

MAHATHIR-CRITICISM

EM

PENANG, OCT. 8 (BERNAMA) -- ACTING PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY CRITICISED A PROFESSIONAL BODY WHICH HE SAID SOUGHT TO MAKE A POLITICAL ISSUE OF THE COUNTRY'S LEGAL SYSTEM.

IF THE LEGAL SYSTEM WAS MADE A POLITICAL ISSUE IT WOULD ONLY LEAD TO ITS DESTRUCTION AND THAT OF THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM, HE WARNED.

HE REMINDED THE PROFESSIONAL BODY CONCERNED THAT THE LEGAL SYSTEM WAS CREATED ON DEMOCRATIC LINES.

THE ACTING PRIME MINISTER DESCRIBED AS UNHEALTHY THE PROFESSIONAL BODY'S PROPOSAL TO BOYCOTT THE LEGAL SYSTEM.

+ IF THE PROFESSIONAL BODY WISHED TO MAKE A POLITICAL ISSUE OF THE LEGAL SYSTEM, IT WOULD BE BETTER FOR THEM TO FORM A POLITICAL PARTY TO FIGHT US IN THE ELECTION, + HE ADDED.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THIS WHEN ADDRESSING A GATHERING TO MARK THE 31ST ANNIVERSARY OF UMNO ORGANISED BY THE KAMPUNG DODOL UMNO BRANCH HERE. -- BERNAMA MORE 1935/SZ

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THE ACTING PRIME MINISTER ALSO SAID THAT IT WAS UNNECESSARY FOR FOREIGNERS TO COME TO MALAYSIA TO ADVISE THE GOVERNMENT ON THE COUNTRY'S LEGAL SYSTEM.

THEY HAD NO RIGHT TO TALK ABOUT MALAYSIA'S LEGAL SYSTEM BECAUSE THE SYSTEMS IN THEIR COUNTRIES WERE WORSE, HE SAID.

SOME OF THEIR COUNTRIES PRACTISED COLOUR BAR AMONG THEIR OWN PEOPLE AND MALAYSIA DID NOT NEED ADVICE FROM SUCH PEOPLE, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR ADDED.

HE SAID MALAYSIA'S LEGAL AND JUDICIAL SYSTEM HAD BEEN CREATED AND APPROVED BY THE PEOPLE'S REPRESENTATIVES WHO WERE CHOSEN BY THE PEOPLE THEMSELVES.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR ALSO CRITICISED CERTAIN GROUPS INCLUDING PROFESSIONALS WHO TRIED TO CHAMPION THE PEOPLE BY RAISING POVERTY ISSUES.

HE SAID THESE GROUPS ONLY TALKED WELL BUT COULD DO NOTHING.

THEY SHOULD BE GRATEFUL TO UMNO WHICH PRACTISED THE DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM FOR BEING ABLE TO SPEAK FREELY TODAY.

IF UMNO LEADERS HAD NOT CHOSEN THE DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM, THESE GROUPS WOULD HAVE HAD TO REMAIN SILENT, HE SAID. - BERNAMA 1955/BW