

N101:
MAHATHIR-MISSIONARY
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(EMBARGO: FOR RELEASE AT 8.15 P.M. TODAY)

KUALA LUMPUR, AUG. 22 (BERNAMA) -- THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER, DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD, SAID THE GOVERNMENT WILL DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO STRENGTHEN THE TEACHING OF ISLAM.

HE SAID EFFORTS WOULD BE MADE TO STEP UP MISSIONARY ACTIVITIES AMONG GOVERNMENT OFFICERS.

THE GOVERNMENT WOULD ALSO ENSURE THAT ALL MUSLIM STUDENTS IN GOVERNMENT AIDED SCHOOLS AND TEACHER TRAINING COLLEGES RECEIVE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.

THE EDUCATION MINISTRY WOULD STUDY THE POSSIBILITY OF DIRECTING ALL INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING IN THE COUNTRY TO PROVIDE COMPULSORY RELIGIOUS COURSES FOR MUSLIM STUDENTS.

DR. MAHATHIR, WHO IS ALSO THE EDUCATION MINISTER, SAID THIS WHEN OPENING THE NATIONAL LEVEL QURAN READING COMPETITION FOR SCHOOLCHILDREN AT THE NATIONAL MOSQUE HERE TONIGHT. --
BERNAMA MORE 1949/ZCM

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DR. MAHATHIR SAID THESE MEASURES WERE NECESSARY TO PREVENT THE COMMUNITY, ESPECIALLY STUDENTS, FROM BEING UNINFLUENCED BY DANGEROUS IDEOLOGIES, PARTICULAR COMMUNISM WHICH DID NOT BELIEVE IN GOD.

HE REMINDED THE PEOPLE THAT THE COMMUNISTS WOULD MAKE ALL SORTS OF PROMISES AND CO-OPERATE WITH ANYONE -- DRUG PUSHERS, CRIMINALS OR ULAMA -- IN ORDER TO GAIN POWER.

THEY WOULD ELIMINATE ALL THESE PEOPLE ONE BY ONE WHEN THEY ACHIEVED THEIR OBJECTIVES.

THE COMMUNISTS WOULD PREVENT THE TEACHING OF RELIGIONS AND THOSE WHO OPPOSED THEM WOULD BE BRANDED AS TRAITORS, HE ADDED.
-- BERNAMA MORE 1953/ZCM

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N103:
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DR. MAHATHIR URGED MUSLIMS TO GIVE PROPER RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TO THEIR CHILDREN TO PREVENT THEM FROM BEING INFLUENCED BY THE COMMUNISTS. -- BERNAMA 1953/ZCM