

New Straits Times  
Tue, 18 April 2017  
CRUCIAL ROLE

## 'Nation's rise or fall depends on advisers'

**KUALA LUMPUR:** The rise and fall of a country depends on the wisdom of advisers to its leader, said Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi.

He said an adviser had a role in determining the success of a nation, and his failure to carry out his responsibilities well would result in the downfall of the government.

"The formation of a nation does not only depend on the kings and political leaders, but also by the advisers to the leaders.

"The downfall of a leader usually is the result of his advisers,



Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi with participants of the 'Road to World Skills Competition Abu Dhabi 2017' event in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. With them are Human Resources Minister Datuk Seri Richard Riot Jaem and Works Minister Datuk Seri Fadillah Yusof. PIC BY MUHD ZAABA ZAKERIA

who in the end, become a *punah-sihat* (failed adviser).

"If the personality of a leader is good, but ruined by advisers who fail to carry out their duties and only care about personal gain, it will destroy the leadership in the end," he said when launching a book titled *Negara Masalah Dalam Konteks Malaysia* at Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC) here yesterday.

Present was Universiti Teknologi Malaysia vice-chancellor Datuk Dr Wahid Omar.

The book, written by PWTC

chairman Tan Sri Dr Alies Anor Abdul, revolves around political system and government administration.

The book also discusses the role of prominent Islamic scholar Al-Ghazali, who was an adviser during the past Muslim caliphates of Abbasid and Umayyad.

Zahid said a good adviser would not limit himself to just an idea, but would also be open to other perspectives and criticisms.

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## 'Good adviser must listen to other opinions'

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"A good adviser must listen to other opinions. If you stick to the old-fashioned opinion and just think about your ego, then just wait and see... it (the nation) will fall," he said.

At an earlier event, Zahid announced that any Malaysian who won a gold medal at the World Skills Competition (WSC), stood to receive a reward of RM100,000 from the government.

Describing it as a "motivation", Zahid said the monetary reward proved the government's commitment to developing highly skilled workers for the country.

"This is the motivation that I want to give to the participants. We must be a world class," he said when launching the "Road to World Skills Abu Dhabi 2017 Gold" at PWTC yesterday.

Present were Human Resources Minister Datuk Seri Richard Riot Jaem, his deputy Datuk Seri Ismail Muttalib, Works Minister Datuk Seri Fadillah Yusof and his deputy Datuk Rosnah Abdul Rashid Shirlin.

The 44th WSC will be held from Oct 14 to 10 in Abu Dhabi, the United Arab Emirates.

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