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Ignorant of driving force

Othman Talib

ABOUT 1.3 billion Muslims from all over the world seem not to be preoccupied with the implicit meaning of Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad's controversial speech at the recent Organisation of Islamic Conference Summit.

They only applauded when he said "the Jews rule the world by proxy" as if this fact will bail Muslims out of their problems.

How do we accept to remain marginalised in a world which only recognises strength and wealth-producing knowledge? Some even questioned the statement whether the Jews really rule the world or the West compensates them for the crimes of oppression it committed against them.

The issue is, why do we remain backward? What was done by the Jews who are a minority to be so excellent that they rule the world by proxy? The way we react to Dr Mahathir's statement denotes an acute crisis of intellect in the Islamic world, an intellect dealing with form, not with essence, with outer actions, not with inner thoughts.

It is the same crisis in dealing with Islam itself. Muslims are still not aware of the driving force in their religion. They are negligent of the beautiful meaning of ibadah (worship) in Islam by confining it to Islamic rites.

OTHMAN TALIB

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