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MAHATHIR-CONGRESS

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KUALA LUMPUR, OCT 28 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD ADVISED THE MALAYS TODAY NOT TO GO OVERBOARD IN HAVING CONGRESSES TO REUNITE THE COMMUNITY AS SUCH EFFORTS CAN BACKFIRE AND CAUSE A WORSE SPLIT AMONG THEM.

IF EVERYONE WERE TO HAVE THEIR MAY AND HOLD A CONGRESS EACH TIME, EVENTUALLY 10 CONGRESSES WOULD HAVE PASSED AND THE MALAYS STILL REMAINED DISUNITED, HE SAID.

SPAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER OPENING THE THREE-DAY UMNO GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT PUTRA WORLD TRADE CENTRE HERE, HE SAID +THE SAME THING HAPPENED IN UMNO, WHEN ONE SIDE WANTED TO RE-REGISTER THE PARTY, THERE WAS ANOTHER GROUP TRYING TO DO THE SAME, PURPORTEDLY TO REUNITE THE MALAYS.+

HE SAID AT THE LAST COUNT, THERE WERE THREE GROUPS TRYING TO REVIVE MALAY UNITY -- UMNO, TENSKU RAJALEISH'S GROUP AND THE INTELLECTUALS.

EFFORTS FOR THE REUNIFICATION OF THE MALAY COMMUNITY WERE BEING UNDERTAKEN BY UMNO WHICH HAD OPENED ITS MEMBERSHIP TO ALL MALAYS, WHILE THE OTHER TWO GROUPS ONLY WANTED TO SHOW OFF THEIR +PROGRESS+ IN GETTING THE MALAYS TO COME TOGETHER AGAIN. -- MORE
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EVERYONE REALISED UMNO WAS THE LARGEST MALAY PARTY IN THE COUNTRY AT PRESENT AND IT WAS THEREFORE ONLY LOGICAL FOR THE SMALLER GROUP TO JOIN THE PARTY.

+BY THE SAME TOKEN, IT WOULD NOT BE LOGICAL FOR THE LARGER GROUP TO JOIN THE SMALLER ONE.+

ON MALAYSIA'S ELECTION TO THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID IT PROVED MALAYSIA HAD WON RECOGNITION IN THE INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL SCENE.

THE ELECTION WAS ALSO AN OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT FOR MALAYSIA IN PLAYING ITS ROLE IN THE UN. MALAYSIA HAD TAKEN AN ACTIVE PART IN TALKS ON THE KAMPUCHEAN PROBLEM AND WEST ASIAN CONFLICT AT THIS INTERNATIONAL FORUM.

HE ATTRIBUTED MALAYSIA'S SUCCESS TO ITS MODERATE AND NON-PARTISAN ATTITUDE AND SAID MALAYSIA'S STAND WAS TO SUPPORT ANY GOOD VIEW WITHOUT BEING COMMITTED TO ANY PARTICULAR BLOC OR CONTINENT. -- BERNAMA
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