

# PM says it again — No

NST 30 AUG 1982

# corruption

By NORHAWA YUNUS

KOTA KINABALU, Sun. — Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has stressed to the Sabah State govern-

The 8,000 dwt log carrier, is the largest ship to be built in Malaysia.

Earlier, the Prime Minister's wife, Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasnah of-

restrictions are there as they are good for us".

He said that those who insist that Islam is a rigid religion should be ignored.

a number of changes," he said.

He stressed that statements that Islam is backward or is not suitable in this age and time

**ment that he wants a clean and efficient administration — one without corruption.**

Speaking to reporters at the end of his two-day visit to Sabah, the Prime Minister added that he had made clear his stand on land alienation and administration.

Yesterday, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir had a two-hour meeting with the Sabah State Cabinet headed by Chief Minister Datuk Harris Salleh.

He said the message he passed on to the Sabah State government was the same one he had given to the Executive Councils of other States.

In his meeting with other State Executive Councils in the Peninsula, the Prime Minister had made it clear that he would not tolerate any form of corruption.

He said he also explained to the Sabah Cabinet the Federal Government's present policies.

On national integration, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said he was satisfied with developments, adding that the people in Sabah were now more aware of their status as Malaysian citizens.

"I believe that the feeling of alienation among the people here has lessened," he said.

The Prime Minister added that he was satisfied with developments in the State, specially with the efforts of the Sabah Religious Council in promoting Islam there.

This morning, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir launched the \$15 million log carrier, the *Yah-yasan Lima* at the Sabah Shipyard in Labuan.

ficiated" at the naming ceremony of the ship, owned by Sabah Foundation Shipping Sdn. Bhd.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir also hit out at religious groups and teachers who preach extremism in Islam.

He said these religious teachers are being irresponsible as their extremist teachings can lead to confusion.

"There are some religious teachers who preach that in Islam one cannot sit on chairs or watch television," he said.

He said some even went to the extent of selling their chairs and television.

Such teachings, he said, are "sheer nonsense" and should be totally ignored.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said by preaching extremism these religious teachers are deterring others from joining the Islamic faith.

"Not only that, they are also making those who are weak leave or question the Islamic religion," he said.

Speaking at the Islamisation ceremony here, the Prime Minister said Islam is a flexible religion and can be suited to any decade, time and place.

He explained that in Islam, as in other religions, there were some restrictions "but these

The Prime Minister also called on Muslims to work hard not only for themselves but also for the community.

He said there was no room for laziness in Islam, adding that benefits can only be reaped if the people worked hard and made sacrifices.

In today's Islamisation ceremony, a total of 523 people embraced the Islamic faith, including a member of the Borneo Biblical Council, Encik Saidu Away.

The chairman of the Ranau District Dakwah Council, Encik Mohamad Jirin Saliun, said 70 per cent of the 31,000 people in the district have embraced Islam since 1979.

On development, Encik Mohamad Jirin said under the Village Development Co-operative, the district now has 500 acres of tea and coffee plantation and is also supplying fresh milk to most of the people in Sabah.

In TAMBUNAN earlier, the Prime Minister said since Merdeka, the country has experienced tremendous development.

He said in the colonial days, infrastructure development was only limited to the big towns while the villages were totally ignored.

"However, since Merdeka, and with Islam as the official religion, the rural areas have seen

and that it is not receptive to changes are untrue and should be ignored.

Another 755 people embraced the Islamic faith in Tambunan today. Among them was the political secretary to the State Minister for Infrastructure, Encik Albertus Ong Kudon.