

0750

B E850 AAE

MAHATHIR-DEMOCRACY R R R

BM

IPQH, MARCH 22 (BERNAMA), -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY HE DOES NOT AGREE TO DEMOCRATIC PRACTICES DESCRIBED AS +WESTERN-ORIENTED+ WHICH GIVE FULL FREEDOM TO PARTY MEMBERS TO DO ANYTHING WHICH COMES UNDER THEIR RESPECTIVE DEFINITION OF +RIGHTS+.

HE SAID THERE WERE QUARTERS WHICH FELT THEY COULD DO ANYTHING UNDER SUCH RIGHTS WITHOUT THINKING OF THE IMPLICATIONS.

+IF THIS HAPPENED, THERE WILL BE CHAOS IN THE PARTY WHEN EACH ONE HAS TO SAFEGUARD AND USE HIS RESPECTIVE RIGHTS,+ HE SAID WHEN ADDRESSING THE TAMBUN DIVISION DELEGATES CONFERENCE.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR, WHO IS UMNO PRESIDENT, STOPPED OVER HERE EN ROUTE TO KUALA LUMPUR AFTER OPENING THE PASIR SALAK UMNO DIVISION DELEGATES' CONFERENCE AT TELUK INTAN.

HE SAID THAT UNDER THE UNLIMITED FREEDOM OF WESTERN-STYLE DEMOCRACY THEY COULD DO ANYTHING, +INCLUDING STRANGE THINGS, EVEN IF THEY (WANT) TO WALK ABOUT NAKED, IT IS THEIR RIGHT.+ -- MORE
1642MST 22 03 87

B E854 AAE

MAHATHIR-DEMOCRACY 2 IPOH

+WE MALAYS ARE DIFFERENT, HAVE OUR OWN MANNERS AND CUSTOMS. WHAT WE DO IS BOUND BY MALAY CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS.+

+TRADITION IS IMPORTANT THOUGH IT IS NOT LAW PROVIDING FOR PROSECUTION AND PUNISHMENT, BUT BECAUSE OF TRADITION WE DO CERTAIN THINGS AS MALAYS,+ THE PRIME MINISTER SAID.

HE THEN GAVE AN EXAMPLE HOW MALAYS WHEN PASSING IN FRONT OF OTHERS BOWED SLIGHTLY AS THOUGH SEEKING PERMISSION TO WALK ACROSS THEM.

+ACTUALLY, THERE IS NO COMPULSION INVOLVED HERE BUT THIS IS ONE OF OUR TRADITIONS, RESPECTING OTHERS,+ HE SAID AND STRESSED THAT DEMOCRATIC PRACTICES IN THE PARTY WERE ACTUALLY BOUND BY MALAY TRADITION AND CUSTOMS.

IN HIS 15-MINUTE SPEECH, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ALSO TOUCHED ON WHAT HE SAID WAS A BAD ASPECT OF WESTERN-STYLE DEMOCRACY -- THE GOING ALL OUT TO TOPPLE AN ELECTED LEADER EVEN THOUGH IT AT FIRST THEY HAD SUPPORTED HIM. -- MORE
1700MST 22 03 87

B E855 AAE

MAHATHIR-DEMOCRACY 3 IPOH R R R

THEY WOULD MAKE ALLEGATIONS AND INSULT THE LEADER AND CARRY OUT ALL TYPES OF PLANS TO TOPPLE HIM BY USING SUCH RIGHT OF FREEDOM THOUGH INITIALLY THEY HAD STRIVED TO BRING UP THE LEADER, HE SAID.

HE HOPED UMNO MEMBERS WOULD ALWAYS BE CIVIL AND DISCIPLINED IN DISCHARGING THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES AND ENSURING THE SUCCESS OF THE PARTY STRUGGLE AND FACING EXTERNAL ENEMIES.

IF MEMBERS WERE NOT UNITED, IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO COUNTER ALLEGATIONS FROM OUTSIDE ENEMIES, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID, AND EXPRESSED SADNESS OVER THE PRESENT CONFLICT WITHIN UMNO, PARTICULARLY THE HEATED CAMPAIGN BEING WAGED.

ALSO PRESENT WAS THE DIVISION'S HEAD DR NAWAWI MAT AWIN. --
BERNAMA
1706MST 22 03 87