

D655

U E401 AAE  
MAHATHIR-UNITY  
BM

KUCHING, SEPT 17 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD REMINDED TODAY THAT AN IMPORTANT CONDITION FOR THE COUNTRY'S CONTINUED PROGRESS AND SUCCESS IS THAT THERE MUST BE PEACE AND HARMONY.

THIS IN TURN REQUIRED THAT THERE BE UNITY AMONG THE PEOPLE, HE SAID, ADDING THAT FEELINGS OF PAROCHIALISM SHOULD BE REPLACED WITH FEELINGS OF PRIDE TOWARDS MALAYSIA.

SPEAKING AT THE BARISAN NASIONAL YOUTH SOLIDARITY DAY GATHERING AT PETRA JAYA HERE, HE SAID THE PEOPLE SHOULD IN FACT BE GIVING PRIORITY TO THE COUNTRY RATHER THAN THEIR OWN STATE.

+IF WE DO NOT HAVE FEELINGS TOWARDS OUR COUNTRY, THE NATIONALIST SPIRIT WILL BE WEAK AND WE WILL HAVE A VERY NARROW VIEW, FOCUSSED ONLY ON ONE SMALL PLACE. THIS WILL SURELY MAKE US FEEBLE,+ HE SAID.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT THE PEOPLE OF SABAH AND SARAWAK WERE FORTUNATE IN THAT THEY CONTINUED TO ENJOY RAPID PROGRESS.

HE SAID MANY NATIONS WHICH RECENTLY BECAME INDEPENDENT WERE STILL BACKWARD AND THEIR PEOPLE OF VARIOUS RACES WERE QUARRELLING AND FIGHTING AMONG ONE ANOTHER.

THERE WERE ALSO THOSE THAT WERE NO LONGER DEMOCRATIC AND WERE BEING RULED IN A DICTATORIAL MANNER, HE ADDED. -- MORE  
1953MST 17 09 87

D667

U E403 AAE  
MAHATHIR-UNITY 2 KUCHING

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THAT IF THE PEOPLE OF SARAWAK WERE TO COMPARE THE SITUATION IN THE STATE BEFORE AND AFTER MERDEKA, IT WOULD BE CLEAR THAT THEIR POSITION WAS MUCH BETTER NOW THAN PREVIOUSLY.

THE PEOPLE SHOULD THUS BE THANKFUL AND STRIVE TO BE UNITED, KEEPING IN MIND HOW VITAL IT WAS TO HAVE SOLIDARITY AMONG THE PEOPLE AS WELL AS AMONG THE STATES IN PENINSULAR MALAYSIA AND SABAH AND SARAWAK AND ALSO BN COMPONENT PARTIES.

HE SAID THERE WERE QUARTERS WHO FELT UNEASY IN SEEING THE COOPERATION WITHIN THE BN AND TRIED TO CREATE MATTERS THAT COULD BRING ABOUT TENSION AND ENMITY AMONG THE COMPONENT PARTIES.

+AND WITH THIS OUR PARTY (THE BN) MIGHT BE DESTROYED. HOWEVER, EVEN IF THE PARTY IS DESTROYED BUT SOLIDARITY AMONG THE PEOPLE IS MAINTAINED, IT IS IMMATERIAL. WHAT WILL BE UNFORTUNATE IS THAT IF THERE IS NO BN AND WITH IT GOES THE UNITY AMONG THE RACES,+ HE SAID.

AS SUCH, HE SAID, THE PHILOSOPHY OF UNITY MUST BE INSTILLED AMONG THE PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY THE YOUTH, BECAUSE IT WAS THE YOUTH WHO WOULD INHERIT THE NATION.

HE ADDED THAT IT WAS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE OLDER GENERATION TO IMPART THE PHILOSOPHY TO THE YOUTH. -- MORE  
2015MST 17 09 87

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MAHATHIR-UNITY 3 KUCHING

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT IN THIS WAY THE YOUTH WOULD IN FUTURE BE ABLE TO RUN THE COUNTRY IN THE SAME WAY, THAT IS, MAINTAINING STABILITY AND BRINGING ABOUT SUCCESS AS WAS BEING DONE BY THE BN GOVERNMENT WHICH COMPRISED 13 COMPONENT PARTIES REPRESENTING THE VARIOUS COMMUNITIES.

HE SAID THAT MUCH MORE NEEDED TO BE DONE TO DEVELOP THE COUNTRY, ADDING THAT POLITICAL STABILITY WAS IMPORTANT TO ENSURE THIS.

IF THERE WAS NO POLITICAL STABILITY, LIKE, FOR EXAMPLE THERE OCCURRED RACIAL CONFLICTS, THE COUNTRY AND THE PEOPLE WOULD SUFFER, HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE PEOPLE SHOULD BE DETERMINED TO DEVELOP THEIR COUNTRY LIKE THOSE IN EUROPE, JAPAN, SOUTH KOREA AND TAIWAN.

HE SAID THAT THIS COULD BE ACHIEVED IF THE PEOPLE STRIVED FROM NOW FOR IT, ADDING THAT THOSE COUNTRIES WERE INITIALLY POOR AND BACKWARD.

THE PRIME MINISTER ALSO REITERATED HIS CALL TO THE YOUTH MEMBERS OF BN PARTIES TO REFRAIN FROM MAKING STATEMENTS THAT COULD HURT THE FEELINGS OF OTHERS AS THIS COULD AFFECT UNITY AMONG THE PEOPLE.

ANY PROBLEM FACED SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO THE DISCUSSIONS TABLE FOR CLOSED-DOOR TALKS AND NOT LOUDLY BROADCASTED. -- MORE  
2044MST 17 09 87

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U E409 AAE  
MAHATHIR-UNITY 4 KUCHING

EARLIER, SARAWAK CHIEF MINISTER DATUK PATINGGI HAJI ABDUL TAIB MAHMUD HIT OUT AT CERTAIN PEOPLE WHO HE SAID TRIED TO PROJECT THEMSELVES AS CHAMPIONS OVER CERTAIN ISSUES WITHOUT TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE INTEREST OF THE COUNTRY.

HE SAID THEY ATTEMPTED TO CREATE CHAOS BY RAISING ISSUES, LIKE CALLING FOR A REVISION OF THE FEDERAL CONSTITUTION AND DISREGARDING THE WISHES OF THE MAJORITY.

DATUK PATINGGI HAJI ABDUL TAIB SAID THAT SARAWAK WAS +100 PERCENT+ BEHIND THE GOVERNMENT OF DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR TO MAINTAIN UNITY AND PROGRESS AND THAT IT WOULD NOT ALLOW THESE +CHAMPIONS+ TO DESTROY THEM.

HE SAID THAT SARAWAK HAD PROGRESSED RAPIDLY SINCE JOINING MALAYSIA.

ABOUT 2,000 BN YOUTH MEMBERS ATTENDED THE GATHERING. ALSO PRESENT WERE ACTING UMNO YOUTH HEAD DATUK SERI NAJIB TUN RAZAK AND LEADERS OF OTHER BN COMPONENT PARTIES. -- BERNAMA  
2111MST 17 09 87