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B E174 AAE
MAHATHIR-UMNO R R R R R R
BM

27 P

IPOH, APRIL 10 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY UMNO LEADERS ARE NOT +MASTERS OF THE PARTY BUT MORE ITS SERVANTS+ IN PURSUING PARTY OBJECTIVES AND ASPIRATIONS.

THE POSTS THEY HELD WERE NOT FOR THE PURPOSE OF +PROMOTION+ OR FOR ANY OTHER BENEFIT AS POSTS CREATED IN UMNO SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT WERE NEVER MEANT FOR SAFEGUARDING THE INTERESTS OF THE HOLDER.

+THEY ARE ALSO NOT FOR THE HOLDERS TO ASCEND TO THE SKY, NO. THE CREATION OF THE POSTS IS ONLY TO GIVE EFFECTIVENESS TO THE UMNO STRUGGLE,+ DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR, WHO IS UMNO PRESIDENT, SAID WHEN OPENING THE PERAK UMNO-MAJU BUILDING HERE.

IN HIS 80-MINUTE SPEECH, HE TOUCHED ON THE HISTORY OF UMNO'S FORMATION AND ITS OBJECTIVES, THE CAUSE OF THE MALAYS AND THE CURRENT SITUATION AND CHALLENGES FACED. -- MORE
1855MST 10 04 87

D609

B E188 AAE
MAHATHIR-UMNO 2 IPOH R R R R R R

ACCORDING TO HIM, BECOMING AN UMNO LEADER IN THE PAST DID NOT BRING MUCH PRIVILEGE, OTHER THAN THE STATUS OF REPRESENTING THE MALAY RACE OR SPEAKING ON ITS BEHALF.

THESE LEADERS HAD TO SPEND OUT OF THEIR OWN POCKET FOR PARTY BUSINESS SUCH AS EXPERIENCED BY THE LATE DATUK ONN JAAFAR AND TUNKU ABDUL RAHMAN BECAUSE OF THE POVERTY AMONG THE MALAYS AT THAT TIME.

+ANYONE WHO BECAME A LEADER HAD TO WORK HARD TO FULFILL THE ASPIRATIONS OF THE MALAYS IN THIS COUNTRY,+ HE ADDED.

HE SAID THE LEADERS OF THE PAST NEVER COMPLAINED AND +NOBODY JOSTLED TO GET THIS OR THAT POST.+

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR WAS ALSO GRATIFIED THAT THE LEADERS WERE SINCERE AND NO ONE CHALLENGED THEM, ENABLING THEM TO DISCHARGE THEIR DUTIES WITH CALM AND WITH THE RESPECT OF ALL UMNO MEMBERS. -- MORE
1917MST 10 04 87

D629

B E198 AAE
MAHATHIR-UMNO 3 IPOH R R R R R R

+THE MEMBERS ON THEIR PART WERE UNANIMOUS IN THEIR SUPPORT OF THE LEADERS SO THAT WHATEVER WAS SAID BY THE LEADERS BECAME ALSO THE ASPIRATIONS OF THE COMMON PEOPLE,+ HE ADDED.

THIS MADE LEADERS OF THAT TIME HIGHLY RESPECTED, FOR THEIR WORDS CARRIED WEIGHT, AND, IN COOPERATING WITH OTHER PARTIES, UMNO LEADERS WERE AGAIN THE ONES WHOSE VIEWS AND SUGGESTIONS WERE ACCEPTED WHOLLY.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR STRESSED THAT THIS STATE OF AFFAIRS WAS WHAT GAVE UMNO'S STRENGTH ITS IMPACT AND WHICH NEEDED TO BE PRESERVED.

ON MALAY UNITY, HE ASKED THE PEOPLE TO STUDY THE SITUATION OF THE MALAYS BEFORE INDEPENDENCE, WHEN THEY WERE DIVIDIED BY PAROCHIALISM AND THUS EASY PREY FOR FOREIGN DOMINATION AND COLONISATION.

UMNO WAS THE PARTY WHICH FREED THE MALAYS AND THE COUNTRY FROM COLONIAL RULE AND WON FOR THEM INDEPENDENCE, AND WITH THE PRESSURE APPLIED BY THE UMNO YOUTH, INDEPENDENCE WAS ACHIEVED TWO YEARS AHEAD OF THE TARGET DATE PROMISED BY THE BRITISH, HE ADDED. -- MORE
1955MST 10 04 87

0637

B E199 AAE
MAHATHIR-UMNO 4 IPOH R R R R R R

HE ALSO REMINDED UMNO MEMBERS AND MALAYS NEVER TO FORGET THE IMPORTANCE OF UNITY EVEN THOUGH THE MALAYS TODAY HAD ACHIEVED SUCCESS IN VARIOUS FIELDS

+IF BEFORE THEY WERE POOR, LACKED PROFESSIONALS IN THEIR NUMBERS AND SUFFERED EDUCATION AND OTHER DEPRIVATIONS, THE MALAYS TODAY HAVE REDEEMED THEIR HONOUR AND ACHIEVED SUCCESS AS A RESULT OF UMNO'S STRUGGLE AND MALAY UNITY THROUGH UMNO. DON'T EVER FORGET THIS,+ HE ADDED.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR STRESSED THAT ONLY SOLIDARITY COULD GUARANTEE SUCCESS FOR WITHOUT IT +WE CAN NEVER SUCCEED NO MATTER HOW CLEVER WE ARE.+

+THAT IS WHY WE MUST VALUE UNITY (IN LINE WITH THE UMNO SLOGAN: UNITY, LOYALTY, SERVICE) AND EVERY MEMBER WHETHER OR NOT HE HOLDS A POST MUST UNDERSTAND THIS REALITY.+

HE SAID THAT IN THIS MODERN WORLD, STRENGTH WAS THE BASIS OF SUCCESS FOR THE WEAK WOULD NEVER BE RESPECTED. -- MORE
2009MST 10 04 87

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B E200 AAE
MAHATHIR-UMNO 5 IPOH R R R R R R

THE UMNO PRESIDENT SAID UNITY COULD BE ATTAINED IF MEMBERS THOUGHT OF AND LOVED THE PARTY AND +IF WE ARE NOT CONCERNED WITH ONLY OURSELVES, OUR POSITION.+

+WHEN WE START ASKING WHAT WE ARE GOING TO GET BECAUSE OTHERS GOT SOMETHING, THEN FEELINGS OF ENVY AND OTHER UNHEALTHY EMOTIONS WILL SURFACE,+ HE SAID, TO SHOUTS OF +HIDUP MAHATHIR+ (LONG LIVE MAHATHIR) AND +SINGIRKAN PETUALANG+ (DRIVE OUT THE OPPORTUNISTS).

THROUGHOUT HIS SPEECH, DELIVERED WITHOUT A TEXT, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR APPEARED RELAXED AND OCCASIONALLY SMILED AT HIS AUDIENCE OF THOUSANDS WHO WAVED BANNERS EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR HIM.

AN ESTIMATED 20,000 PEOPLE INCLUDING UMNO MEMBERS FROM OTHER STATES HAD TURNED UP FOR THE FUNCTION HELD IN THE CENTRE OF THE TOWN HERE.

PRESENT WERE THE MENTERIS BESAR OF PERLIS, KEDAH, SELANGOR, NEGERI SEMBILAN AND JOHOR AND THE CHIEF MINISTER OF MELAKA, UMNO YOUTH HEAD ANWAR IBRAHIM, WANITA UMNO CHIEF DATIN PADUKA RAFIDAH AZIZ, MINISTERS, DEPUTY MINISTERS AND STATE GOVERNMENT LEADERS.

THE \$16 MILLION 10-STOREY MAJU-UMNO BUILDING WAS JOINTLY SET UP BY PERAK UMNO AND AN UMNO SUBSIDIARY COMPANY. -- BERNAMA
2030MST 10 04 87