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MAHATHIR-DADAH
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KUALA LUMPUR, SEPT 8 (BERNAMA) -- MALAYSIA'S TOUGH DADAH LAWS GAINED THE ATTENTION OF MANY LEADERS AT THE RECENT NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT (NAM) SUMMIT IN HARARE, ZIMBABWE, PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

HE SAID THAT THE PRESIDENT OF MAURITIUS, WHO RECENTLY APPROVED THE DEATH PENALTY FOR DADAH TRAFFICKERS CAUGHT IN HIS COUNTRY, CONGRATULATED HIM FOR THE MALAYSIAN GOVERNMENT'S FIRMNESS IN IMPLEMENTING THE DADAH LAWS.

ZAMBIA HAD ALSO REALISED THAT THE DADAH PROBLEM COULD HAMPER THE STRUGGLE OF THE BLACK PEOPLE IN SOUTH AFRICA, HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR HAD EXPLAINED AT THE SUMMIT MALAYSIA'S TOUGH STAND AGAINST DADAH TRAFFICKERS, INCLUDING THE DEATH PENALTY FOR THEM.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT AFTER DISCUSSIONS HE HAD HAD WITH LEADERS AT THE SUMMIT, HE FOUND THAT THEY DID NOT GET THE TRUE PICTURE FROM THE WESTERN MEDIA REGARDING THE CASE OF TWO AUSTRALIANS WHO WERE HANGED FOR DADAH TRAFFICKING IN MALAYSIA RECENTLY. -- MORE 1728MST 08 09 86

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HE SAID THAT THE WESTERN MEDIA PAINTED A PICTURE THAT AUSTRALIANS WERE THE ONLY FOREIGNERS WHO WERE SENTENCED TO DEATH BY MALAYSIA FOR DADAH TRAFFICKING.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID MANY OF THE 36 PEOPLE WHO WERE HANGED FOR DADAH TRAFFICKING IN THE COUNTRY WERE FOREIGNERS +BUT THIS WAS NOT PLAYED UP BY THE WESTERN MEDIA BECAUSE THEY WERE NOT WHITES.

HE SAID THAT PRESIDENT KENNETH KAUNDA OF ZAMBIA WAS SURPRISED WHEN HE WAS TOLD THAT MANY OTHER FOREIGNERS WERE ALSO SENTENCED TO DEATH FOR DADAH TRAFFICKING. -- BERNAMA

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