

0576

U E746 AAE
MAHATHIR-LEADERS
BM

SEREMBAN, JULY 2 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY THE COURTROOM WAS NOT A PLACE TO DECIDE ON PARTY LEADERS AS LEADERS ARE CHOSEN BY PARTY MEMBERS BASED ON THEIR CONFIDENCE AND SUPPORT.

THE PRIME MINISTER, WHO IS ALSO UMNO PRESIDENT, SAID LEADERS IN DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL ORGANISATIONS ARE THOSE WHO ARE POPULARLY SUPPORTED AND NOT +UPHELD BY THE COURT+ OR ANYONE.

+IF THE COURT WERE TO DECIDE ON LEADERS, THERE WOULD BE NO NECESSITY FOR PARTY ELECTIONS,+ HE SAID AT A SPECIAL MEETING WITH UMNO LEADERS AT GELANGGANG BUDAYA, PAROI, NEAR HERE.

REFERRING TO THE ACTION OF THE GROUP OF 11 WHO BROUGHT PARTY PROBLEMS TO COURT, HE SAID, THE HIGH COURT RULING THAT THE PARTY WAS AN ILLEGAL ORGANISATION DID NOT TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE INTEREST OF THE MALAYS AND IT WAS ONLY BASED ON THE LAW.

THE COURT SHOULD IN FACT STICK TO THE LAWS AND NOT OTHER MATTERS.

+IF THE COURT DECIDES ON LEADERS BUT WE DO NOT HAVE CONFIDENCE IN THAT LEADER, HE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO LEAD EITHER,+ HE SAID. -- MORE
2110MST 02 07 88

MAHATHIR-LEADERS 2 SEREMBAN

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID MALAYS JOINED UMNO BECAUSE THEY HAD CONFIDENCE IN UMNO TO ESPOUSE AND DETERMINE THEIR FATE IN THE FUTURE, NOT BASED ON WHO THE PARTY LEADERS WERE.

+IF THAT IS THE CASE (BASED ON WHO THE LEADER IS) FOR BECOMING A REASON FOR US JOINING THE PARTY, IF THE LEADER DIES, SO WILL THE PARTY,+ HE ADDED.

HE SAID THAT IN A PARTY ELECTION, IF THE LOSERS ALIENATE THEMSELVES, THEN THE PARTY WILL SHRINK AFTER EACH ELECTION UNTIL IT DISAPPEARS IN THE END.

+IF WE WANT TO ENSURE THE CONTINUITY OF A PARTY, IT IS VITAL THAT THE WINNERS ARE BACKED BY THE LOSERS. WE MUST CLOSE RANKS,+ HE SAID.

HE ALSO SAID UMNO WAS FORMED WITH THE SAME KIND OF ASPIRATIONS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES AS THE ORIGINAL UMNO AND, AS SUCH, IT WAS +THE SAME PARTY+.

AS SUCH, HE SAID, WE WANT UMNO TO BE STRONG AND POPULARLY SUPPORTED, JUST LIKE THE ORIGINAL UMNO. -- MORE
2112MST 02 07 88

MAHATHIR-LEADERS 3 SEREMBAN

+WITH THIS, WE CAN BE MORE ACTIVE AND OUR VOICE WILL BE RESPECTED AND WE CAN ACHIEVE OUR OBJECTIVES,+ HE SAID.

HE URGED UMNO COMMITTEE MEMBERS AT THE DIVISIONAL AND BRANCH LEVELS TO BE MORE ACTIVE IN REGISTERING MEMBERS.

THE PRIME MINISTER URGED PARTY MEMBERS TO ATTEND THE UMNO GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO DEMONSTRATE THE UNITY OF THE MALAYS. -- BERNAMA
2113MST 02 07 88