

MAHATHIR-UMNO  
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KANGAR, MAY 28 (BERNAMA) -- UMNO MEMBERS WHO ASPIRE TO BECOME LEADERS MUST BE PREPARED TO WAIT FOR THEIR TURN, FOR PARTY INTERESTS SUPERSEDE THOSE OF INDIVIDUALS, (DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID UMNO HAD NO PLACE FOR PEOPLE WHO WOULD GO TO THE EXTENT OF SPLITTING THE PARTY TO GAIN POSITION.

+SOMETIMES THESE MEMBERS GO TO THE EXTENT OF DISCREDITING EXISTING LEADERS AND POLICIES, ALL BECAUSE OF THEIR QUEST FOR POSITION,+ HE SAID WHEN OPENING THE DELEGATES MEETINGS OF KANGAR AND ARAU UMNO DIVISIONS HERE.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR, WHO IS UMNO PRESIDENT, REMINDED MEMBERS TO BE VIGILANT AGAINST SUCH PEOPLE IF THEY WANTED UMNO TO REMAIN A STRONG PARTY.

ANY ATTEMPT TO SPLIT THE PARTY, HE SAID, SHOULD BE COUNTERED EFFECTIVELY BY ALL MEMBERS. -- 1558/PA

MAHATHIR-UMNO 2 KANGAR  
BM

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR REGRETTED THAT BECAUSE OF THE ACTIONS OF THESE PEOPLE, UMNO MEMBERS HAD TO DIVERT ATTENTION TO TASKS THAT SHOULD NOT HAVE BEEN NECESSARY.

HE SAID, +I TOO, USED TO EXPRESS MY VIEWS ON UMNO WHEN IT WAS LED BY OTHER PEOPLE AND PERHAPS THERE WERE PEOPLE WHO SAID THAT I WAS LOOKING FOR POSITION,+

ZBUT IN ALL SINCERITY I WISH TO SAY WERE THAT I NEVER DREAMT OF REACHING TO MY PRESENT POSITION...THIS IS FATE, I DON'T KNOW,+ HE ADDED AMIDST APPLAUSE FROM MORE THAN 1,000 DELEGATES PRESENT.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR ALSO REMINDED MEMBERS THAT UMNO NEEDED TO ENSURE THAT ITS POLICIES WERE CARRIED OUT SMOOTHLY.

HE SAID UMNO WOULD NOT BE ABLE CARRY OUT ANY POLICY, HOWEVER GOOD IT MIGHT BE, IF THE PARTY BECAME WEAK AS A RESULT OF DISUNITY AMONG MEMBERS.

ON THE OTHER HAND, A NOT SO GOOD POLICY COULD ACHIEVE SOME GOOD RESULTS IF IT WAS SUPPORTED BY ALL MEMBERS. -- MORE  
1646/PA

MAHATHIR-UMNO 3 KANGAR  
BM

THE PRIME MINISTER HOPED THAT ALL MEMBERS WOULD CONTINUE TO WORK TOWARDS PARTY UNITY.

HE ALSO WANTED THEM TO BE INDUSTRIOUS AND TO ELIMINATE THE +TIDAK APA+ ATTITUDE AND THAT OF DEPENDING TOO MUCH ON ASSISTANCE.

HE SAID THE LOOK-EAST POLICY WAS AIMED AT, AMONG OTHER THINGS, MAKING THE MALAYS A STRONG COMMUNITY THAT DID NOT DEPEND MERELY ON GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE. --BERNAMA 1647/PA