

D791

B E343 AAE
MAHATHIR-SPEECH
FROM AMIN HUSAINI HARUN

(P) over the visit.

KUWAIT, JAN 29⁸⁷ (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD CALLED ON MUSLIMS AND MUSLIM NATIONS TO BE PREPARED TO ACCEPT CHANGES, OR THEY WILL BE HELPLESS EVEN TO DEFEND THEMSELVES AND THEIR FAITH.

+WE MUST REKINDLE THE VISION OF A DYNAMIC MUSLIM COMMUNITY,+ THE PRIME MINISTER SAID IN HIS ADDRESS DURING THE CLOSED-DOOR SESSION OF THE FIFTH ISLAMIC SUMMIT HERE LAST NIGHT.

IN HIS 30-MINUTE SPEECH, HE SPOKE ON THE VARIOUS PROBLEMS FACING THE UMMAH INCLUDING THE +DOUBLE STANDARDS+ ATTITUDE OF CERTAIN ISLAMIC NATIONS, THE VARIOUS CONFLICTS, THE NEED TO ACCEPT ECONOMIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGES AND MALAYSIA'S PERCEPTION OF THE SUMMIT.

THE SPEECH WAS LONG OVERDUE AND ANXIOUSLY AWAITED BY THE DELEGATES BUT THIS TIME, THE FIERY ORATORY THAT NORMALLY CHARACTERISES DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR'S SPEECHES WAS MISSING.

ACCORDING TO MALAYSIAN SOURCES, THE PRIME MINISTER HAD PREPARED A SPEECH TYPICAL OF HIS FORTHRIGHT MANNER BUT MANY CHANGES WERE SINCE MADE TO THE ORIGINAL TEXT RESULTING IN HIM DELIVERING ONE THAT WAS MORE +TAME+ TO THE SUMMIT. -- MORE
1834MST 29 01 87

D794

B E346 AAE
MAHATHIR-SPEECH 2 KUWAIT

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE FALLACY OF REGARDING THE ISLAMIC WAY OF LIFE AS CONFINED SOLELY TO CODIFYING +DOS+ AND +DON'TS+ WOULD SHUT THE GATES OF +IJTIHAD+ -- THE QUEST OF KNOWLEDGE, JUDGMENT AND REASON IN ACCORDANCE WITH ISLAMIC VALUES AND THINKING.

+IT IS TIME WE DISCARD OUTDATED INTERPRETATIONS WHICH STILL LINGER IN OUR THINKING,+ HE ADDED.

HE SAID THE WORLD HAD CHANGED TREMENDOUSLY, DUE IN SOME MEASURE TO THE ENLIGHTENMENT THAT ISLAM BROUGHT TO THE WORLD IN THE PAST.

IF MUSLIMS FELT THEY HAD NOT TAKEN THEIR RIGHTFUL PLACE IN A MODERN WORLD, THEN +WE MUST REFOCUS OUR EFFORTS TOWARDS ACHIEVING ECONOMIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL PROGRESS.+

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ALSO CALLED FOR GREATER EFFORTS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A NETWORK OF COOPERATION AMONG OIC MEMBER STATES AND OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. -- MORE
1840MST 29 01 87

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B E347 AAE
MAHATHIR-SPEECH 3 KUWAIT

THE PRIME MINISTER ACCEPTED THE FACT THAT THIS WOULD TAKE TIME TO MATERIALISE BUT HE POINTED OUT THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT A START SHOULD BE MADE NOW.

IN THIS ASPECT, MALAYSIA APPRECIATED THE SPECIAL EFFORTS OF TURKEY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL COOPERATION.

ON POLITICS, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR DEPLORED THE MANIPULATION OF RELIGION IN THE INTERESTS OF NARROW NATIONALISM, APPARENTLY REFERRING TO THE IRAN-IRAQ WAR.

+THE WAR HAS BECOME A MONSTER, A VEHICLE FOR THE DESTRUCTION OF MUSLIMS AND THEIR FAITH. WE SEE AND WE KNOW OF THE HANDS OF SUPER-POWERS IN THE PERPETUATION OF THIS HIDEOUS WAR.

+WE KNOW THEY WANT TO PERPETUATE THIS WAR FOR THEIR OWN PURPOSE TO ENSURE THE CONTINUED WEAKNESS OF MUSLIM COUNTRIES AND PREVENT THE SOLUTION OF THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM,+ HE ADDED. -- MORE
1842MST 29 01 87

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B E348 AAE
MAHATHIR-SPEECH 4 KUWAIT

HE WAS SADDENED THAT CERTAIN MUSLIM COUNTRIES, KNOWING ALL THESE, HAD STILL WORKED +HAND IN GLOVE WITH THE ENEMIES.+

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ALSO CRITICISED CERTAIN MUSLIM COUNTRIES FOR CLAIMING SPECIAL RIGHTS TO DISREGARD BOUNDARIES AND SOVEREIGNTY, BUT WOULD OBJECT TO THE SLIGHTEST VIOLATION OF THEIR OWN BOUNDARIES.

+THERE SHOULD BE NO SUBVERSION OR INSTIGATION MERELY BECAUSE WE DO NOT LIKE THE RULERS OF A PARTICULAR MUSLIM COUNTRY OR THEIR SYSTEM. THERE SHOULD BE NO INTERFERENCE IN THE PURELY DOMESTIC AFFAIRS OF EACH OTHER.+

HE CONDEMNED THE ACTIVITIES OF CERTAIN MUSLIMS AND ISLAMIC NATIONS FOR PLOTTING THE DOWNFALL OF THE PLO +ACKNOWLEDGED LEADER+, YASSER ARAFAT WHEN THEY SHOULD ALL BE BEHIND HIM IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST ISRAEL.

HE CALLED FOR THE STOPPING OF +POWER RIVALRIES AND INTRIGUES+ AMONG MUSLIM STATES IN WEST ASIA AND INSTEAD ENSURE THEIR COMBINED EFFORTS IN SEEING PALESTINIANS RESTORED TO THEIR HOMETLAND AND THE DESECRATION OF THE HOLY SHRINES IN AL QUDS PUT TO AN END. -- MORE
1853MST 29 01 87

D799

B E351 AAE
MAHATHIR-SPEECH 5 KUWAIT

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR WELCOMED THE RE-ADMISSION OF EGYPT INTO THE OIC SAYING ITS PRESENCE WOULD CONTRIBUTE MUCH TOWARDS ATTAINING THE OBJECTIVES OF THE ORGANISATION.

EGYPT'S MEMBERSHIP WAS SUSPENDED AFTER IT SIGNED THE CAMP DAVID AGREEMENT WITH ISRAEL.

REGARDING THE APARTHEID REGIME OF SOUTH AFRICA, HE URGED ALL MUSLIM NATIONS TO SEVER ALL TRADE AND ECONOMIC CONNECTIONS WITH THE PRETORIA REGIME AND STRIVE TO BRING ABOUT ITS +SWIFT DEMISE.+

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR EXPRESSED MALAYSIA'S GRATIFICATION THAT THE STATUS OF ANTARCTICA AND THE DRUG PROBLEM HAD BEEN INCLUDED IN THE AGENDA OF THE OIC.

+THE CONCERN OF THIS CONFERENCE WILL STRENGTHEN THE EFFORTS TO MAKE ANTARCTICA ACCESSIBLE TO EVERYONE, WHILE THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUG ADDICTION WILL BE MORE LIKELY TO YIELD RESULTS.+ -- MORE
1900MST 29 01 87

D801

B E352 AAE
MAHATHIR-SPEECH 6 KUWAIT

ON THE MORO ISSUE, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR CONGRATULATED THE OIC FOR SUCCESSFULLY BRINGING TO A CONCLUSION THE STRUGGLE OF THE MORO PEOPLE IN THE PHILIPPINES.

+WE HOPE BOTH SIDES (MORO AND THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT) WILL HONOUR THE AGREEMENT (ACCORDING AUTONOMY TO THE MUSLIMS) AND THIS PROBLEM IN THE ISLAMIC WORLD CAN BE TAKEN OFF OUR AGENDA,+ HE SAID.

ON THE SUMMIT, THE PRIME MINISTER PRAYED THAT IT WOULD BE FRUITFUL FOR THE UMMAH AND THE MUSLIM NATIONS AND THAT IT WOULD BRING LASTING PEACE AND SOLIDARITY.

+MALAYSIA WILL PLAY ITS ROLE AS A MUSLIM NATION WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOUR AND WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE ORGANISATION OF ISLAMIC CONFERENCE IN ITS WORK TOWARDS ISLAMIC UNITY AND THE WELL-BEING OF THE UMMAH.+ -- BERNAMA
1903MST 29 01 87