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Zainuddin-Mahathir

APPRECIATING DR MAHATHIR'S SERVICES IS NOT IDOLISING HIM, SAYS ZAINUDDIN

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 12 (Bernama) -- Efforts to appreciate Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's services to the nation during his 22 years as Prime Minister come from the people themselves, said Deputy Information Minister Datuk Zainuddin Maidin.

He said the contributions and achievements of Dr Mahathir were clearly visible to others to see whether inside or outside the country and how could certain people equate it with idolising him.

"These irresponsible people do not see the positive side of it," he told reporters after opening a national-level narrative competition here today.

Zainuddin said he believed Malaysians were smarter than that to believe in such rubbish.

Asked on many books written by local writers on fallen politicians but not the country leaders like first Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Al-Haj, he said it was an attempt by them to clear the image of such leaders and indirectly these writings could have influence on the facts relating to the country's history and politics.

Zainuddin also wanted writers to write on country's leaders who fought for independence such as Tunku Abdul Rahman and Tun Husein Onn.

There were of course books in English but they were not translated into Malay, making it inaccessible to those who did not the language, he said.

On the competition, he hoped that the youths would take advantage of the progress achieved by the country to better themselves.

A total of 15 state champions will vie for the challenge trophy and RM3,000.

-- BERNAMA
NKB KHY ABG