

MAHATHIR
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SEREMBAN, APRIL 27 (BERNAMA) — (DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY THE PEOPLE MUST DEFEND THE EXISTING DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM IN THE COUNTRY TO CONTINUE ENJOYING FREEDOM, PEACE, HARMONY AND PROSPERITY.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER HOWEVER WARNED THEM TO BE ON THE LOOK OUT FOR CERTAIN GROUPS WHICH WERE OUT TO ACHIEVE PERSONAL GAIN WHILE PURPORTEDLY CHAMPIONING DEMOCRACY.

TO UMNO MEMBERS, HE SAID THEY SHOULD STRONGLY DEFEND THE DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM IF THEY WISHED THE PARTY TO CONTINUE BEING IN POWER IN THE FUTURE.

THE DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM MUST ALSO BE DEFENDED WITHIN UMNO ITSELF, HE SAID WHEN OPENING THE MANTIN UMNO DIVISION'S DELEGATES MEETING HERE.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT WITHOUT THE PRACTICE OF DEMOCRACY, A LEADER WOULD TEND TO BE DICTATORIAL AND ARROGANT AND IN THE END HE WOULD BE TOPPLED, SOME TIME BY FORCE, AS HAD HAPPENED IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES. — BERNAMA MORE 1600/SZ
MAHATHIR 2 SEREMBAN

THE GOVERNMENT PRACTISED A CLEAN FORM OF DEMOCRACY AS EVIDENT IN THE OUTCOME OF THE BUKIT RAYA STATE BY-ELECTION IN KEDAH RECENTLY, HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR, WHO IS THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT OF UMNO, SAID THAT ALTHOUGH THE OPPOSITION WAS FREE TO INFLUENCE THE PEOPLE, THEY HAD FAILED TO DO SO IN BUKIT RAYA.

NEGRI SEMBILAN MENTRI BESAR DATUK RAIS YATIM, WHO IS ALSO THE STATE UMNO LIAISON CHIEF, SAID THE STATE UMNO WOULD NOT CONDONE PARTY MEMBERS WHO CARRIED OUT ACTIVITIES WHICH WERE NOT IN LINE WITH UMNO'S OBJECTIVES AND ASPIRATIONS.

ENCIK SHARADAN HAJI HASHIM WAS RETURNED UNOPPOSED AS HEAD OF THE DIVISION. — BERNAMA 1605/SZ