

UMNO-MAHATHIR
BM

80 (P)
KUALA LUMPUR, JULY 3 (BERNAMA) — DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY SPOKE OF A +THREAT+ WHICH HE SAID MIGHT PLUNGE THE COUNTRY INTO ANOTHER FORM OF COLONIALISM IF NOT EFFECTIVELY CHECKED.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT ALTHOUGH THE SITUATION IN THE COUNTRY WAS RELATIVELY CALM, EARLY WARNING SIGNS OF THE THREAT HAD EMERGED.

HOWEVER, HE DID NOT SPECIFICALLY IDENTIFY THE FORM OF THE THREAT.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR, WHO IS THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT OF UMNO, GAVE THE WARNING WHEN HE OPENED SIMULTANEOUSLY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLIES OF UMNO YOUTH AND WANITA UMNO AT THE DEWAN BAHASA DAN PUSTAKA HERE.

SPEAKING ON THE THEME +FORM AND SUBSTANCE,+ DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR DEALT AT LENGTH WITH THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN THE WORLD, PARTICULARLY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA AND WEST ASIA.

— BERNAMA MORE 1035/\$2

NO12 (F)
UMNO-MAHATHIR 2 KUALA LUMPUR

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HE ALSO SPOKE OF DISUNITY WHICH HAD CREPT INTO THE MUSLIM COMMUNITY IN THE COUNTRY AND THE ROLE UMNO YOUTH AND WANITA UMNO SHOULD PLAY TO OVERCOME THIS PROBLEM.

HE SAID THAT THE POLITICAL CALM IN THE COUNTRY SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN FOR GRANTED — IT MUST BE MAINTAINED AND SAFEGUARDED.

+THE SUCCESS OF AN UNDERTAKING DEPENDS ON THE ABILITY TO DETECT THE EARLY WARNING SIGNS. IT WILL BE FUTILE TO TAKE ACTION WHEN IT IS TOO LATE,+ HE SAID.

+IN THE LIGHT OF EVENTS OCCURRING IN THE COUNTRY OF LATE AND THE TREND IN OTHER COUNTRIES WITH A SIMILAR BACKGROUND, IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THE EXISTING CALM IS BEING THREATENED.+

— BERNAMA MORE 1116/SZ

NO14 (F)
UMNO-MAHATHIR 3 KUALA LUMPUR

+IF THIS THREAT IS NOT EFFECTIVELY CONTAINED, THE COUNTRY COULD BE EMBROILED IN ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL UNCERTAINTIES WHICH COULD DESTROY THE NATION AND SUBJECT IT TO COLONIALISM IN ANOTHER FORM.+

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR URGED THE TWO MOVEMENTS TO RECOGNISE THE EARLY WARNING SIGNS AND TAKE BOLD COUNTER MEASURES.

THEY SHOULD EXPOSE THE UNHEALTHY SIGNS AND BE COURAGEOUS IN TAKING THEIR OWN STAND, FREE FROM INFLUENCE.

THEY SHOULD NOT GIVE IN TO ANY DESIRE TO SEEK AN EASY WAY OUT BY RIDING WITH THE CURRENT TIDE OF EMOTIONS.

+WE KNOW WHAT IS EXPECTED OF US IN STRIVING TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS AND PROTECT OUR RELIGION,+ HE SAID.

+UNFORTUNATELY, MANY OF US ARE STILL CONCERNED WITH +FORM+ RATHER THAN +SUBSTANCE,+ HE ADDED. — BERNAMA MORE 1200/SZ

NO15 (F)
UMNO-MAHATHIR 4 KUALA LUMPUR

THIS PREOCCUPATION WITH +FORM+ RATHER THAN +SUBSTANCE+ WAS ALSO WIDESPREAD IN ADHERENCE TO RELIGION.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT PRACTICES REQUIRED BY RELIGION SUCH AS PURSUIT OF KNOWLEDGE, FORGING OF BROTHERLY TIES AND EQUIPPING ONESELF FOR DEFENCE WERE OFTEN IGNORED.

INSTEAD, PRIORITY WAS BEING GIVEN TO +FORM+ SUCH AS SPORTING A

BEARD AND WEARING +JUBAH+ (ROBE) AND +SERBAN+ (TURBAN).
IN OTHER WORDS, WHAT IS SUNAT (NOT OBLIGATORY) IS MADE WAJIB
(OBLIGATORY) AND WHAT IS WAJIB IS NEGLECTED,+ HE SAID.
— BERNAMA MORE 1203/SZ

NO18: (F)
UMNO—MAHATHIR 5 KUALA LUMPUR

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SAID THIS ATTITUDE WAS PREVALENT AMONG CERTAIN MUSLIMS BECAUSE THEY WERE MORE CONCERNED WITH FORM RATHER THAN SUBSTANCE SO MUCH SO THAT THEY THOUGHT FORM AND, NOT SUBSTANCE REFLECTED ISLAM.

ARISING FROM THIS MISCONCEPTION, ACTS PROHIBITED BY RELIGION HAD BEEN MADE COMMON PRACTICE.

TO COUNTER THESE ACTIVITIES, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR URGED UMNO YOUTH AND WANITA UMNO TO DRIVE HOME TO THE PEOPLE THAT PURSUIT OF EDUCATION, FORGING OF CLOSE TIES AMONG THEMSELVES, STRENGTHENING OF DEFENCE CAPABILITIES AND ERADICATION OF POVERTY WERE ALL WAJIB.

HE ALSO SPOKE OF CERTAIN GROUPS OF PEOPLE WHO WERE USING RELIGION FOR THEIR SELF-INTEREST AND WHOSE ACTIVITIES HAD LED TO DISUNITY AMONG MUSLIMS. — BERNAMA MORE 1320/A1

NO19: (F)
UMNO - MAHATHIR 6 KUALA LUMPUR

THESE PEOPLE WOULD STRIVE TO SPLIT THE MUSLIMS PURPORTEDLY FOR THE SAKE OF ISLAM ITSELF.

FOR EXAMPLE, THEY WOULD INFLUENCE MUSLIM STUDENTS TO REGARD THE SPIRIT OF NATIONALISM AS A SCORNFUL TRAIT AND THAT TO HAVE A SPIRIT OF MALAY NATIONALISM WAS TO GO AGAINST THE TEACHINGS OF ISLAM.

THESE PEOPLE WOULD NEGLECT TO POINT OUT THAT THERE WAS NOTHING IN ISLAM WHICH PROHIBITED ONE FROM HAVING A NATIONALISTIC SPIRIT.

AT THE SAME TIME, THEY ALSO CHOSE TO IGNORE THE RELIGIOUS CALL TO FOSTER CLOSE BROTHERLY TIES AMONG MUSLIMS.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR DESCRIBED THE ATTITUDE OF THESE PEOPLE AS +HYPOCRISY.+

HE SAID THAT IF THESE PEOPLE WERE REALLY THE CHAMPIONS OF ISLAM AS THEY CLAIMED TO BE, WHY THEN DID THEY NOT REGARD THE SUPPRESSION OF THE AFGHAN PEOPLE AS SUPPRESSION UPON THEMSELVES AS WELL. —
BERNAMA MORE 1323/A1

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NO20: (F)
UMNO—MAHATHIR 7 KUALA LUMPUR

WHILE THE PEOPLE IN AFGHANISTAN WERE FIGHTING FOR THEIR COUNTRY, THESE PEOPLE IN MALAYSIA WERE MERELY TALKING — THEY DID NOT EVEN MAKE ANY DONATIONS TO THE AFGHANS.

THIS CLEARLY SHOWED THAT THESE PEOPLE REGARDED THE FIGHTING IN AFGHANISTAN AS A NATIONAL PROBLEM OF THE AFGHANS AND THAT THEY, AS MALAYS, SHOULD BE CONCERNED MERELY WITH THE PROBLEMS OF THE MALAYS.

THESE PEOPLE REALISED THAT WITHOUT NATIONALISTIC FEELINGS THEY WOULD NOT HAVE A PLACE ANYWHERE.

CALLING ON THESE GROUPS OF PEOPLE TO RETURN TO THE RIGHT PATH, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID UMNO MEMBERS MUST CONTINUE THEIR EFFORTS TO UNITE THE MUSLIMS IN LINE THE PARTY'S OBJECTIVES WHICH ACTUALLY WERE BASED ON ISLAM. — BERNAMA MORE 1327/A1

NO21: (F)
UMNO—MAHATHIR 8 KUALA LUMPUR

HE SAID UMNO WAS PREPARED TO ACCEPT THOSE PEOPLE WHO HAD AT ONE TIME OPPOSED THE PARTY SO LONG AS THEY ACCEPTED THE PRINCIPLE OF UNITY AND DID NOT USE ISLAM OR OBSTRUCT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRUE TEACHINGS OF ISLAM.

ON UNITY IN UMNO ITSELF, HE REMINDED MEMBERS NOT TO ACT CONTRARY TO THE PARTY'S CONSTITUTION OR GO AGAINST THE PRINCIPLES OF DEMOCRACY.

IF THEY REALLY LOVED THE PARTY AND BELIEVED IN THE OBJECTIVES OF ITS STRUGGLE, THEY SHOULD NOT RESORT TO ANY ACTIONS WHICH COULD THREATEN PARTY UNITY AND STABILITY.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT ONCE THERE WAS A SPLIT, IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO UNITE AGAIN, AS HAD HAPPENED AT CERTAIN DIVISIONS AND BRANCHES RECENTLY. — BERNAMA MORE 1330/A1

NO22: (F)
UMNO—MAHATHIR 9 KUALA LUMPUR

HE DESCRIBED THOSE LEADERS WHO BOUGHT THEIR WAY INTO POSITIONS IN THE PARTY WITHOUT DUE REGARD TO PROCEDURES AND MEMBERS' UNITY AS HAVING BETRAYED THE PARTY'S CAUSE.

ON UMNO YOUTH, HE SAID THE MOVEMENT SHOULD NOT REGARD BEING A PRESSURE GROUP AS ITS MOST IMPORTANT ROLE.

HE SAID THAT WHILE HE WAS NOT AGAINST UMNO YOUTH ACTING AS A PRESSURE GROUP, HE FELT THAT THE MOVEMENT SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON GROOMING FUTURE LEADERS BY PROVIDING THEM TRAINING AND ACQUAINTING THEM WITH NATIONAL ASPIRATIONS.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR POINTED OUT THAT THERE WERE ALREADY VARIOUS GROUPS IN EXISTENCE WHICH WERE DAILY REMINDING THE GOVERNMENT OF ITS RESPONSIBILITIES. — BERNAMA 1335/A1