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Mahathir-Mufti

MAHATHIR'S AL AZHAR SPEECH A WAKE-UP CALL FOR MUSLIMS, SAY TWO MUFTI

CAIRO, Jan 23 (Bernama) -- Two Islamic scholars, following Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on his working visit to Egypt, said today the matters he raised in his speech at Al Azhar University here on Wednesday were certainly relevant to efforts to restore the greatness that was once Islam.

The Mufti of Johor Datuk Nooh Gadot said the question of Muslim unity raised by Prime Minister was the key to their strength.

"There is no point of achieving development in other aspects if there is no unity among Muslims," he told Malaysian journalists covering Dr Mahathir's visit.

Dr Mahathir had among others criticised Muslims for neglecting the true teachings of Islam, causing them to be divided and weak.

He also took to task some Muslims who collaborated with with the enemies of Islam, willing even to the extent of fighting fellow Muslims.

Nooh said that what Dr Mahathir said rang true and he made it known because he cared for the future of the ummah.

The deputy Mufti of Kelantan Datuk Shukri Mohamad meanwhile said that the matters raised by Dr Mahathir in his speech were in line with Islamic injunction.

"And if we measure our own shortcomings especially relating to our understanding of Islam, if we can rectify this, the Muslims will be strong once again," he said.

He was also asked to comment on the part of Dr Mahathir's speech on a political party in Malaysia which succeeded in making its supporters to believe that those who did not support it were not Muslims.

"That is only an example. In fact, throughout the Islamic world there are such elements as in Malaysia. Although it looks local, actually it is a global issue," said Shukri.

-- BERNAMA

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