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MAHATHIR-ELITIST  
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BALING, AUG 17<sup>87</sup> (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHAHTIR MOHAMAD TODAY REMINDED THE ELITE GROUP IN THE COUNTRY TO BE CAREFUL WHEN TAKING ANY ACTION TO PRESSURE THE GOVERNMENT.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THEY COULD GIVE THEIR VIEWS AND PRESENT MEMORANDA FOR STUDY BY THE GOVERNMENT BUT THEY SHOULD NEVER REGARD THEMSELVES AS REPRESENTING THE MALAYSIAN PEOPLE.

LAUNCHING THE RISDA MINI-ESTATE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME AT KAMPUNG SADEK NEAR HERE, HE STRESSED THEY SHOULD RESPECT THE COUNTRY'S SYSTEM OF DEMOCRACY WHICH PROVIDED FOR A GOVERNMENT THROUGH POPULAR VOTE.

HE SAID THE ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES VOTED BY THE PEOPLE IN ELECTIONS WERE THE ONES WITH THE RIGHT TO FORMULATE AND DECIDE GOVERNMENT POLICIES AND NOT THE ELITISTS WHO HE ADDED REPRESENTED ONLY A MINORITY IN THE POPULATION.

HE TOLD THIS GROUP THAT IF THEY TRULY WANTED TO BECOME CHAMPIONS OF THE PEOPLE, THEY SHOULD CONTEST IN THE ELECTIONS -- MORE  
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MAHATHIR-ELITIST 2 BALING

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE PEOPLE SHOULD NOT BE INFLUENCED BY THE VIEWS OF THESE INTELLECTUALS BUT SUPPORT THE DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM IN PRACTICE IN THE COUNTRY WHERE THE GOVERNMENT WAS FORMED THROUGH THE GENERAL ELECTION.

THROUGH A GOVERNMENT ELECTED BY THE PEOPLE, MANY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES COULD BE CARRIED OUT FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID INTELLECTUALS AND THE ELITE COULD GIVE THEIR VIEWS AND OPINIONS AND HOLD SEMINARS AS WELL AS PRESENT MEMORANDA TO THE GOVERNMENT FOR CONSIDERATION.

BUT THEY SHOULD NOT CONSIDER THEMSELVES AN ALTERNATIVE TO THE GOVERNMENT CONSTITUTIONALLY ELECTED BY THE PEOPLE. -- BERNAMA  
1230MST 17 08 87