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KUALA LUMPUR,

Mon. — The ultimate concern of the Alliance Government is the welfare of the people and not a certain party or party leaders, former Umno Youth leader Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamed said today.

He said this during a question-and-answer session at the Government Staff Training Centre at Petaling Jaya when asked why the Alliance had formed a coalition with the Gerakan in Penang.

Concern

He had earlier spoken about Malaysian political parties when addressing 84 officers from the Home and Foreign services.

Dr. Mahathir said the Penang Coalition Government was formed not because the Alliance loved the Gerakan.

"It is because the Alliance believes that its

participation in the Penang State Government can ensure the smooth implementation of development projects under the Second Malaysia Plan," he added.

"The Alliance Government's utmost and ultimate concern is the welfare of the people and not a certain party or party leaders."

Best choice

Dr. Mahathir said any political party which appealed to communal sentiments could never expect to form a central government in Malaysia.

"Neither can any party which forgets completely the racial origin of its members hope to prosper."

The Alliance, he said, was the best choice because "it is not too communal and its component parties have not forgotten their racial origin."

DAP and PAS, he said, were extremely communal while Party Marhean and Partai Sosialis Rakyat had forgotten their racial origin.

Angry

The success of PAS, DAP, and the Gerakan in the 1969 general election was not because the non-Malays really loved the parties but because they were angry with the Alliance Government.

When asked about his possible return to Umno, Dr. Mahathir said: "I can't say whether I will return to the party. Somebody might want me back, somebody else might not."