

Penyampai : DATO SERI DR SITI HASMAH BINTI HAJI MOHD ALI
Tajuk : MAJLIS PERASMIAN "MULTIMEDIA UNIVERSITY INTER-CAMPUS GAMES 2001"
Lokasi : MMU (KAMPUS MELAKA)
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Terlebih dahulu saya bersyukur kehadiran Allah S.W.T. kerana dengan rahmat dan limpahNya dapat kita berkumpul pada pagi ini dalam satu majlis yang cukup meriah, iaitu majlis perasmian "Multimedia University Inter- Campus Games 2001". Saya mengucapkan tahniah kepada pihak penganjur di atas iktizam dan komitmen tinggi yang telah memungkinan berlangsungnya acara sukan ini.

2. It is certainly a pleasure for me to be here with you once again in this beautiful campus of Melaka, and to be able to officiate the Multimedia University Inter- Campus Games 2001. As you know, sports has always been something very close to my heart and on this particular morning, I feel a special elation at being able to share this moment with you.

3. I would like to congratulate the athletes that have been selected to represent their campuses to compete in this event. I certainly commend your efforts, vigorous training and commitment in striving to achieve excellence in the sports arena, and also for taking time off your busy academic schedules to train and participate in this event. In the university's perpetual efforts to produce graduates of the highest quality, I am delighted to observe that the development of physical health has not been forsaken. MMU aims to produce graduates that not only excel in academic pursuits, but also in sports and co-curricular activities, so that they become wholesome in all aspects, and truly embody the idea of the "perfect graduate".

4. I am made to understand that the Inter Campus Games 2001 aims to expand further the efforts of the university to promote sporting excellence among students, and create healthy competition in sports between both the campuses of Cyberjaya and Melaka. I hope this event will lead to similar endeavours in future and forge strong ties between Melaka and Cyberjaya campuses. This endeavour is also a reminder to the student community that the University encourages and assists students in participating in sports, whether for leisure or competition. While we must agree that winning brings us instant gratification, we must also value the recognition of good sportsmanship as the main element in sports. There is no satisfaction in winning if we know that we have not played fairly, or have not given our best.

5. There is certainly no disappointment in losing, if we know we have given our best effort and have adhered to all the rules of the game. In exposing themselves to the competitive atmosphere in this event, athletes will be able to gird themselves mentally and physically to face the challenges that are brought on in other high level competitions.

6. This event will also ultimately unearth the best from both campuses to represent MMU in the Inter-Varsity tournament in August, and also in other sports events. I am confident that in combining talents from both campuses of MMU, the university is able to eventually produce a strong team that could ultimately bring honour and recognition to MMU. I am also very happy to know that MMU has an active badminton team. As you know, badminton is the sport dear to my heart. It is my earnest desire that MMU's badminton team does the university proud and joins the ranks of the nation's top badminton players.

7. You are all young and healthy and should be excellent in playing badminton. I must tell you something which would probably motivate you to play badminton seriously.

8. At this very moment, contingents of badminton players from wives of Federal and State Government Leaders from 12 states are practising and training vigorously for the Annual Badminton Championship to win the Challenge Cup, Piala Perdana. They are not young. Their average age is 42 years, their average weight is 54kgs and they are mothers and grandmothers. We have been in this competition since 1985 and still growing strong. The 16th Championship will be held at the KLBA Stadium in Cheras from 1st to 5th of August. And I assure you, they are very strong, not only physically but also has a tremendous spirit of sportsmanship. It is their spirit that keeps members of the 12 contingents to continue to play badminton

for the past 16 years.

9. I would have led my BAKTI team again this August had I not ruptured my Right shoulder ligaments and tore my shoulder cuff in 1999, 2 months prior to our annual championships. Now the doctors have warned me not to play anymore. Rashid Sidek retired at aged 30, your Chancellor had to retire from badminton at aged 73! If I had not hung up my racquet then, I would have probably be playing with the Staff against you, Students, and giving you a good smashing! But as I've said the mind is ever willing but the body is not! 10. In this fast-paced society which demands innovation, competitiveness and flexibility, graduates are expected to possess, not only high intellectual capabilities, but also exuberate a high tolerance level, and possess strong mental, physical and emotional capabilities. These are attributes which can certainly be cultivated through involvement in sports.

Good sportsmanship through involvement in sports also develops a person's moral, ethical and spiritual values, because the highest standards which are practised in the field, will be absorbed into one's personality and become his or her code of ethics. While good behaviour stems from such high values, participating in sports will also instill the love of one's country, and will ultimately contribute towards nation building. I strongly believe that sports bring people together, promote excellence, mutual understanding and peace, and unite them in their strive to achieve a common dream. "Kemesraan Melalui Sukan"- (Goodwill Through Sports) is BAKTI's Annual Championships slogan and it can be well applied to MMU sports.

11. As the Chancellor of MMU, and an avid sports fan, I strongly support the University's endeavour to promote sports. Excellence in sports can be a main factor in propelling a nation into the international arena. A good example is South Korea and its achievements derived from organising the 25th Olympiad. Many other sports personalities like Nadia Comaneci, the gymnast from Romania, have caused their country to beam with pride and left a mark in the world today because of sports.

12. In this light, I certainly look forward to the day when MMU students do the university proud by attaining high standards in sports, become representatives of our beloved homeland, Malaysia, and bring us honour and recognition by winning international competitions. The ultimate reward of all sportsmen - an Olympic medal. I believe this is achievable if we push ourselves hard enough. A good example is Nicole David, the teenage squash player who has done our country proud by winning medals at international levels. I certainly hope that one of MMU's students will emulate her footsteps in becoming one of the most celebrated athletes in Malaysia.

13. In concluding, I would like to see all of you giving your best and observing good sportsmanship while upholding the spirit of healthy competition. At the same time do have fun while playing, competing and getting to know your counterparts from your sister campus. I count on all of you to bring the name of MMU to the highest level in the sports arena. So, go ahead and do us proud.

14. Maka dengan harapan yang menggunung, dengan lafaz Bismillahir rahmanir rahim, saya dengan sukacitanya merasmikan "Multimedia University Inter Campus Games 2001".