

MAHATHIR (BERNAMA EX)

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IPOH, MARCH 26 1972 (BERNAMA) -- DR. MAHATHIR BIN MOHAMED TODAY CRITICISED +CERTAIN QUARTERS+ WHO HAVE MADE +UNFOUNDED ALLEGATIONS+ AGAINST HIM.

IN A TELEPHONE INTERVIEW, HE SAID THAT SUCH MISUNDERSTANDINGS HAD LED MEMBERS OF UMNO, WHICH HE REJOINED RECENTLY, TO HOLD HIM IN SUSPECT.

FOR EXAMPLE, CERTAIN ALLEGATIONS HAD BEEN MADE AGAINST HIM IN HIS CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE SHAKIRAT AMANAH BELIA.

I HOPE THOSE WHO HAVE MADE SUCH ALLEGATIONS WILL COME OUT AND MAKE THEM IN THE OPEN RATHER THAN SPEAK BEHIND MY BACK, + HE SAID.

DR. MAHATHIR ALSO SAID THAT HIS ROLE IN UMNO WOULD DEPEND ON THE SUPPORT HE RECEIVED FROM MEMBERS OF THE PARTY. -- BERNAMA MORE 1453/A1

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MAHATHIR 2 IPOH (BERNAMA EX)

THE MAIN REASON HE REJOINED THE PARTY, HE ADDED, WAS THE CHANGE IN THINKING AND POLICIES WITHIN UMNO RECENTLY.

THERE WAS NOW AN ATTEMPT TO INCORPORATE THE WISHES OF THE PEOPLE INTO THE POLICIES OF THE GOVERNMENT, HE SAID.

DR. MAHATHIR SAID HE HOPED TO PLAY A MORE MEANINGFUL AND USEFUL ROLE IN THE PARTY. HE SAID HE HAD BEEN GROSSLY MISUNDERSTOOD AS AN +ULTRA+ WITHIN THE PARTY.

MEANWHILE, THE IPOH UMNO MEETING HERE TODAY, WHICH DR. MAHATHIR WAS TO HAVE ADDRESSED, HAS BEEN POSTPONED TO APRIL 18.

DR. MAHATHIR COULD NOT MAKE IT TODAY DUE TO PRESSURE OF WORK AT HIS CLINIC IN ALOR STAR. -- BERNAMA 1458/A1