

N117: (F)
MAHATHIR-CITIZENSHIP 2022/202

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PETALING JAYA, APRIL 14 (BERNAMA) — DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER (DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD) TONIGHT STRESSED THAT LOYALTY TO THE NATION IS A VERY IMPORTANT CRITERION OF MALAYSIAN CITIZENSHIP. THE GOVERNMENT HAD DECIDED THAT PEOPLE WHO HAVE MADE MALAYSIA THEIR HOME AND GAVE THEIR LOYALTY TO THE COUNTRY SHOULD BE ITS NATIONALS, HE SAID. THEY, AND ONLY THEY, SHOULD BE ACCORDED THE PRIVILEGES OF CITIZENSHIP, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID WHEN HE OPENED THE SECOND WORLD TELEGU CONFERENCE HERE. — BERNAMA MORE 2007/41

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DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID: +THERE WAS NOT JUST PRIDE IN CALLING ONESELF A MALAYSIAN BUT MORE, IT IMPLIED A WILLINGNESS TO SACRIFICE FOR THE COUNTRY'S SAKE AND TO GO THROUGH THICK AND THIN WITH THE OTHER CITIZENS.+

AS CITIZENS, ONE WAS EXPECTED TO TAKE THE GOOD WITH THE BAD, THE PRIVILEGES WITH THE RESPONSIBILITIES, THE BENEFITS WITH THE SACRIFICES, HE SAID.

THIS WAS A VERY IMPORTANT PRINCIPLE FOR A POLITICAL NATION, HE ADDED.

ACCORDING TO DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR, NATIONS WERE POLITICAL ENTITIES THAT STAYED TOGETHER AND WHOLE BECAUSE OF COMMONALITY OF PURPOSE AND INTERESTS.

MALAYSIA HAD CHOSEN TO BE ONE OF THESE POLITICAL NATIONS, WHERE ETHNICITY OR GEOGRAPHICAL CONTIGUITY WAS NOT AS IMPORTANT AS POLITICAL UNITY AND INTEGRITY, HE SAID. — BERNAMA MORE 2055/LK

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MAHATHIR-CITIZENSHIP 3 PETALING JAYA

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR TOOK TO TASK THE DISSENTING MINORITIES WHOSE IDEA OF LOYALTY WAS LIMITED TO PERSONAL GAINS WHEREVER THEY MIGHT BE HAD.

HE SAID MALAYSIA HAD A SHARE OF THESE PEOPLE WHOM HE BRANDED AS OPPORTUNISTS AND NOT CITIZENS.

FORTUNATELY, HE SAID, MOST MALAYSIANS, EVEN THOSE OF FOREIGN ORIGIN, WERE NOT LIKE THAT.

THESE DISSENTING MINORITIES SOUGHT TO REVOLT OR MIGRATE THE MINUTE CONDITIONS WITHIN THEIR OWN COUNTRY WERE NOT AS THEY WISHED THEM TO BE.

THEY VOCIFEROUSLY DECLARED THEIR LOYALTY BUT TO THEM LOYALTY MEANT SIMPLY HAVING THINGS THEIR OWN WAY. — BERNAMA MORE 2119/LK

MAHATHIR-CITIZENSHIP 4 PETALING JAYA

SUCH PEOPLE, HE SAID, WERE NOT CONTENT TO JUST GO AND LIVE IN OTHER COUNTRIES BUT WHILE AWAY THEY JOINED FOREIGNERS IN CONDEMNING THEIR OWN COUNTRY.

AND, ALL THE TIME THEY REFUSE TO GIVE UP THEIR CITIZENSHIP, THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SAID.

IF THEY ARE TRUE CITIZENS, THEY MUST ACCEPT WHAT THE MAJORITY WILLED OR TOLERATED, HE SAID.

HOWEVER, THEY MIGHT EXPRESS THEIR OPPOSITION AND TRY BY LEGAL MEANS TO BRING CHANGES TO THEIR FAVOUR, HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THEIR TEST OF LOYALTY AS CITIZENS WAS THEIR WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT AND LIVE WITH WHAT THEY COULD NOT CHANGE. — BERNAMA MORE 2121/LK

W127: (F)
MAHATHIR-CITIZENSHIP 5 PETALING JAYA

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER WAS HAPPY TO NOTE THAT MOST MALAYSIANS, HOWEVER, HAD LARGELY ACCEPTED THE NEED TO LIVE WITHIN THE CONSTRAINTS THAT THE COUNTRY, LIKE OTHERS, HAD TO IMPOSE.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR'S WIFE, DATIN SERI DR. SITI HASMAH, MINISTER OF WORKS AND UTILITIES DATUK S. SAMY VELLU AND THE CHIEF MINISTER OF THE INDIAN STATE OF ANDHRA PRADESH, SRI T. ANJAIAN, WERE ALSO PRESENT. — BERNAMA 2122/LK