

D853

B E246 AAE
MAHATHIR-THRIFT
BM

KUALA LUMPUR, MAY 24 ⁸⁶ (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD HAS CALLED ON MUSLIMS TO BE THRIFTY AND AVOID EXTRAVAGANCE.

HE SAYS MUSLIMS IN THE COUNTRY SHOULD REALISE THE COUNTRY IS IN THE MIDST OF AN ECONOMIC RECESSION.

IN HIS MESSAGE IN THE SOUVENIR PROGRAMME OF THE 27TH INTERNATIONAL QURAN READING COMPETITION, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAYS THAT BY PRACTISING THRIFT, THEY WILL NOT ONLY HELP MAINTAIN THEIR OWN FINANCIAL STABILITY BUT ALSO STRENGTHEN THE COUNTRY'S ECONOMY.

ON THE THEME OF THIS YEAR'S COMPETITION +BLESSING IN THRIFT, MISFORTUNE IN WASTAGE+, HE SAYS THE CHOICE OF THE THEME WAS BASED ON THE IMPORTANCE FOR MUSLIMS TO PRACTISE THRIFT AS IT IS ONE OF THE EXHORTATIONS OF ISLAM ENSHRINED IN THE QURAN.

HE SAYS THRIFTINESS IS NOT DEPENDENT ON THE INCOME OF A PERSON OR THE ECONOMIC SITUATION AT A GIVEN TIME. -- MORE
1555MST 24 05 86

D862

B E254 AAE
MAHATHIR-THRIFT 2 KUALA LUMPUR

THE PRIME MINISTER STRESSES THAT THRIFT THROUGH CAREFUL BUDGETTING WILL ENABLE THEM TO MOBILISE THEIR SAVINGS AND USE IT TO STRENGTHEN THEIR FINANCIAL POSITION.

THEY WILL NOT ONLY BE HELPING THEMSELVES BUT ALSO THE NEEDY, HE ADDS.

WHAT IS MORE IMPORTANT, HE SAYS, IS THAT THEY WILL BE ABLE TO USE THE WEALTH ACCUMULATED TO SPREAD THE TEACHINGS OF ISLAM AND AT THE SAME TIME WORK FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE RELIGION.

+OUR DEEDS AND ENDEAVOURS IN THIS RESPECT WILL BE GREATLY REWARDED BY ALLAH. THIS IS WHAT IS MEANT BY +THRIFTINESS WILL BE BLESSED+, HE ADDS.

ON THE OTHER HAND, WASTAGE, BE IT IN THE FORM OF EXPENDITURE, TIME OR ENERGY, WILL BRING GREAT PERSONAL LOSS AND ULTIMATELY THREATEN THE ECONOMIC STABILITY OF THE COUNTRY. -- MORE
1608MST 24 05 86

D863

B E255 AAE
MAHATHIR-THRIFT 3 KUALA LUMPUR

THAT IS WHY ISLAM FORBIDS ITS FOLLOWERS TO BE WASTEFUL AND CONSIDERS THOSE WHO ARE WASTEFUL AS THE ASSOCIATES OF SATAN.

ONE OF THE MOST GLARING CONSEQUENCES OF WASTEFULNESS, HE SAID, ARE THE MYRIAD OF PROBLEMS AND HARDSHIPS THAT WILL BESET A PERSON, NO MATTER WHICH GROUP HE BELONGS TO.

WASTEFULNESS AND EXTRAVAGANCE WILL RENDER THE PERSON ECONOMICALLY VULNERABLE, LEADING TO HIS SUSCEPTIBILITY TO CRIMES SUCH AS BRIBERY, ROBBERY AND STEALING.

THE PRIME MINISTER HIT OUT AT A GROUP OF MUSLIMS WHO HE SAYS PREFER TO WASTE THEIR PRECIOUS TIME AND ENERGY HANGING AROUND AIMLESSLY AT AMUSEMENT CENTRES AND SHOPPING COMPLEXES.

+THESE PEOPLE FORGET THAT THE COUNTRY IS IN NEED OF THEIR ENERGY AND SERVICES TO HELP THEM IMPROVE THEIR OWN POSITION,+ HE SAYS.

+ALTHOUGH THEIR SERVICES MIGHT NOT RESULT IN AN IMMENSE MATERIAL GAIN, THEIR HONESTY IN CONTRIBUTING THE SERVICES IS CONSIDERED A GOOD DEED WHICH WOULD BE APPROPRIATELY REWARDED BY ALLAH,+ HE ADDS.

-- BERNAMA

1611MST 24 05 86