

MAHATHIR - MESSAGE  
BM

(EMBARGO: FOR AUTOMATIC RELEASE AFTER 9 P.M. TONIGHT AUG. 30)

KUALA LUMPUR, AUG. 30 (BERNAMA) - (DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD) TONIGHT CALLED ON THE PEOPLE TO DEFEND THEMSELVES AGAINST ALL FORMS OF COLONIALISM BY EQUIPPING THEMSELVES WITH KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS.

THEY SHOULD ALSO STRENGTHEN THE NATIONAL DEFENCE.

THE PRIME MINISTER IN A NATIONAL DAY MESSAGE OVER RADIO AND TELEVISION MALAYSIA SAID THAT INDEPENDENCE DID NOT MEAN FREEDOM FROM FOREIGN RULE, AS SUCH DOMINATION COULD ALSO BE DONE THROUGH OTHER MEANS TO RESTRICT FREEDOM.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT'S EMPHASIS ON ACQUIRING MORE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL, HARD WORK AND ACHIEVEMENT WAS NOT INFLUENCED BY MATERIAL WANTS BUT WAS FOR THE LOVE AND RESPONSIBILITY TOWARDS THE NATION'S INDEPENDENCE.

+WE WANT TO SEE THE NATION INDEPENDENT NOT ONLY FROM SYMBOL AND FLAG BUT ALSO FROM ALL FORMS. - MORE 1953/BW

N136 (F)

MAHATHIR - MESSAGE 2 KUALA LUMPUR (EMBARGO)

+WE HAVE THE CAPABILITY OF DEFENDING OUR INDEPENDENCE BUT WE NEED THE PURE AWARENESS REGARDING THIS,+ HE EMPHASISED.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID MALAYSIA WAS EXPOSED TO DIVERGENT VIEWS WITHIN THE COUNTRY AND ALSO IDEOLOGICAL INFLUENCE AND CULTURE FROM THE WHOLE WORLD.

IN THIS WORLD OF COMMUNICATION EXPLOSION NO ONE COULD BE ISOLATED FROM OUTSIDE INFLUENCE AS SUCH THE COUNTRY'S PROBLEMS WOULD CONTINUE TO INCREASE AT ALL TIMES.

+THE STRONGEST BULKWARK TO FACE SUCH THREAT WAS NOT THROUGH PHYSICAL OR LEGAL MEANS BUT THROUGH MORAL AND PERSONAL INTEGRITY.+

+WE NEED TO CULTIVATE AND PRACTICE GOOD VALUES WHICH WOULD PROTECT AND DEFEND US FROM SUCH UNDESIRABLE INFLUENCES AND STRENGTHEN OUR HEARTS TO FACE SUCH DIFFICULTIES AND OVERCOME THEM,+ HE SAID.

- MORE 1958/BW

N137 (F)  
MAHATHIR - MESSAGE 3 KUALA LUMPUR (EMBARGO)

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID AFTER 25 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE THE FUTURE OF THE COUNTRY WAS BRIGHT AND THERE WAS NO REASON FOR THE PEOPLE TO DOUBT THEIR CAPABILITIES.

CITIZENS WHO LOVE THE NATION SHOULD DISCIPLINE THEMSELVES AND CONTINUE THEIR STRUGGLE TO ENSURE THE NATION'S WELL BEING, THEY MUST ALSO CONTINUE EFFORTLESSLY AND MAKE SACRIFICES FOR THE COUNTRY'S FUTURE WELL-BEING.

THE FOUNDATION TO BUILD ONE RACE AND NATION WAS UNITY WHICH TOOK INTO CONSIDERATION THE HISTORICAL, POLITICAL, ECONOMICAL, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL FACTORS WHEN DETERMINING THE COUNTRY'S POLICIES.

THE FOUNDATION WAS ACHIEVED THROUGH CAREFUL THINKING WITH DUE CONSIDERATION TO THE IMPORTANCE OF ALL GROUPS VIA A SYSTEM WHICH ENSURED JUSTICE FOR ALL AND CERTAIN RESTRICTIONS WHICH WOULD HELP THE PEOPLE TO AVOID THE DANGER OF BEING DESTROYED.

+THE SYSTEM THAT HAD BEEN DEvised FOR MALAYSIA IS THE BEST TO ENSURE PEACE IN A WORLD FULL OF TURMOIL,+ HE SAID. - MORE 2000/BW

MAHATHIR - MESSAGE 4 KUALA LUMPUR (EMBARGO)

HE SAID THE 25 YEARS OF THE COUNTRY'S INDEPENDENCE HAD SHOWN THAT ITS SYSTEM OF ADMINISTRATION, POLITICS, ECONOMY AND SOCIAL ORDER HAD ENSURED THE WELL-BEING OF THE PEOPLE AND NATION.

+THE EXISTING SYSTEM IS ONE BASED ON LAWS FOUNDED ON THE PRINCIPLES OF RESPONSIBILITY, UNDERSTANDING AND TOLERANCE; STERLING VALUES UPHELD BY RELIGION AND CIVILISED SOCIETIES.+

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR URGED THE PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY THOSE BORN AFTER MERDEKA, TO APPRECIATE THE VALUE OF INDEPENDENCE, SAYING THE NEW GENERATION WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR PRESERVING AND MAINTAINING THE INDEPENDENCE BROUGHT BY THE GENERATION BEFORE IT.

INDIFFERENCE TO THE SIGNIFICANCE OF MERDEKA WAS A DANGEROUS ATTITUDE THAT COULD OPEN THE DOOR TO THE FATE THAT HAD BEFALLEN THE PEOPLES OF PALESTINE, AFGHANISTAN AND KAMPUCHEA.

WHILE THE COUNTRY WAS CELEBRATING ITS 25TH YEAR OF MERDEKA TOMORROW, THE PEOPLE SHOULD TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO REJOICE IN THEIR GOOD FORTUNE OF BEING AN INDEPENDENT NATION. - MORE 2100/BW

MAHATHIR - MESSAGE 5 KUALA LUMPUR (EMBARGO)

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE FIRST 25 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE CONSTITUTED A PERIOD FOR LAYING AND REINFORCING OF THE BASIS OF NATIONALISM WHICH HAD MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR THE PEOPLE TO REALISE THE GOALS OF STABILITY, SOVEREIGNTY, PROSPERITY AND HARMONY FOR THEIR BENEFIT AND THE BENEFIT OF THE FUTURE GENERATION.

HE PAID HIGH TRIBUTE TO NATIONALISTS SUCH AS THE ARCHITECT OF MERDEKA, TUNKU ABDUL RAHMAN, THE LATE DATUK ONN JAAFAR, THE LATE TUN ABDUL RAZAK, THE LATE TUN DR. ISMAIL AND TUN HUSSEIN ONN, ALL OF WHOM HAD BROUGHT ABOUT NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND LAID THE FOUNDATIONS FOR NATIONAL STABILITY.

HE SAID THAT WHEN THE OBJECTIVE OF MERDEKA WAS FIRST PURSUED, THERE WERE THOSE WHO SAID IT WOULD NOT BE SUCCESSFUL BECAUSE OF THE MULTI-RACIAL CHARACTER OF THE COUNTRY.

BUT BECAUSE THE MAJORITY OF THE POPULATION WERE RATIONAL AND MODERATE PEOPLE, THE COUNTRY 25 YEARS LATER WAS NOT ONLY MORE STABLE BUT HAD ALSO ACHIEVED UNPRECEDENTED PROGRESS.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR WARNED THAT THESE MISCHIEVOUS ELEMENTS WOULD NOT DESIST IN THEIR EFFORTS TO USE THE PEOPLE TO BRING ABOUT DESTRUCTION OF THE COUNTRY. - BERNAMA 2103/BW