

NO89  
MIC  
BM

KUALA LUMPUR, OCT. 18<sup>31</sup> (BERNAMA) -- POLITICAL LEADERS IN THIS COUNTRY NEED TO WORK HARD TO BUILD A RICH, PROGRESSIVE AND STRONG NATION, (DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD) SAID TONIGHT. THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE TASKS OF BARISAN NASIONAL LEADERS HAD NOT ENDED BECAUSE OF THE MANY RESPONSIBILITIES ENTRUSTED TO THEM.

HE WAS SPEAKING AT A DINNER ORGANISED BY THE MIC IN HIS HONOUR. ALSO PRESENT WERE THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER DATUK MUSA HITAM AND FORMER PRIME MINISTER TUN HUSSEIN ONN.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID HE WAS PROUD OF MIC'S MATURITY AND WITH ITS NEW IMAGE, IT WOULD BECOME A STRONG COMPONENT OF THE BARISAN NASIONAL.

HE HOPED THIS SITUATION WOULD BE STRENGTHENED FURTHER SO THAT THERE WOULD BE A STRONG BARISAN NASIONAL AND A STRONG GOVERNMENT.

HE SAID SOLIDARITY AMONG THE MIC LEADERSHIP INVOLVED MEMBERS AND LEADERS AT ALL LEVELS.

—BERNAMA MORE 0020/AN

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DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR URGED PARTY MEMBERS TO CLOSE RANKS AND TO STAND FIRMLY BEHIND THEIR LEADERS.

WITH SUCH STRENGTH, MIC AND BARISAN NASIONAL WOULD FURTHER MAINTAIN ITS POWER, HE ADDED.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR ALSO URGED THE PEOPLE TO BE DETERMINED TO MAKE THIS COUNTRY A STRONG ONE SO THAT IT WOULD LAG BEHIND OTHERS.

HE SAID HE WANTED A MALAYSIA THAT WAS RESPECTED AND HER PEOPLE ON PAR WITH OTHER NATIONS.

—BERNAMA MORE 0024/AN

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TUN HUSSEIN, WHO ALSO SPOKE, STRESSED THAT LEADERS SHOULD BE MODERATE AND SHOULD ALWAYS TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE DIFFICULTIES OF THE PEOPLE WHO WERE OF DIVERSE ORIGINS.

THIS COULD NOT BE IGNORED AND SHOULD BECOME THE FIRST GUIDELINE TO ENSURE PEACE IN THIS COUNTRY.

HE SAID MALAYSIA WAS FORTUNATE BECAUSE IT HAD LEADERS WHO WERE MODERATE AND WHO PLACED GREAT PRIORITY ON PEACE AND STABILITY FOR THE NATION.

TUN HUSSEIN HOPED THIS SITUATION WOULD CONTINUE.

—BERNAMA 0045/AN