

**Increasing Participation in Writing Contest Good for Community - Dr Mahathir
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PUTRAJAYA, Jan 27 (Bernama) -- Increasing participation in a contest such as in writing and photography will have a positive impact for a community, says former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

"A country which is full of winners will be successful. There are times one will be down but the person needs to get up and try again," he said.

Dr Mahathir said this in his closing remarks for Maybank Foundation-Perdana Leadership Foundation Writing and Photo Contest 2015 Prize-giving Ceremony here Wednesday.

According to a joint statement by Maybank Foundation and Perdana Leadership Foundation, more than 4,000 entries for the contest were received in all categories, and the number exceeded the target by 100 per cent.

Themed, 'Empowering Youth for a Better ASEAN', the contest which ran from May to September last year aimed to develop Malaysians to be among notable leaders in the region.

The contest offered three categories of entry, namely fiction, essay and photo essay. It was open to Malaysians aged 13-21.

During the event today, Dr Mahathir presented prizes to the top three winners in all categories.

In total, the contest offered prizes of more than RM380,000 to 360 young Malaysians.

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