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Council-Mahathir

DR MAHATHIR HAILED AS NEW MILLENNIUM HERO OF THE MALAYS

KOTA BAHARU, July 5 (Bernama) -- A non-governmental organisation (NGO), the Kelantan People's Action Council (MTRK) has hailed Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad as the new millennium hero of the Malays.

In a four-page declaration, read out by its president Datuk Ibrahim Ali at the end of a leadership course here today, it expressed appreciation for Dr Mahathir's contributions in enhancing the country's development and economy.

It said Dr Mahathir had also succeeded in raising Malaysia's name at the international level as a model Islamic state, it said.

"MTRK also appreciates Dr Mahathir's contributions to the development of Kelantan even though the state is under the opposition," it said.

The MTRK hoped that the government would create an authoritative and effective post for Dr Mahathir so that he could continue to play his role especially at the international level.

"This is because Dr Mahathir is still capable and his services greatly needed by the Islamic and developing countries in the era of globalisation.

The MTRK also expressed its undivided support to Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi as Dr Mahathir's successor in the government and Umno.

"The MTRK is also confident that Abdullah will continue to struggle for the welfare and interest of the people of Kelantan and fight those who use religion for personal and political interest," it said.

Gua Musang Member of Parliament Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah opened the course attended by 899 people while Kelantan Umno Chief Datuk Mustapa Mohamed officiated at the closing ceremony.

-- BERNAMA

RAR ABG