

U E764 AAE  
MAHATHIR-UNITY

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KUALA LUMPUR, APRIL 20 (BERNAMA) -- EFFORTS TO EVOLVE A MALAYSIAN NATION AND PROMOTE UNITY AMONG THE COMMUNITIES CAN ONLY SUCCEED IF ALL COMMUNITIES SPARE A THOUGHT FOR THE INTERESTS OF OTHERS IN THEIR EVERY ACTION, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

HE SAID EVERY COMMUNITY HAD AN EQUAL RESPONSIBILITY IN DETERMINING THE FATE OF THE COUNTRY AND ITS PEOPLE.

+SOMETIMES WE HAVE A PARTICULAR COMMUNITY TAKING A LINE OF ACTION SOLELY FOR ITS OWN INTEREST AND IGNORING THE ADVERSE CONSEQUENCES TO THE OTHER COMMUNITIES,+ THE PRIME MINISTER SAID WHEN OPENING A CONVENTION ON +DEVELOPMENT OF THE MALAYSIAN SOCIETY+ HERE.

HE SAID EVERY COMMUNITY SHOULD REALISE THAT IF ITS ACTION WERE TO CAUSE LOSS TO THE OTHERS, THEN IT TOO WOULD SUFFER FROM THE EFFECTS.

THIS WAS BECAUSE IN MODERN LIVING, NO ONE COULD ISOLATE HIMSELF FROM THE REST OF SOCIETY, NOR COULD ANY GROUP OR UNION ISOLATE ITSELF FROM THE OTHER GROUPS IN THE COUNTRY, HE ADDED. -- MORE  
1448NST 20 04 86

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DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR REITERATED THAT THE CREATION OF THE MALAYSIAN NATION WAS NOT A NORMAL EVOLUTION FOR IT REQUIRED A CONCERTED EFFORT BY ALL.

MALAYSIA WAS NOT CREATED BECAUSE ITS PEOPLE WERE FROM ONE RACE. IF THE PEOPLE TRULY WANTED TO CREATE A MALAYSIAN NATION, +CONSCIOUS AND WILLING+ EFFORTS SHOULD BE MADE.

EFFORTS TOWARDS THIS END WOULD NO DOUBT MEET WITH VARIOUS PROBLEMS AS WAS EVIDENT FROM THE FACT THAT AFTER ATTAINING INDEPENDENCE FOR SO LONG, THE COUNTRY STILL FACED PROBLEMS OF UNITY, HE SAID.

+WE MUST NOT BE FRUSTRATED BY THE SITUATION BUT SHOULD INSTEAD STRIVE TO ACHIEVE THE DESIRED OBJECTIVES,+ HE SAID.

THE PRIME MINISTER CRITICISED SOME EDUCATED PEOPLE WHO SHOULD BE DEPENDED UPON TO HELP THE GOVERNMENT ACHIEVE NATIONAL SOLIDARITY BUT WHO INSTEAD WERE MOSTLY THE ONES CAUSING CONFUSION. -- MORE  
1521NST 20 04 86

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HE SAID THERE WERE NO EFFORTS AMONG THE YOUTH IN THE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES TO EVOLVE UNITY BECAUSE THEY WERE INFLUENCED BY THE VIEWPOINTS OF CERTAIN QUARTERS WHO DID NOT WANT TO SEE THE NATION PROGRESS AND ENJOY PEACE.

EFFORTS SHOULD BE STEPPED UP AT THE ACADEMIC LEVEL TOWARDS ATTAINING UNITY AMONG THE PEOPLE.

WORKING PAPERS AT THE UNIVERSITIES OR SEMINARS SHOULD PLACE EMPHASIS ON THIS TO EVOLVE AWARENESS AND GREATER UNDERSTANDING AMONG THE PEOPLE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF UNITY AS THE FOUNDATION FOR THE COUNTRY'S SUCCESS, HE ADDED.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR WAS, HOWEVER, SATISFIED WITH THE POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE COUNTRY IN WHICH HE SAID POLITICAL PARTIES WERE GIVING MORE STRESS TO COMMUNAL UNITY TO THE EXTENT THAT SOME PARTIES WHICH WERE PREVIOUSLY VERY COMMUNAL AND NARROW IN THEIR VIEWS HAD STARTED FORGING RELATIONS WITH THE OTHER COMMUNITIES.

HE SAID THE POLITICAL SYSTEM IN THE COUNTRY WHICH PROVIDED FREEDOM OF CHOICE OF GOVERNMENT FOR THE PEOPLE REQUIRED THAT THE CHOICE BE MADE WISELY.

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1618NST 20 04 86

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THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE CONSTITUTED A RESPONSIBILITY ON THE PEOPLE TO DETERMINE THEIR OWN FATE.

+IF WE MAKE THE WRONG CHOICE, WE OURSELVES WILL SUFFER THE CONSEQUENCES BUT IF WE CHOOSE WISELY, WE WILL BENEFIT FROM THE CHOICE.+

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE NATION WAS IN A HEALTHY STATE WHEN ALL THE VARIOUS COMMUNITIES WERE IN +CONSTANT DISSATISFACTION.+

IF ONLY A PARTICULAR COMMUNITY WAS SATISFIED WHILE THE REST WERE NOT, IT MEANT THE GOVERNMENT HAD NOT GIVEN EQUAL TREATMENT TO ALL, HE ADDED.

HE ADVISED THE PEOPLE TO ACCEPT THAT FACT THAT EVERY COMMUNITY HAD A DIFFERENT UNDERSTANDING AND IDEOLOGY AND THAT AS SUCH, THE GOVERNMENT COULD NOT FULFIL EVERY REQUEST AS IT HAD TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE INTERESTS OF ALL THE PEOPLE. -- BERNAMA  
1623MST 20 04 86