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KUALA LUMPUR, AUG. 15 (BERNAMA)--ALL MALAYSIANS SHOULD BE PREPARED TO ACCEPT THE DECISIONS OF THE MAJORITY BECAUSE THE CHOICE OF LEADERS IN THE COUNTRY IS MADE THROUGH MAJORITY DECISION, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

OPENING THE MIC SYMPOSIUM ON NEW ATTITUDES FOR LEADERSHIP, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THIS WAS NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN THE PRESENT SYSTEM OF CHOOSING LEADERS IN THE COUNTRY.

HE EXPLAINED THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT FOR THE MINORITY TO FOLLOW THE MAJORITY UNTIL SUCH TIME THEY COULD MAKE EFFORTS TO HAVE THINGS DONE ACCORDING TO THEIR WAY.

HE SAID IT WAS ESSENTIAL PARTICULARLY FOR BARISAN COMPONENT PARTIES TO ACCEPT LEADERS CHOSEN BY THE MAJORITY.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID SINCE THE MALAYSIAN STYLE OF LEADERSHIP DEPENDED ON MAJORITY VOICE, +THERE WERE BOUND TO BE SOME KIND OF PEOPLE WHOM WE DON'T LIKE THEIR FACE, BUT WE HAVE TO ACCEPT THEM SINCE THEY WERE SELECTED BY THEIR FOLLOWERS.+ --MORE 1302/MD

MAHATHIR-LEADERSHIP 2 KUALA LUMPUR

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR, WHO IS ALSO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BARISAN NASIONAL, HOPED THAT THE MONORITY WOULD NOT FEEL NEGLECTED AS THEY STILL HAD A SAY ALTHOUGH A SMALLER SAY AND THIS WAS A FACT THEY SHOULD TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION.

THE PRIME MINISTER CONCEDED THAT THE MAJORITY SYSTEM ADOPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT WAS NOT +WHOLLY PERFECT+ AS SOME RESOLUTIONS HAD TO BE WATERED DOWN.

THIS, HE SAID, WAS BETTER THAN WHAT WAS PRACTISED IN SOME COUNTRIES WHERE DECISIONS WERE TAKEN BY CONSENSUS WHICH RESULTED IN INCOMPREHENSIBLE AND MEANINGLESS POLICIES.

MALAYSIANS, HE ADDED, SHOULD BE THANKFUL THAT WERE WAS STILL NO DISRUPTION IN THE SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT DESPITE CHANGES IN LEADERSHIP.

+UNLIKE SOME COUNTRIES, WE DO NOT HAVE THE CHANGE OR REPLACEMENT WHICH RESULT IN AMBASSADORS FALLING BY THE ROADSIDE OR REPLACEMENT WHICH RESULT IN AMBASSADORS FALLING BY THE ROADSIDE OR SOME SECRETARY OF STATE WRITING BOOKS OR LECTURING IN ORDER TO MAKE A LIVING,+ HE TOLD THE GATHERING --MORE 1310/MD

NO40 (F)
MAHATHIR-LEADERSHIP 3 KUALA LUMPUR

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR FELT THAT MALAYSIA'S OWN STYLE OF LEADERSHIP WAS THE BEST IN THE WORLD AS NO WHERE ELSE DID MINISTERS AND MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT SPEND A LOT OF TIME BEING WITH THE PEOPLE.

+WE KNOW AT FIRST HAND WHAT THE PEOPLE WANT BECAUSE WE ALWAYS HAVE GATHERINGS LIKE DIALOGUES TO FOSTER COMMUNICATION WITH PEOPLE.+

HE EMPHASISED THE NEED FOR LEADERS TO IDENTIFY THEMSELVES WITH THE PEOPLE AND FOLLOWERS TO PROVIDE EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP.

HE BELIEVED THAT ONLY THROUGH EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP COULD THE COUNTRY PROSPER AND THE GOVERNMENT'S WISH TO CREATE MALAYSIANS OF HIGH PRINCIPLES, VALUES AND IDEALS BE REALISED.

+ALL SHOULD CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS THE GREATNESS OF THIS COUNTRY SO THAT THE MATERIALISTIC COULD HAVE MORE MONEY WHILE THOSE SPIRITUALLY INCLINED COULD LIVE IN A SOCIETY BETTER MOTIVATED, IDEALISTIC VALUES, STABLE AND PROGRESSIVE.+

HE SAID HE WANTED TO STEER THE COUNTRY TOWARDS BETTER QUALITY OF ADMINISTRATION, NATIONHOOD AND ON PAR WITH OTHER GREAT COUNTRIES AND NOT ONLY A COUNTRY WHICH LOOKS AFTER LAW AND ORDER.

--MORE 1320/MD

MAHATHIR-LEADERSHIP 4 KUALA LUMPUR

THE PRIME MINISTER REMINDED LEADERS TO NOT ONLY LEAD BUT ALSO TO FOLLOW THE NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE AND NOT BE CARRIED AWAY BY +TITLES+ AND OTHER TRAPPINGS OF SUCCESS.

HE STRESSED THAT THE NATION HAD NO PLACE FOR LEADERS WHO DEMANDED RESPECT DUE TO THEIR POSITION OR OTHER FUEDALISTIC TENDENCIES ABSORBED FROM THE BRITISH SYSTEM.

HE SAID +THERE WAS NO COMMUNICATION WHATSOEVER BETWEEN THE BRITISH WORKERS AND MANAGEMENT THAT EVEN DURING OFFICE HOURS OR OUTSIDE EACH GO TO DIFFERENT PUBS IN LINE WITH THE NORM THAT EVERYBODY SHOULD BE KEPT IN THEIR PLACES.+

HOWEVER, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR HOPED THAT IN IDENTIFYING WITH THE MASSES, THE LEADERS SHOULD NOT +FOLLOW BLINDLY+ THE WISHES OF THE PEOPLE UNTIL THEY WERE TRAPPED INTO HANDLING EXTREMIST DEMANDS.

HE SAID IF SUCH THINGS CROPPED UP, LEADERS SHOULD NOT REMAIN FOLLOWERS BUT ADVISE THE FOLLOWERS SO THAT THEIR DEMANDS WERE NOT IN CONFLICT WITH OTHER PEOPLE. --MORE 1325/MD

NO42 (F)

MAHATHIR-LEADERSHIP 5 KUALA LUMPUR

HE SAID LEADERS SHOULD BE PREPARED TO BE A LITTLE BIT UNPOPULAR BY ADOPTING A MEDIUM LINE OF LEADERSHIP WHICH NEEDED JUDGEMENT AND EXPERIENCE THAT COULD NOT BE ACQUIRED THROUGH BOOKS OR COURSES.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SUGGESTED THAT MALAYSIANS EMULATE THE JAPANESE WHICH HAVE THEIR OWN QUALITY CONTROL CIRCLES TO DETERMINE THE UPGRADING OF QUALITY OF LEADERSHIP. --BERNAMA 1330/MD