

MAHATHIR-LAWS 'e'e'e'

BM

ALOR STAR, MARCH 30 (BERNAMA) — (P) DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY HIT AT OPPOSITION PARTIES WHICH OPPOSED THE PASSING OF DEATH SENTENCE TO PERSONS GUILTY UNDER THE INTERNAL SECURITY ACT.

HE DESCRIBED THOSE WHO TABLED AND SUPPORTED A MOTION IN THE DEWAN RAKYAT RECENTLY WANTING THE SENTENCE TO BE REVIEWED AS PURPOSELY ENCOURAGING KILLINGS AND VIOLENCE.

THIS WAS BECAUSE ALL THOSE HANGED SO FAR WERE FOUND GUILTY OF POSSESSING FIREARMS AND MURDER, THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SAID SPEAKING AT THE LAYING OF THE FOUNDATION STONE CEREMONY FOR THE TANAH MERAH SECONDARY SCHOOL, ABOUT 11 MILES FROM HERE.

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION BEHIND THE INTRODUCTION OF THE LAW WAS TO PROTECT THE INNOCENT PEOPLE AND ENSURE THE NATION'S SECURITY.

IF WHAT SOME MPS HAD WANTED WERE TO BE FULFILLED, THE PEOPLE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO SLEEP SOUNDLY.

+WHAT THEY WANT IS TO LET THESE PEOPLE CARRY FIREARMS FREELY EVERYWHERE THEY LIKE, THAT'S WHY THEY OPPOSE THE LAW SO THAT THOSE WHO KILLED COULD NOT BE HANGED,+ HE SAID. — BERNAMA MORE 1948/ZCM

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THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER THEN REMINDED THE GROUP NOT TO FOOL AROUND WITH THE LAWS BECAUSE THIS COULD BRING DISASTERS NOT ONLY TO PEOPLE BUT ALSO THE NATION.

HE ALSO CRITICISED CERTAIN GROUPS WHO ADVOCATED THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ISLAMIC LAWS SO THAT PERSONS RECEIVING DEATH SENTENCE COULD BE BEHEADED.

ACCORDING TO HIM, IT WAS RATHER UNFAIR IF IT WAS ONLY THE MUSLIMS WHO SHOULD BE BEHEADED WHILE OTHERS WERE ALLOWED TO ESCAPE FROM SUCH A PUNISHMENT. — BERNAMA 1949/YF