

21 JUN 2003

UMNO: NST GROUP EDITOR READS POEM AT AGM

KUALA LUMPUR, June 21 (Bernama) -- For the first time in Umno's 54-year general assembly history, a member of the media was given the honour of reading a poem at the event today.

New Straits Times Sdn Bhd Group Editor Datuk Ahmad A. Talib said he received inspiration to write the poem after listening to the opening speech by Umno President Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad at the assembly Thursday.

Ahmad said he applied for permission from Umno secretary-general Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob that day to read out his poem.

With 30 years under his belt as a reporter, Ahmad had often covered Dr Mahathir's functions locally and abroad.

"I dedicate this poem to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, to the leader who has given a lot of guidance, not only to myself as a Malay individual but to all the Malays in general," he said.

Ahmad later handed the text of the poem to Dr Mahathir at the assembly.

-- BERNAMA

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