

MAHATHIR-MALAYS

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SEREMBAN, MAY 22 (BERNAMA) -- THE MALAYS NEED TO RESTORE THEIR DIGNITY BY SHOWING TO THE WORLD THAT THEY ARE NOT LAZY AS IS THE MISCONCEPTION NOW. (DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT THEY MUST DISPLAY GOOD QUALITIES BY WORKING HARD, BE TRUSTWORTHY, FORTRIGHT AND TRUTHFUL.

+I DO NOT WANT TO SEE ANY MORE OUR RACE BEING CONSIDERED AS A PEOPLE WHO ARE ONLY GOOD AT ASKING FOR AID, NOT INTELLIGENT AND NOT EFFICIENT IN MAKING SOMETHING BUT ONLY KNOW HOW TO USE THEM,+ HE SAID WHEN OPENING THE DELEGATES' MEETING OF THE MANTIN UMNO DIVISION HERE.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT THE QUALITIES HE MENTIONED WERE ACCEPTED BY THE MALAY COMMUNITY BUT UNFORTUNATELY THEY WERE NOT PRACTISED.

+SO LONG AS WE DO NOT PRACTISE THESE GOOD VALUES, WE WILL NOT BECOME A RACE THAT WILL BE RESPECTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AND WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO BE AT PAR WITH THEM,+ HE SAID.

-- MORE 1456/LK

MAHATHIR-MALAYS 2 SEREMBAN

HE ALSO SAID THAT AN ENTRY IN THE BRITANNICA ENCYCLOPAEDIA HAD DISPARAGED THE MALAYS BY DESCRIBING THEM AS LAZY AND THOSE WHO DID NOT FULFILL THEIR PROMISES.

HE SAID THAT A PROTEST NOTE HAD BEEN MADE TO THE PUBLISHERS TO DROP THE UNFAIR ALLEGATIONS.

+WHAT IS IMPORTANT NOW IS FOR THE MALAYS TO SHOW THAT THE ALLEGATIONS ARE UNTRUE AND THAT THE MALAYS, ON THE OTHER HAND, ARE A RACE THAT IS HARDWORKING AND CAN BE TRUSTED,+ HE SAID.

+WE OURSELVES MUST WORK HARD TO REGAIN OUR DIGNITY SO THAT WE CAN BE ON PAR WITH THE OUTSIDE WORLD IN ALL FIELDS AND NO LONGER BE EXPLOITED AND BE LOOKED DOWN UPON,+ HE ADDED.

HE SAID THAT THE ADMINISTRATION HAD MORE OR LESS UPHELD THE NATION'S DIGNITY IN THE INTERNATIONAL ARENA AND NOW THE PEOPLE MUST STRIVE TO MAINTAIN THEIR DIGNITY IN THEIR DAILY LIVES. -- MORE 1525/PA

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MAHATHIR-MALAYS 3 SEREMBAN

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT THE ALLEGATION THAT MALAYS WERE LAZY +MORE OR LESS+ HAD SOME BASIS AS SOMETIMES THEY WERE INFLUENCED BY THE MISCONCEPTION THAT IT WAS GOOD TO BE LAZY.

HE SAID THAT CERTAIN QUARTERS AMONG THE INTELLECTUALS HAD ALLEGED THAT IF THE PEOPLE WERE HARDWORKING THEY WOULD BE EXPLOITED AND BECOME ROBOTS.

BECAUSE OF THEIR DESIRE FOR FREEDOM AS HUMAN BEINGS AND NOT WANTING TO BECOME ROBOTS, THEY PREFERRED TO BE LAZY, HE ADDED.

HE EXPRESSED FEARS THAT IF THE MALAYS CONTINUED TO HAVE SUCH AN ATTITUDE, THEY WOULD CONTINUE TO REMAIN A RACE THAT DEPENDED ON OTHERS.

+EVEN NOW, WHEN WE WANT TO BUILD A MOSQUE OR A COMMERCIAL BUILDING, WE DEPEND ON OTHERS,+ HE SAID. -- MORE 1540/PA

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MAHATHIR-MALAYS 4 SEREMBAN

+WHEN THE GOVERNMENT DOES THE SAME THING, WE KEEP QUIET, BUT WHEN WE OURSELVES DO IT, WE KEEP QUIET,+ HE SAID.

HE URGED UMNO MEMBERS, IN LINE WITH THE LEADERSHIP THROUGH EXAMPLE,+ TO SHOW THE WAY TO BE HARDWORKING FOR OTHERS TO FOLLOW. -- BERNAMA 1542/PA