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MAHATHIR-PAROCHIALISM

BM

ALOR STAR, MARCH 17 (BERNAMA) — DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED TODAY ASKED THE PEOPLE TO DROP ANY FEELINGS OF PAROCHIALISM WHICH WOULD ONLY LEAD TO DIVISIVENESS AND THE DESTRUCTION OF THE NATION.

THEY SHOULD ALWAYS REGARD THEMSELVES AS A SINGLE UNITED PEOPLE BECAUSE UNITY WAS A STRONG WEAPON THAT COULD FOIL ATTEMPTS TO DESTROY THE NATION, HE SAID.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SAID THIS AT THE SILVER ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE PADANG LUMAT UMNO BRANCH, 15 MILES FROM HERE.

ALSO PRESENT AT THE FUNCTION WAS THE KEDAH MENTRI BESAR, DATO SRI SYED AHMAD SHAHABUDDIN.

HE SAID THE PEOPLE SHOULD ACCEPT LEADERS WHO WERE NOT FROM THEIR HOME STATE BECAUSE UMNO WAS FOR THE WHOLE COUNTRY AND NOT JUST AN INDIVIDUAL STATE.

DR. MAHATHIR ALSO ASKED LEADERS NOT TO BE GREEDY AND SELFISH, BUT TO WORK FOR ALL THE PEOPLE AND A STRONG NATION. — BERNAMA MORE 1832/A1

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MAHATHIR - PAROCHIALISM 2 ALOR STAR

THE DEPUTY PREMIER, WHO IS ALSO ACTING UMNO DEPUTY PRESIDENT, SAID HE WAS OPTIMISTIC THAT THE PARTY COULD MAINTAIN ITS POSITION AS LONG AS THE MALAYS WERE CONSCIOUS OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES.

HE SAID THAT ALTHOUGH UMNO WAS A LARGE PARTY, IT HAD NO INTENTION OF DEPRIVING THE RIGHTS OF OTHER PEOPLE.

IT SOUGHT RIGHTS FOR THE MALAYS AS ENSHRINED IN THE CONSTITUTION.

DR. MAHATHIR LATER RECEIVED A CONTRIBUTION OF \$471.30 FROM THE KEDAH SILAT GAYONG, KUNTAU JAWA AND TOMOI ASSOCIATION FOR THE NATIONAL MONUMENT RESTORATION FUND.

DATO SRI SYED AHMAD RECEIVED \$500 FROM THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE KEDAH ISLAMIC MISSIONARY CENTRE. — BERNAMA 1835/A1

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