

DJ41

U E126 AAE  
MAHATHIR-ISLAM

GENTING HIGHLANDS, JULY 19 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD HAS REMINDED MUSLIMS NOT TO ISOLATE THEMSELVES AND LEAD A LIFE FREE FROM OUTSIDE INFLUENCE.

+TO ISOLATE OURSELVES AND TO LEAD A LIFE UNAFFECTED BY OUTSIDE INFLUENCE IS NO LONGER POSSIBLE,+ SAYS THE PRIME MINISTER IN A MESSAGE IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE OPENING OF A THREE-DAY CONFERENCE ON THE FUTURE OF THE MUSLIM UMMAH HERE.

HE SAID THERE IS NO SINGLE FORMULA FOR MUSLIMS TO ADAPT THEMSELVES TO THE CONSTANTLY CHANGING WORLD.

+IF WE ADAPT TOO MUCH (TO THE CHANGE) WE MAY LOSE OUR RELIGION. ON THE OTHER HAND, IF WE REMAIN RIGID AND CLING TO THE OLD ISLAMIC WAYS, WE MAY BE WIPED OUT,+ SAYS DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR.

THEREFORE, HE SAYS, THE DEBATE ON THE FUTURE OF THE MUSLIM UMMAH WILL HAVE TO BE A CONTINUOUS ONE. -- MORE

1827MST 19 07 87

DJ42

U E127 AAE  
MAHATHIR-ISLAM 2 GENTING HIGHLANDS

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAYS THAT ISLAM ACCEPT DIFFERENCES IN INTERPRETATION BY EXPERTS INVOLVED IN THE DEBATE AS LONG AS THE DIFFERENCES DO NOT INVOLVE MATTERS OF PRINCIPLE.

+IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE DO NOT RUSH TO CONDEMN THOSE WHO DIFFER FROM OUR VIEWS, NOR SHOULD WE IMMEDIATELY QUESTION THEIR CREDENTIALS,+ SAYS THE PRIME MINISTER. -- BERNAMA

1828MST 19 07 87