malaysians in future.

The Deputy Prime Minister said the encyclopaedia was of historical significance and described Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's ideas as "bold, daring and thought provoking."

Future leaders of the country and the Muslim world could also gain from the publication, he said when launching the encyclopaedia at the cultural activity centre of the International Islamic University in Gombak.

"Dr Mahathir is no political day dreamer. He embraces a 'can do' posture and stance," he said.

"He is the one leader who has added a lot of meaning to Malaysia," said Abdullah, describing Dr Mahathir as "the greatest Malay leader in history."

In a pre-recorded speech, Dr Mahathir said the encyclopaedia comprised his speeches reflecting his views, ideas and concerns on a number of issues, adding: "I had to change the attitude of the traditional Muslim thinking."

The encyclopaedia, published by Darul Fikir Sdn Bhd, has three editions - English, Arabic and a bilingual edition.