

D285

B E133 AAE  
MAHATHIR-UMNO  
BM

86

(P)

KUALA LUMPUR, APRIL 27, (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY REITERATED THE IMPORTANCE OF UNITY AMONG THE PEOPLE TO ENSURE THE SUCCESS OF GOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES.

ONLY THROUGH UNITY COULD THE PROGRAMMES REACH ALL PARTS OF THE COUNTRY; HE SAID WHEN OPENING THE KEPONG UMNO DIVISION DELEGATES CONFERENCE HERE.

THE UMNO PRESIDENT ALSO REMINDED PARTY MEMBERS TO PLACE NATIONAL INTERESTS ABOVE ALL OTHER INTERESTS IN THEIR STRUGGLE AND TO ALWAYS PRESERVE THE SPIRIT OF 1954 -- THE SPIRIT OF THE EARLY FORMATION OF UMNO.

+THROUGH UNITY, THE MALAYS WHO AT ONE TIME LIVED IN ISOLATION IN LITTLE STATES SUCCEEDED IN OPPOSING THE BRITISH COLONIALISTS' PLAN TO FORM THE MALAYAN UNION.+

HE SAID THAT AT THAT TIME, THERE WAS NO WEALTH, EDUCATION OR ARMS AMONG THE MALAYS BUT THROUGH UNITY, +WE BECAME A STRONG RACE TO RISE AND CHALLENGE THE AUTHORITY OF A BIG WORLD POWER OF THAT AGE.+  
-- MORE

1305MST 27 04 86

B E142 AAE  
MAHATHIR-UMNO 2 KUALA LUMPUR

HE CALLED ON ALL SECTIONS OF THE SOCIETY TO RECALL HOW HUMILIATING LIFE WAS UNDER COLONIAL RULE BECAUSE THE PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY THE MALAYS, HAD NO STANDING AT ALL AT THAT TIME.

+IF THERE WERE JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN OFFICES, WE WERE ONLY GOOD FOR THE POST OF OFFICE BOYS, EVEN IF OUR AGE MIGHT BE 50,+ DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID, TO LAUGHTER FROM THE DELEGATES.

HE SAID THAT AFTER THE COUNTRY GAINED INDEPENDENCE, THE LEADERS PROVED THEIR CAPABILITY TO MANAGE THE COUNTRY PEACEFULLY AND STIMULATE GROWTH MORE RAPID THAN UNDER BRITISH COLONIAL RULE.

THE PRIME MINISTER ALSO CRITICISED CERTAIN PEOPLE WHO STILL ASKED WHAT THE COUNTRY HAD GAINED FROM INDEPENDENCE AFTER ALMOST 30 YEARS.

+THEY ACTUALLY WANT SOMETHING FOR THEMSELVES AND IF THEY REALISE AND SEE THE SUCCESS OF THE MALAYS IN THE COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL SECTOR, THEY WILL KNOW THE ANSWER TO THEIR QUESTION.+ -- MORE

1418MST 27 04 86

B E150 AAE  
MAHATHIR-UMNO 3 KUALA LUMPUR

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THAT ALTHOUGH UMNO SUCCEEDED IN FIGHTING THE BRITISH AND THWARTING THEIR SCHEMES AS WELL AS THE PROPOSED MALAYAN UNION, IT MADE A RATIONAL DECISION IN WANTING TO FORGE INTER-COMMUNAL COOPERATION IN THE COUNTRY.

HE SAID THIS STRONG SOLIDARITY AMONG THE RACES WAS EVENTUALLY TARNISHED BY A COMMUNIST STRATEGEM LEADING TO THE MAY 13 1969 INCIDENT.

+HOWEVER, WITHIN A SHORT PERIOD, WE SUCCEEDED IN RESTORING ORDER IN THE COUNTRY AND THE UNITY BECAME MORE SOLID AND THIS IS ESPECIALLY PROVEN WITH THE SETTING UP OF THE BARISAN NASIONAL.+

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE IDEA OF COOPERATION AMONG THE RACES, ESPECIALLY IN THE BARISAN NASIONAL, WAS SHOWN TO BE A WINNER WHEN MINORITY GROUPS IN PARTICULAR CONSTITUENCIES AGREED TO COOPERATE TO VOTE FOR BARISAN NASIONAL CANDIDATES IN THEIR AREAS AND ENSURED VICTORY FOR THE CANDIDATES.

+FOR EXAMPLE, BATU BERENDAM, MELAKA, IS A MALAY MAJORITY AREA BUT WE FIELDED A CHINESE CANDIDATE AND BECAUSE OF THE COOPERATION AMONG THE ELECTORATE, THE BN CANDIDATE WON. THERE WERE SIMILAR CASES WITH OTHER RACES VOTING FOR UMNO CANDIDATES.+ -- MORE  
1452MST 27 04 86

D332

B E152 AAE  
MAHATHIR-UMNO 4 KUALA LUMPUR

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR REMINDED EVERY UMNO MEMBER TO TAKE UP CAUSES IN THE PARTY WITH AN OPEN MIND AND TOLD THOSE WHO WERE EMOTIONAL AND USED THREATS IN THEIR STRUGGLE THAT THEY HAD NO PLACE IN THE PLACE.

+EMOTIONALISM WILL BRING NOT SATISFACTION BUT FAILURE,+ HE ADDED.

HE WANTED THE PEOPLE TO ENSURE THE GOVERNMENT OBTAINED MORE THAN 50 PERCENT MAJORITY VICTORY IN THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION AS A GOVERNMENT WITHOUT A BIG MAJORITY WOULD FACE PROBLEMS.

HE SAID THAT IN POLITICS, WHAT WAS IMPORTANT WAS VICTORY OF THE PARTY AND NOT VICTORY OF INDIVIDUALS IN THE PARTY.

HE ALSO REMINDED UMNO MEMBERS THAT THE QUESTION OF WHO LED THE PARTY WAS NOT IMPORTANT AS THE LEADER WAS JUST THE SYMBOL OF PARTY UNITY, WITH THE MOST IMPORTANT MATTER BEING FIGHTING FOR THE INTERESTS OF THE PARTY, AND THE MALAYS AS WELL AS MALAYSIANS.

DURING THE CEREMONY, KEPONG UMNO DIVISION CHAIRMAN ABBAS OSMAN PRESENTED A \$2,000 CHEQUE TO FEDERAL TERRITORY UMNO LIAISON COMMITTEE SECRETARY YAHYA TAIB FOR THE UMNO COMPLEX FUND. -- BERNAMA  
1500MST 27 04 86