

KUALA LUMPUR, OCT. 19 (BERNAMA)—CHARGES OF +SLANDER+ BETWEEN UMNO AND PAS DURING THE GENERAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN ERUPTED INTO HEATED VERBAL EXCHANGES BETWEEN DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD AND PAS MEMBERS IN THE DEWAN RAKYAT TODAY.

DATUK HAJI ABU BAKAR UMAR (PAS-KOTA SETAR), THE PAS DEPUTY PRESIDENT, HAD ASKED DURING QUESTION TIME, IN WHAT CAPACITY DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR WAS SPEAKING WHEN HE DESCRIBED PAS AS +MORE DANGEROUS THAN THE COMMUNISTS+.

HE ASKED THE PRIME MINISTER WHETHER DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR'S STATEMENT WAS FROM THE GOVERNMENT'S POINT OF VIEW OR MERELY AN ISSUE IN THE ELECTION.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR REPLIED AT LENGTH ON THAT STATEMENT HE MADE AND THE CONTEXT IN WHICH HE HAD USED THE WORD +DANGEROUS+.

HE SAID THAT THE COMMUNISTS HAD KILLED A GREAT MANY PEOPLE BUT WERE UNABLE EITHER TO WEAKEN THE PEOPLE'S SPIRIT OR MAKE THEM BREAK WITH ISLAM. —BERNAMA MORE 1919/MD

££

N100 (F)  
PARLIAMENT - SLANDER 2 KUALA LUMPUR

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE DISPARAGING REMARKS MADE BY PAS DURING THE ELECTION HAD SPLIT THE MUSLIMS, CREATING ENMITY AMONG THEM AND MAKING THEM EVEN WEAKER AS A GROUP, HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR REBUKED PAS FOR TRYING TO DEMORALISE THE ARMED FORCES, WHICH WERE FIGHTING THE COMMUNIST TERRORISTS, BY CONDEMNING IT IN THE PARTY MANIFESTO.

HE SAID THAT PAS ALSO HURLED BASELESS ACCUSATIONS IN UNSIGNED LEAFLETS DISTRIBUTED TO INDIVIDUALS, PARTIES AND THE GOVERNMENT.

+AND, AFTER THE ELECTION VARIOUS ACTIVITIES WHICH CONFLICTED WITH ISLAM WERE ORGANISED BY PAS, AND THESE THREW THE MUSLIM COMMUNITY INTO CONFUSION,+ HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT THE COMMUNISTS HAD TRIED FOR 30 YEARS TO SUBJUGATE THE PEOPLE, BUT THEY HAD FAILED BECAUSE THE MALAYS, AS MUSLIMS, FORMED TOO FORMIDABLE A RESISTANCE. —BERNAMA MORE 1925/MD

PARLIAMENT - SLANDER 3 KUALA LUMPUR

THE COMMUNIST THREAT WAS NOT THAT DANGEROUS AS IT HAD ACTUALLY STRENGTHENED THE PEOPLE'S SPIRIT AND UNITED THEM IN DEFENDING THEIR RELIGION AND COUNTRY, HE SAID.

HOWEVER, PAS' DESPICABLE ACTIONS HAD SUCCEEDED IN MAKING CRACKS IN THIS UNITY, HE SAID.

+THAT IS WHY PAS IS MORE DANGEROUS THAN THE COMMUNISTS. PAS HAS SUCCEEDED IN BRINGING DOWN THE WALL OF DEFENCE WHERE THE COMMUNISTS COULD NOT.+

THE PAS MEMBER FOR BALING, ENCIK MOHAMED NAKHAIE HAJI AHMAD, SAID THAT ACCORDING TO THE VERSE FROM THE QURAN REGARDING SLANDER THAT HAD BEEN MENTIONED BY DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR, SUCH REMARKS INVOLVED TWO SIDES.

+AS SUCH, I AM AFRAID THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER'S STATEMENT IS ALSO SLANDEROUS,+ HE SAID. —BERNAMA MORE 1930/MD

PARLIAMENT-SALNDER 4 KUALA LUMPUR

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR: +ONLY GOD CAN JUDGE WHETHER MY STATEMENT IS SLANDEROUS.+

AT THIS STAGE, DATUK HAJI ABU BAKAR ASKED IF THERE HAD NOT BEEN ANY SLANDER FROM UMNO MEMBERS.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR: +PAS' WAS MORE EFFECTIVE.+  
—BERNAMA 1931/MD