

D496

B E039 AAE
MAHATHIR-UMNO (CORRECTED REPETITION)
BH

KUALA LUMPUR, FEB 13 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY THE TOP LEADERSHIP COULD NOT GIVE IN TO THE DEMANDS MADE BY THE 11 FORMER UMNO MEMBERS FOR AN OUT-OF-COURT SETTLEMENT OF THEIR SUIT AGAINST THE PARTY.

HE SAID AMONG THE CONDITIONS LAID DOWN BY THE 11 (IF THE CASE WERE TO BE SETTLED OUT OF COURT) WERE THAT THE PARTY PRESIDENT RESIGN AND THE POST BE GIVEN TO A CERTAIN PERSON.

+THEIR CASE WAS ACTUALLY A QUESTION OF WHETHER OR NOT THE PARTY GENERAL ASSEMBLY LAST APRIL 24 WAS VALID, INSTEAD, THEY WANTED THE PARTY PRESIDENT TO BE REPLACED BY A CERTAIN SOMEBODY,+ DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR TOLD A GROUP OF 40 REPRESENTATIVES OF SMALLHOLDERS AT HIS OFFICE HERE.

HE SAID THE 11 WERE NOT WILLING TO ACCEPT ANY OTHER CANDIDATE FOR THE PARTY PRESIDENT'S POST AND STUCK TO THEIR CHOICE.

+WE ASKED (THEM) WHETHER SOMEONE ELSE WILL DO AND THEY SAID NO ONE ONLY THIS PERSON,+ HE SAID.

FOLLOWING THIS, HE SAID, THEY PROCEEDED WITH THEIR COURT ACTION AND THE COURT SUBSEQUENTLY RULED UMNO TO HAVE BEEN AN UNLAWFUL SOCIETY WHEN IT HELD ITS GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ELECTIONS LAST APRIL.

-- MORE (ENDS CORRECTED REPETITION)
2211MST 13 02 88

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B E973 AAE
MAHATHIR-UMNO 2 KUALA LUMPUR

THE HIGH COURT, IN DISMISSING THE SUIT BROUGHT BY THE 11, HAD HELD THE APRIL 24 GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ELECTIONS LAST YEAR TO BE A +NULLITY+ DUE TO THE EXISTENCE OF UNAPPROVED BRANCHES.

+THIS IS WHAT IS SO SADDENING, WHEN WE QUARREL AMONG OURSELVES, WE SHOULD NOT TAKE THE MATTER TO COURT,+ DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID.

HE SAID THE COURT HAD NO SENTIMENTS FOR UMNO OR THE MALAY RACE AS IT HAD TO FOLLOW THE LAWS.

+HAD THE CASE NOT BEEN BROUGHT TO COURT (BUT TO THE UMNO SUPREME COUNCIL), THE SUPREME COUNCIL WOULD NOT HAVE DECLARED UMNO AN UNLAWFUL SOCIETY.

+THE COURT HAS RULED US AN UNLAWFUL SOCIETY BECAUSE SOME OF US HAD BROUGHT THE MATTER TO COURT,+ HE SAID. -- MORE

1619MST 13 02 88

D489

B E034 AAE

ATTENTION EDITORS: HERE CORRECTED REPETITION OF TWO TAKES OF
ITEM SLUGGED +MAHATHIR-UMNO+:

MAHATHIR-UMNO 3 KUALA LUMPUR (CORRECTED REPETITION)

HE SAID THE TOP LEADERSHIP HAD EXPECTED ALL BRANCHES TO HAVE
HELD VALID GENERAL MEETINGS BEFORE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE SUPREME COUNCIL HAD THE POWER TO
DECLARE SUCH A MEETING VALID IF IT DID NOT RECEIVE ANY REPORT OF
PROTESTS QUESTIONING ITS VALIDITY WITHIN 14 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF
THE MEETING.

HE SAID WITHIN THIS PERIOD, NO ONE HAD REPORTED ABOUT ANY
MEETING BEING NOT VALID AND BASED ON THIS, +WE PROCEEDED WITH THE
GENERAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY THINKING EVERYTHING WAS IN ORDER.+

+BUT THESE PEOPLE (THE GROUP OF 11) HAD REPORTED (THE
INVALIDITY) ONLY AFTER THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,+ HE SAID, ADDING THAT
THEY DID NOT BRING THE MATTER TO THE ATTENTION OF THE SUPREME
COUNCIL BUT WENT STRAIGHT TO COURT.

+THESE ARE THE PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT LOYAL TO UMNO.+ -- MORE
2050MST 13 02 88

D490

B E035 AAE

MAHATHIR-UMNO 4 KUALA LUMPUR (CORRECTED REPETITION)

+I FEEL SAD BECAUSE IT LOOKS LIKE THERE WILL BE NO END TO THIS
MATTER,+ HE SAID.

+THEY SWORE THEIR MOVE WAS MADE IN THE INTERESTS OF UMNO BUT IT
WAS ACTUALLY FOR THEIR OWN INTERESTS.

+IF YOU WANT MALAY POWER TO REMAIN, DO NOT BE INFLUENCED BY THE
PROPAGANDA THAT WILL BE LAUNCHED, THE GROUNDWORK FOR WHICH SEEMS TO
HAVE ALREADY BEEN LAID,+ HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID AS IT WERE, THE MALAYS WERE ALREADY
DIVIDED DUE TO THERE BEING TWO PARTIES TO REPRESENT THEM (UMNO AND
PAS), WHAT MORE WITH THE MOVE TO SET UP YET ANOTHER ONE.

EARLIER, THE SMALLHOLDER REPRESENTATIVES LED BY CHAIRMAN OF THE
LARUT MATANG SMALLHOLDERS' COOPERATIVE HAJI AHMAD MANSOR PLEDGED
THEIR LOYALTY TO THE LEADERSHIP OF DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR AND DEPUTY
PRIME MINISTER GHAFAR BABA. -- MORE (ENDS CORRECTED REPETITION)
2054MST 13 02 88

B E989 AAE

MAHATHIR-UMNO 5 KUALA LUMPUR

ALSO PRESENT WAS DEPUTY LAND AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT MINISTER
DATUK KHALID YUNUS.

MEANWHILE, 22 MEMBERS OF THE PENINSULAR MALAYSIA PENGHULU AND
PENGGAWA ASSOCIATION LED BY ITS PRESIDENT, HAJI MAJID BABA, PLEDGED
THEIR LOYALTY TO DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR AND ENCIK GHAFAR.

THE MADE THEIR PLEDGE BEFORE ENCIK GHAFAR IN THE PRIME
MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT. -- BERNAMA
1736MST 13 02 88