

MAHATHIR-MERDEKA

BM

84
KUALA LUMPUR, AUG. 31 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THERE ARE SOME YOUNG MALAYS WHO ARE ASHAMED OF ADMITTING THEY ARE MALAYS BECAUSE OF THE INFLUENCE OF A CERTAIN POLITICAL PARTY.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE FEELING OF +SHAME OF BEING MALAY+ WAS PLANTED IN THEM BY A GROUP BELONGING TO A PARTY PURPORTEDLY CHAMPIONING THE CAUSE OF ISLAM.

+TODAY THERE ARE SOME YOUNG PEOPLE WHO DO NOT ADMIT TO BEING MALAYS BECAUSE BEING MALAY IS SAID TO BE HARAM. THE THINKING THAT BEING MALAY CONFLICTED WITH ISLAM WAS PLANTED IN THEIR MIND,+ HE ADDED.

+THE GROUP CONTENDS THAT ANYONE CLAIMING TO BE A MALAY IS PART OF 'THE ASSABIYAH GROUP,+ HE ADDED AT A DINNER AT PARLIAMENT BUILDING HERE' LAST NIGHT FOR 444 VETERANS WHO FOUGHT AGAINST THE MALAYAN UNION.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR URGED THE PEOPLE NOT TO BE INFLUENCED BY THE IDEOLOGY PROPAGATED BY MEMBERS OF A PARTY PROFESSING TO BE ISLAMIC AND YET USING ISLAM IN UNSANCTIONED WAYS:--MORE

HE SAID THIS GROUP WAS THE ONE WHICH WAS ASSABIYAH (FANATIC) IN NATURE AS ITS MEMBERS WERE WILLING TO REJECT THEIR RACIAL ORIGIN AND RELIGION BECAUSE OF THEIR OBSESSION WITH AN IDEA.

BECAUSE OF ITS INFLUENCE, THERE WERE YOUNG PEOPLE WHO WERE NOT THANKFUL FOR THE COUNTRY'S INDEPENDENCE; REGARDING MERDEKA AS SOMETHING ORDINARY AND NOT A SPECIAL EVENT, AND WHO DID NOT VALUE THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THOSE WHO HAD FOUGHT FOR INDEPENDENCE.

HE WAS WORRIED THAT IF NATIONALISTIC FEELINGS DISAPPEARED AMONG THE PEOPLE, THE COUNTRY MIGHT LOSE ITS INDEPENDENCE.

IF THIS HAPPENED, THE COUNTRY MIGHT NEVER REGAIN MERDEKA BECAUSE THE POWER TAKING OVER ADMINISTRATION OF THE COUNTRY WOULD NEVER ALLOW SUCH A DEMAND.

HE REMINDED THAT THE COUNTRY WOULD STILL BE A COLONY IF NOT FOR THE STRUGGLE OF THE MERDEKA FIGHTERS 20 TO 30 YEARS AGO.--MORE

HE REGRETTED THAT THE GROUP WAS NOT ONLY UNGRATEFUL FOR THE BENEFITS BROUGHT BY INDEPENDENCE BUT ALSO CRITICAL OF ALL EFFORTS CARRIED OUT BY THE GOVERNMENT WHOSE LEADERS WERE LARGELY MALAYS.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID IT CLAIMED THAT THE NEW ECONOMIC POLICY (NEP) IMPLEMENTED BY THE GOVERNMENT WAS PROFITING ONLY A SMALL NUMBER OF MALAYS.

+WHAT IS STRANGE IS THAT THE PEOPLE MAKING THIS ACCUSATION ARE THE ONES BENEFITTING FROM THE POLICY, IF NOT FOR THE NEP, THEY WOULD NEVER HAVE HAD AN EDUCATION AND THE STATURE THAT GOES WITH IT,+ HE ADDED.

HE TOLD THE GROUP THAT IF THE NEP TRULY DID NOT BRING BENEFIT, IT SHOULD REJECT ALL OPPORTUNITIES EXTENDED TO ITS MEMBERS THROUGH THE POLICY.

+MEMBERS OF THIS GROUP HAVE NEVER BEEN REPENTENT OR THANKFUL. AFTER ENJOYING THE BENEFITS ARISING FROM GOVERNMENT EFFORTS, THEY BLAME THE VERY HAND THAT FEEDS THEM, SUCH PEOPLE DO NOT DESERVE TO CONTINUE ENJOYING THE BENEFITS.+ --MORE

MAHATHIR-MERDEKA KUALA LUMPUR

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR WANTS THE MERDEKA FIGHTERS AND THE MERDEKA GENERATION TO CONTINUE TO ENLIGHTEN THE YOUNG WHO HAD NEVER EXPERIENCED THE STRUGGLE FOR INDEPENDENCE AND THE +ARROGANT AND PRIDEFUL+ WHO WERE NOT GRATEFUL FOR THE BENEFITS OF MERDEKA.

THE MALAYAN UNION OPPOSERS INCLUDE HAJI SAMAN SAAD, 128 WHO IS HERE FOR THE NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATIONS.--BERNAMA