

MAHATHIR-INTERNATIONALISM '84

(2)

PETALING JAYA, AUG. 27 (BERNAMA)-- DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY TOLD JAPAN TO LIVE UP TO ITS DECLARED CREED OF INTERNATIONALISM BY OPENING THEIR SOCIETY, THEIR MINDS AND THEIR HEARTS TO THE WORLD. IN PARTICULAR MALAYSIA.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID JAPAN WAS NO LONGER A SECOND RANK NATION BUT INDEED A RICH NATION, IN THE VERY FOREFRONT OF THE FREE WORLD AND THUS HAD MANY LESSONS TO TEACH OTHERS.

IN HIS SPEECH DELIVERED BY TRADE AND INDUSTRY MINISTER TENGKU RAZALEIGH HAMZAH AT THE FIRST MALAYSIA-JAPAN COLLOQUIUM HERE, HE ASKED THE JAPANESE PEOPLE TO LOOK AT THEIR RECENT PAST AND EXAMINE WHETHER THEY WOULD BE WHERE THEY WERE TODAY WITHOUT THE FRIENDSHIP AND GENEROSITY OF OTHERS.

CALLING ON JAPAN TO EXERCISE THE STATESMANSHIP THAT WAS NOW NEEDED, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID AS A LEADER, IT HAD NOT ONLY RIGHTS BUT DUTIES IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF MANKIND.

HE IMPARTED THIS MESSAGE TO THE JAPANESE: +WE ARE ANCHORED IN TOKYO BAY. IF YOU TURN US AWAY, WE WILL BE BACK.+

+I SAY TO THE JAPANESE PEOPLE: PREPARE FOR THE SECOND OPENING OF JAPAN,+ HE ADDED RECALLING THE +BLACK SHIP INCIDENT+ 131 YEARS AGO WHICH RESULTED IN THE TREATY OF KANAGAWA WHERE JAPAN OPENED THE FIRST PORTS OF HAKODATE AND SHIMODA DUBBED THE +FIRST OPENING+ OF JAPAN. ---MORE

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DURING THAT INCIDENT, COMMODORE PERRY ARRIVED IN TOKYO BAY WITH FOUR BLACK SHIPS. HE WENT AWAY BUT ONLY TO RETURN IN FEB. 1854 WITH SEVEN SHIPS.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID: +LET PIE NOW SPEAK TO JAPAN AND SAY THAT YOU NOW HAVE BEFORE YOU NOT FOUR, NOT SEVEN BLACK SHIPS, BUT THE SIX BLACK SHIPS OF THE ASEAN COMMUNITY. IT IS TIME FOR THE SECOND OPENING OF JAPAN.\*

IN FACT, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT THE ASEAN +BLACK SHIPS+ ARE OF A PEACEFUL KIND BUT THEY DO CARRY MANY OF THE COMMODITIES THAT ARE THE LIFE BLOOD OF JAPANESE INDUSTRY, AND THEREFORE? THAT ARE THE FOUNDATIONS OF JAPANESE PROSPERITY.

HE STRESSED THAT BETWEEN JAPAN AND MALAYSIA AND BETWEEN JAPAN AND ASEAN, THERE WAS TRULY THE NEED FOR A WEAR-F-TO-HEART RELATIONSHIP THAT HAD TO GO BEYOND POSITIVE COEXISTENCE TO A NEW ERA OF SYMBIOSIS.

+LET INTERNATIONALISM BE A WAY OF YOUR LIFE. OPEN YOUR SOCIETY, OPEN YOUR MINDS AND OPEN YOUR HEARTS.

+ENTER, WITH FULL CONFIDENCE AND IN FULL HUMILITY INTO THE GLOBAL MEETING-PLACE OF MINDS. LET THE WORLD INTO YOUR HOUSEHOLD, TO ALLOW US TO UNDERSTAND YOU BETTER AND ENRICH YOU BETTER. +---MORE

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DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR BELIEVED THAT ONLY IN THE PROSPERITY OF ITS BUYERS COULD JAPAN'S OWN PROSPERITY BE GUARANTEED.

HE SAID THE POTENTIAL AND THE POSITIVE CORELATION WAS THERE FOR JAPAN TO CREATE A RELATIONSHIP WITH MALAYSIA AND ASEAN BUT HE WONDERED WHETHER IT WOULD GRASP THE OPPORTUNITY.

IN FACT, JAPAN HELD LESSONS FOR MANKIND BUT THE PRIME MINISTER ASKED WHY WAS SHE NOT A TEACHER TO THE WORLD.

CITING A 1981 UNESCO REPORT, HE SAID THERE WERE 8,100 FOREIGN STUDENTS IN JAPAN AS COMPARED TO 55,000 IN UNITED KINGDOM, 100,000 IN FRANCE AND MORE THAN 300,000 IN THE UNITED STATES.

THERE ARE NOW ONLY 200 MALAYSIAN STUDENTS IN JAPAN AS COMPARED TO 20,000 MALAYSIAN STUDENTS IN THE UNITED STATES.

HE WANTED JAPAN TO DEVELOP FULLY INTO A POST-INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY, INTO AN ECONOMY THAT DOES NOT SQUANDER THE WEALTH OF ITS TALENT AND THE ENERGIES OF ITS PEOPLE IN INEFFICIENT AND WASTEFUL INDUSTRIAL PURSUITS.---BERNAMA