

ACCEPT THE MULTIRACIAL REALITY: PM

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(P)
KUALA LUMPUR, Sun. — Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad hopes that youths will accept the reality of a multiracial and a multi-religious Malaysia.

He urged them to cooperate with one another to create "new Malaysians" to develop the nation.

Dr Mahathir said that Malaysia was unique in its multiracial composition and despite differences and racial chauvinists, did not face many problems.

"The average Malaysian accepts the reality of a multiracial country and believes in the politics of co-operation rather than the politics of confrontation," he said when opening the MAYC complex today.

He said the recent election results clearly showed that the people rejected

chauvinists.

"Some such leaders have won especially in the urban areas but not all urban residents supported them," he said.

Dr Mahathir said the building of a new Malaysia should start with the youths.

"We hope to see a generation of new Malaysians who are moderate, disciplined, hard-working and imbued with a sense of nationalism," he added.

He said that discipline was necessary in nation-building and to make the country internationally respected.

Dr Mahathir also said that youths should be hard-working especially during the current economic recession.

"The Government is frequently criticised for allow-

ing immigrants to come here and deprive locals of work opportunities.

"Yet, we ourselves do not take up the opportunities. We are too busy questioning the wages, the benefits and comforts of the jobs while those from other countries are willing to work hard.

"They reap the benefits and we are angry with them when we should be angry with ourselves," he said.

He urged the youth not to be fussy about wages and benefits but work towards building the nation, and realise that an education did not automatically promise them a job.

However, Dr Mahathir said that the Government's efforts to build a good society was frequently opposed.

"There are people who go looking for proof to show

we have not practised the slogan of *clean, efficient and trustworthy* and fabricate things to make the people lose their confidence in the slogan," he said.

He said that many of these people were being supported by foreigners.

"These people support ethnic dominated parties against parties which practise the spirit of co-operation with the intent of destroying the nation.

"They must be stopped and spirit of brotherhood and co-operation should be nurtured," he said.

MAYC president and Agriculture Minister Datuk Seri Sanusi Junid said that more than 1,500 youths attended the meeting. Also present were Sabah Chief Minister Datuk Joseph Pairin Kitingan and several deputy Ministers