

MAHATHIR-EAST  
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KUALA LUMPUR, AUG. 19 (BERNAMA) -- THE GOVERNMENT IN ITS CALL TO THE PEOPLE TO LOOK EAST, WORK HARD AND INCREASE THEIR INCOMES IS NOT OBSESSED WITH MATERIALISM, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY. THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE CALL WAS AIMED AT MOTIVATING THE PEOPLE TO LEAD A HAPPY AND DISCIPLINED LIFE.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR, WHO IS ALSO UMNO PRESIDENT, STRESSED THE NEED FOR ALL STRATA OF SOCIETY TO UNDERSTAND THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY AND EFFORTS SO THAT THEY WOULD NOT BE DECEIVED BY ELEMENTS WHO WANTED TO DISTORT FACTS FOR THEIR OWN ENDS.

OPENING THE UMNO GENERAL ASSEMBLY HERE, HE SAID THAT FOR THESE ELEMENTS, DISORDER, DISUNITY AND WEAKENING OF THE MALAY AND MUSLIM COMMUNITY WERE BUT SMALL SACRIFICES TO PAY SO LONG AS THEY SECURED SOMETHING FOR THEMSELVES IN THIS WORLD, HE SAID.

HE SAID THAT AS A RESPONSIBLE PARTY, UMNO WOULD NOT ALLOW THEIR DESIRES TO DESTROY THE GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY THE PEOPLE HAD AFTER 300 YEARS UNDER COLONIALISM.

-- MORE 1542/LK

MAHATHIR-EAST 2 KUALA LUMPUR

THIS WAS THE TIME FOR THE MALAY COMMUNITY TO STRENGTHEN THEIR ECONOMIC POSITION AND IF THE OPPORTUNITY WAS WASTED, THERE MIGHT NOT BE ANOTHER, HE SAID.

HE SAID THAT MALAYSIA DID NOT WANT TO BECOME LIKE CERTAIN ISLAMIC COUNTRIES WHICH WASTED THEIR TIME, ENERGY AND WEALTH FIGHTING AMONG ONE ANOTHER.

NOW THAT THE PRICE OF OIL HAD DROPPED, THESE COUNTRIES HAD TO BE SUBSERVIENT TO THE COMMUNISTS AND WESTERN POWERS, HE ADDED.

ON THE LOOK EAST POLICY, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THAT SINCE THE TIME THE PORTUGUESE CONQUERED MELAKA, THE PEOPLE OF MALAYSIA, PARTICULARLY THE MALAYS, HAD BEEN HAVING INFERIORITY COMPLEX AND THE PRACTICE OF SENDING STUDENTS TO THE WESTERN COUNTRIES HAD NOT HELPED TO ALLVVIATE THE SITUATION.

HE SAID THAT THIS WAS BECAUSE THE SITUATION IN THE WEST HAD CHANGED.

-- MORE 1625/LK

MAHATHIR-EAST 3 KUALA LUMFUR

THE PHILOSOPHY OF THE WESTERN PEOPLE NOW WAS TO BE SELF-CENTRED AND HAVE A GOOD TIME -- TO HAVE THE RIGHT TO TAKE OFF THEIR CLOTHES IN PUBLIC AND HAVE HOMOSEXUAL RELATIONSHIP. IN ADDITION, THE USE OF DRUGS WAS AMONG THEM WAS SPREADING.

IN VIEW OF THIS, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID, THE GOVERNMENT DECIDED TO TAKE STEPS TO REDUCE THE INFLUENCE OF THE WEST AND ENHANCE THAT OF THE EAST SO THAT THERE WOULD BE A BALANCE.

HE SAID THAT COUNTRIES IN THE EAST WHICH PRACTISED COURTESY AND RESPECT FOR THE COMMUNITY AND FAMILY WERE NOW MORE PEACEFUL AND PROGRESSIVE THAN THE WESTERN COMMUNITIES.

REGARDING THE STRESS ON HARD WORK, HE SAID THE OBJECTIVE WAS TO MAKE THE SOCIETY MORE PEACEFUL AND HAPPY.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE INCENTIVES GIVEN TO THE SETTING UP OF INDUSTRIES AND COMMERCE WAS AIMED MORE AT CREATING JOBS AND BUSINESS RATHER THAN PROFITS.

-- MORE 1640/LK

MAHATHIR-EAST 4 KUALA LUMPUR

EVERY FACTORY BUILT MEANT THAT MANY PEOPLE WOULD GET JOBS., MANY SUPPLIERS AND RETAILERS WOULD GET ORDERS FOR GOODS AND THE GOVERNMENT WOULD GET TAXES.

THE GOVERNMENT'S CALL FOR INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT TO INCREASE BUMIPUTERA PARTICIPATION WAS AIMED AT TRAINING THEM IN THE FIELD OF MANAGEMENT AND OTHER MATTERS CONNECTED WITH THE ECONOMIC FIELD.

ON THE UPGRADING OF PRODUCTIVITY, DATUK SERI DR.MAHATHIR STRESSED THE NEED TO HAVE A NEW ATTITUDE WHICH PUT EMPHASIS ON HARD WORK AND LONG-TERM INTERESTS.

WITH HIGH PRODUCTIVITY, PRODUCTION COSTS WOULD GO DOWN AND MALAYSIAN GOODS WOULD BE ABLE TO COMPETE BETTER IN THE INTERNATIONAL MARKET, HE SAID.

ON THE +MALAYSIA INCORPORATED+ CONCEPT, HE SAID THAT IT WAS AIMED AT MAKING THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND THE GOVERNMENT PARTNERS IN DEVELOPMENT.

--MORE 1709/AN

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MAHATHIR-EAST 5 KUALA LUMPUR

UNDER THE CONCEPT, MALAYSIA WAS REGARDED AS IF IT WERE A COMPANY WHERE THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR WERE SHAREHOLDERS AND HAD SIMILAR OBJECTIVES, HE ADDED.

HE SAID THAT AN ACTIVE AND SKILFUL PRIVATE SECTOR WOULD HELP TO BRING PROSPERITY AND PROGRESS TO A NATION.

+AS SUCH, THERE IS NO REASON WHY THE PRIVATE SECTOR SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AN ENEMY OF THE ADMINISTRATION+, HE ADDED.

--BERNAMA 1711/AN