

MAHATHIR-MCA R'R'R'  
BM

82 (P)  
KUALA LUMPUR, MAY 23 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY THE BARISAN NASIONAL CANNOT AFFORD TO HAVE LEADERS WHO SERVE ONLY AS +POSTMEN+ IN CONVEYING DEMANDS BECAUSE THEY HAVE BEEN PRESSURED BY THEIR SUPPORTERS.

ON THE OTHER HAND, WHAT WAS REQUIRED WERE LEADERS WHO COULD FACE THE PEOPLE AND TELL THEM WHY CERTAIN DEMANDS COULD NOT BE MET WHY THERE HAD TO BE DELAY IN MEETING THEM OR WHY THEY COULD ONLY BE MET HALF-WAY, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR, WHO IS ALSO BN CHAIRMAN, SAID THIS WHEN OPENING THE CONFERENCE OF CHAIRMEN AND SECRETARIES OF MCA DIVISIONS AND BRANCHES AT WISMA MCA HERE.

HE REMINDED LEADERS OF COMPONENT PARTIES NOT TO BE SWAYED BY EMOTIONS BUT EVERY MOVE TOWARDS MOULDING THE FUTURE OF THE NATION MUST BE DONE WITH A SENSE OF FULL RESPONSIBILITY TO THE PEOPLE AND NATION. -- BERNAMA MORE 1315/SZ

MAHATHIR-MCA 2 KUALA LUMPUR

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR URGED BN COMPONENT PARTIES TO STRIVE TO PRESERVE THE COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL STABILITY.

HE WISHED TO SEE MALAYSIA'S STABILITY MAINTAINED SO THAT THE PEOPLE WOULD STAY IN THE COUNTRY AND NOT RUN OFF TO OTHER COUNTRIES AS A RESULT OF UNCONDUCTIVE CONDITIONS.

THE PRIME MINISTER WAS CONFIDENT THAT THIS COULD BE ACHIEVED, SEEING THAT THE NATION HAD ENJOYED 25 YEARS OF STABILITY THAT WAS MARRED ONLY BY ONE INCIDENT IN 1969.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE FOUNDATION HAD BEEN LAID FOR SUCH A STABILITY AND WHAT NEEDED TO BE DONE WAS TO REMEDY THE WEAKNESSES.

HE SAID IT WAS THE HOPE OF THE PEOPLE AND THE GOVERNMENT TO ACHIEVE A FORM OF STABILITY THAT WAS AS NEAR TO PERFECTION AS POSSIBLE. -- BERNAMA MORE 1424/LK

MAHATHIR-MCA 3 KUALA LUMPUR

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ALSO SAID MALAYSIA ALREADY HAD THE FOUNDATION TO BECOME A NATION THAT WAS ON PAR WITH OTHER DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.

THAT FOUNDATION WAS THE CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE COMPONENT PARTIES OF THE BN WHICH HE LIKENED TO AN ENGINE THAT HAD ONLY TO BE 'FINE-TUNED' -- SUCH AS THE ROLL-ROYCE ENGINE WHICH WAS SO SMOOTH THAT ONE WAS HARDLY AWARE WHEN IT WAS IN OPERATION.

IN A LIGHTER VEIN, HE SAID 'WE KNOW THAT THE ROLLS-ROYCE ENGINE IS BRITISH-MADE AND WE WILL NOT BUY IT BUT WE WILL FOLLOW WHATEVER THAT WILL BRING BENEFIT TO US.'

THE PRIME MINISTER ALSO CONGRATULATED THE MCA FOR ITS SUCCESS IN THE GENERAL ELECTION WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS THE BEST PERFORMANCE OF THE PARTY WHICH STARTED OUT AS A WELFARE BODY.

HE SAID THE VICTORY NOT ONLY REFLECTED THE GROWING CONFIDENCE OF THE CHINESE COMMUNITY IN THE MCA AND BN BUT ALSO MEANT AN INCREASE IN THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF MCA MEMBERS. -- BERNAMA MORE 1439/LK

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MAHATHIR-MCA 4 KUALA LUMPUR

HE REMINDED MCA MEMBERS THAT LIKE MEMBERS OF THE OTHER COMPONENT PARTIES THEY WERE NOT OPPOSITION MEMBERS WHO COULD SIMPLY MAKE THREATS OR PROMISES WITHOUT CONSIDERING HOW THEY COULD FULFILL THOSE PROMISES.

HE ALSO SAID THAT IT WOULD SERVE NO PURPOSE FOR ANY PARTY IN THE BN TO RAISE ISSUES THAT COULD NOT BE RESOLVED.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT WHETHER THEY LIKE IT OR NOT, ALL PARTIES HAD TO CO-OPERATE AND UNDERSTANDING WOULD ONLY COME ABOUT IF THEY CONSTANTLY KEPT IN TOUCH WITH ONE ANOTHER.

HE WAS RECEIVED ON ARRIVAL BY MCA PRESIDENT DATUK LEE SAN CHOON AND VICE-PRESIDENT DATUK MAK HON KAM AND DATUK DR NEO YEE PAN.

DEPUTY PARTY PRESIDENT DATUK RICHARD HO WAS NOT PRESENT. -- BERNAMA 1452/LK