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Mahathir-Book

ARABIC VERSION OF DR MAHATHIR'S BOOK LAUNCHED IN ABU DHABI

By: Shakir Husain

ABU DHABI, Feb 11 (Bernama) -- An Arabic edition of Prime Minister

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's book "A New Deal for Asia" was launched

here on Saturday.

Speaking on the occasion, the Malaysian ambassador to the United Arab

Emirates, Datuk Syed Hussain Al Habshee, said the Arabic version of the

book would help the Arabic-speaking people "in understanding some important

aspects of globalisation from an Asian perspective".

He said the book had been widely read in its Russian, Japanese and

Malay versions and efforts were on to translate it into Chinese and Thai

languages.

In his book, Dr Mahathir shares his experience in tackling the Asian

financial crisis, to the dismay of his detractors abroad, Syed Hussein

said.

"It is hoped that the experience would serve as a useful lesson to

enable the Arab countries to be vigilant and to be better prepared in

facing a similar financial turmoil," he said.

"Being a prime minister is a full-time job, yet despite his busy schedule and responsibilities, Dr Mahathir has found time to write this

book and several others, namely "The Way Forward", "The Malay Dilemma" and

"The Challenge", " Syed Hussain said at the ceremony, which was attended by

Special Officer to the Prime Minister Datuk Hashim Makaruddin, Undersecretary at the UAE Ministry of Information Saqer Ghobash and several

top local officials.

According to the Malaysian ambassador, Dr Mahathir's other books may

also be published in Arabic to promote his ideas in West Asia.

The Dubai-based publisher, Linguapower Trading, will distribute the new

edition of the book in the Gulf region under an agreement signed on Friday

with Pelanduk Publications of Malaysia.

This book would promote relations between the UAE and Malaysia, Linguapower chief Dr Aquil Hadi said.

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