

Dr M Calls On Malaysians To Help Syrians In Need
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KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 27 (Bernama) -- Former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad on Friday officially launched a humanitarian relief fund for Syrian refugees escaping a civil war and called on Malaysians to help the Syrians in need.

Dr Mahathir, who is president of the Perdana Global Peace Foundation, launched the Media Prima Berhad Syrian Humanitarian Fund set up in collaboration with volunteer relief organisation Mercy Malaysia.

Also present at the launch were Media Prima executive director of news and editorial operations Datuk Ahmad A. Talib and Mercy Malaysia president Datuk Dr Ahmad Faizal Mohd Perdaus.

Dr Mahathir said more than two million Syrians seeking refuge along the country's borders were in urgent need of aid such as water, medicines and sanitation.

"The camps housing these refugees are most uncomfortable and the people have to put up with all kinds of diseases," he said at the launch.

Dr Mahathir praised Media Prima and Mercy Malaysia and said Malaysians could help ease the plight of the Syrian people by donating to the fund.

He said the Syrian refugees, many of whom were children, had to seek shelter at the country's borders with Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan.

"We are trying to help the Syrian people, and many of them are Christians. I hope we are not confining ourselves to only helping the Muslims. We are helping humanity," he said.

The public can donate to the fund through Maybank (account no. 5642-7651-1200) or CIMB Bank (account no. 1422-0000930-10-4) in the name of "Tabung Kemanusiaan Syria Media Prima Berhad".

Donations can be sent by cheque in the name of "Tabung Kemanusiaan Syria Media Prima Berhad" to the Group Corporate Communications Department, Media Prima Berhad, Level 1, Anjung Riong, Balai Berita, 31 Jalan Riong, 59100 Kuala Lumpur.

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