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MAHATHIR-UMNO R'R'R' 85  
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JOHOR BAHRU, JUNE 28 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR  
MOHAMAD HAS ADVISED NON-MALAYS THAT THEY NEED NOT BE SUSPICIOUS OF  
UMNO WHICH HAS PROVED ALL ALONG THAT IT IS NOT POWER CRAZY.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT ALTHOUGH UMNO WAS ABLE TO RULE THE  
COUNTRY ON ITS OWN, IT WAS WILLING TO SHARE POWER WITH THE OTHER  
RACES LOYAL TO THE COUNTRY.

+WE CAN HAVE THE GOVERNMENT ALL TO OURSELVES BUT WE HAVE NO  
INTENTION OF DOING THIS,+ SAID DATUK DR MAHATHIR, WHO IS UMNO  
PRESIDENT.

HE SAID THIS WAS PROVEN BY UMNO'S SETTING UP OF THE ALLIANCE  
WHICH LATER CAME TO BE KNOWN AS THE BARISAN NASIONAL WITH  
REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL RACES IN THE COUNTRY.

THE PRIME MINISTER WAS SPEAKING AT A DINNER ORGANISED BY THE  
JOHOR BARISAN NASIONAL, IN CONJUNCTION WITH HIS OFFICIAL VISIT TO  
THE STATE, AT SAUJANA -- THE OFFICIAL RESIDENCE OF THE JOHOR MENTERI  
BESAR.

HE SAID THAT IF IT WAS NOT FOR UMNO WHICH STRUGGLED FOR THE  
MALAYS UNTIL THE NATION ATTAINED ITS INDEPENDENCE, THE COUNTRY WOULD  
NOT HAVE ACHIEVED A SITUATION THAT IT COULD BE PROUD OF. -- MORE  
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HOWEVER, HE SAID, UMNO AND ALL OTHER COMPONENT PARTIES IN THE  
BARISAN NASIONAL SHOULD CONTINUE TO WORK TOWARDS STEERING THE  
COUNTRY TOWARDS GREATER PROGRESS.

+WE SHOULD WORK HARDER TO ENSURE THAT THE COUNTRY IS NOT LEFT  
BEHIND, BUT ADMIRER AND RESPECTED BY THE OTHER COUNTRIES,+ HE ADDED.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THAT MALAYSIANS SHOULD STRIVE FOR AN  
IDENTITY BASED ON HIGH MORAL VALUES BY INFUSING ISLAMIC VALUES IN THE  
NATION'S ADMINISTRATION.

HE ALSO SAID THAT HE HAD NEVER DOUBTED THE SUPPORT OF JOHOR UMNO  
AND THE CURRENT NATIONAL LEADERS.

HE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE PLEDGE OF UNDIVIDED SUPPORT  
GIVEN TO HIM PERSONALLY AND LEADERSHIP AT THE FEDERAL LEVEL BY JOHOR  
MENTERI BESAR DATUK ABDUL AJIB AHMAD AS HEAD OF STATE UMNO.

SOME 6,000 PEOPLE, INCLUDING MINISTERS, DEPUTY MINISTERS,  
MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT AND JOHOR STATE ASSEMBLYMEN, ATTENDED THE  
FUNCTION. -- BERNAMA

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