

MAHATHIR - ISLAM
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ALOR STAR, JULY 22 (BERNAMA) — DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD
REMINDED TODAY THAT THE MUSLIMS IN THE COUNTRY WOULD BE DIVIDED
SO LONG AS PAS ABUSED RELIGION FOR POLITICAL INTERESTS.

HE ALLEGED THAT THE PARTY MISINTERPRETED THE RELIGION IN ITS
CAMPAIGN TO WIN SUPPORT IN THE RECENT ELECTION.

SPEAKING TO VILLAGERS AT KAMPUNG PUTAT, 21 MILES FROM HERE, THE
DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SAID IT COULD BE SEEN THAT CERTAIN GROUPS HAD
NOW OPENLY DEVIATED FROM THE TRUE TEACHINGS OF ISLAM.

HE SAID THAT IF THIS SITUATION WAS ALLOWED TO PERSIST, IT WOULD
LEAD TO THE WEAKENING OF THE ISLAMIC COMMUNITY AND ULTIMATELY THE
NATION.

+WE ARE NOT OPPOSED TO PAS BUT WE ARE AGAINST THOSE PEOPLE WHO
USE RELIGION TO ACHIEVE THEIR POLITICAL AMBITIONS,+ HE ADDED. —
BERNAMA MORE 1717/A1

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NO78:
MAHATHIR 2 ALOR STAR

IN A DEMOCRATIC COUNTRY LIKE MALAYSIA, IT WAS NECESSARY TO HAVE
SEVERAL POLITICAL PARTIES SO THAT THERE WOULD BE CONTESTS IN
ELECTIONS.

HOWEVER, IT WOULD BE REGRETTABLE IF POLITICAL PARTIES ADOPTED
DIRTY TACTICS JUST TO WIN THE PEOPLE'S SUPPORT.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR ALSO REGRETTED THAT SOME TEACHERS HAD
ACTIVELY INVOLVED THEMSELVES IN ELECTION CAMPAIGNS RECENTLY AND
LEVELLED VARIOUS ALLEGATIONS AGAINST UMNO AND BARISAN NASIONAL
LEADERS.

HE CALLED ON UMNO MEMBERS NOT TO BE INFLUENCED BY THESE PEOPLE.
INSTEAD THEY SHOULD ACT RESPONSIBLY AND ADHERE TO THE TRUE
TEACHINGS OF THE RELIGION.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR LATER VISITED KAMPUNG MERIBUT, 24
MILES FROM HERE, WHERE HE ADDRESSED ABOUT 3,000 PEOPLE. — BERNAMA