

D041

BE309 AAE  
MAHATHIR-DAP  
BM

84 (P)  
SHAH ALAM, DEC. 3 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD  
TODAY TOOK TO TASK THE DAP FOR ACCUSING THE GOVERNMENT OF  
SUPPRESSING THE RIGHTS OF A PARTICULAR RACE WHEN CARRYING OUT  
DEVELOPMENT.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT FOR EXAMPLE, THE PROPOSAL TO  
DEVELOP A CERTAIN AREA IN MELAKA WAS CRITICIZED BY THE DAP ALTHOUGH  
THE GOVERNMENT DID NOT HAVE THE SLIGHTEST INTENTION OF SUPPRESSING  
THE RIGHTS OF ANY RACE.

+WHEN WE MAKE AN ANNOUNCEMENT TO CARRY OUT DEVELOPMENT ANYWHERE,  
THEY ARE QUICK IN MAKING THEIR OWN INTERPRETATION, AS IF THE  
GOVERNMENT IS OPPRESSING A PARTICULAR RACE,+ HE SAID WHEN ADDRESSING  
ABOUT 5,000 PEOPLE WHO HAD GATHERED AT THE SULTAN SALAHUDDIN ABDUL  
AZIZ SHAH BUILDING HERE TO WELCOME HIM ON HIS TWO-DAY VISIT TO  
SELANGOR.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR'S REMARKS WERE APPARENTLY IN RESPONSE TO  
WHAT APPEARED TO BE DAP'S DELIBERATE ATTEMPT TO POLITICIZE THE BUKIT  
CHINA AND THE PAPAN RADIOACTIVE DUMP ISSUES.

THIS IS HIS FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE TWO ISSUES.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT DEVELOPMENT IN ANY AREA WAS NORMAL  
BUT ISSUES RELATING TO IT WERE UNFORTUNATELY FANNED INTO RACIAL -  
CONTROVERSIES.

+THERE ARE OPPOSITION PARTIES WHICH ARE IN THE HABIT OF RAISING  
ISSUES THAT COULD CAUSE UNREST AMONG THE PEOPLE, AND BRING ABOUT  
FRICTION AMONG THE VARIOUS RACES. THIS HAPPENS IN MELAKA AND  
ELSEWHERE,+ HE SAID.

REGRETTING THEIR HABIT OF GOING ALL OUT TO LOOK FOR ISSUES THAT  
COULD BE EXPLOITED TO DESTROY THE NATION, HE SAID THIS ONLY PROVED  
THE EXISTENCE OF EXTREMIST GROUPS WITH EXTREMIST THINKING THAT  
REJECTED THE SPIRIT OF COMPROMISE.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR, WHO IS ALSO BARISAN NASIONAL CHAIRMAN,  
URGED ALL BARISAN NASIONAL COMPONENT PARTIES NOT TO FOLLOW AFTER THE  
OPPOSITION PARTY.

+THERE ARE AMONG US THOSE WHO ARE ALSO DRAGGED INTO THE  
EXCITEMENT, AND INTO THE LINE OF THINKING SUBSCRIBED BY THE  
DAP... THIS CAN JEOPARDIZE THE UNITY PREVAILING AMONG BARISAN'  
NASIONAL MEMBERS,+ HE SAID.

HE SAID BARISAN NASIONAL COMPONENT PARTIES SHOULD BE WARY OF  
GROUPS LIKE THE DAP WHICH ALWAYS BLEW UP SMALL ISSUES INTO RACIAL  
ISSUES TO GIVE THE IMPRESSION THAT NOTHING DONE BY THE GOVERNMENT  
HAD ANY BENEFIT.

+UNITY DOES EXIST IN THE BARISAN NASIONAL, AND ANY PROBLEM FACED  
CAN BE OVERCOME THROUGH DISCUSSIONS IN A PEACEFUL AND AMICABLE MANNER  
FREE FROM EMOTIONALISM.+

HE STRESSED THAT THE DAP CHAMPIONED ISSUES NOT FOR THE BENEFIT  
OF ANY RACE OR FOR THE COUNTRY BUT SOLELY TO FIND WAYS TO BRING  
ABOUT DISUNITY IN THE BARISAN NASIONAL.

THE DAP WISHED FOR UMNO, MCA AND MIC TO FALL OUT AMONG  
THEMSELVES SO THAT THE SUPPORT OF VARIOUS RACES FOR THE BARISAN  
NASIONAL WOULD BE ERODED, PAVING THE WAY FOR TAKE-OVER BY THE  
OPPOSITION PARTY.

+WE HAVE NOTICED HOW COMMUNALISM HAD BROUGHT DISASTER IN A SOUTH  
ASIAN COUNTRY RECENTLY,+ HE POINTED OUT.

AS THE PRIME MINISTER ARRIVED AT THE STATE SECRETARIAT? T  
WERE SHOUTS OF +LONG LIVE MAHATHIR+ BY THE CROWD WHICH INCLUDED  
MEMBERS OF THE COMPONENT PARTIES OF THE BARISAN NASIONAL. HERE

THEY HELD UP PLACARDS WITH MESSAGES LIKE +MAHATHIR-A GREAT  
LEADER, THE PEOPLE ARE WITH YOU.+ T

THE PRIME MINISTER, ACCOMPANIED BY DATUK SERI DATIN PADUKA DR  
SITI HASMAH, WAS MET ON ARRIVAL BY SELANGOR MENTERI BESAR DA  
AHMAD RAZALI ALI AND OTHER STATEDIGNITARIES. -- BERNAMA TUK HAJI  
2133MST 03 12 84