

D162

U E223 AAE
MAHATHIR-MALAYS
BM

JITRA, MAY 11 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY ASKED THE MALAYS TO REFLECT UPON THE THREAT FACED BY THEM 42 YEARS AGO WHICH LED TO THE SETTING UP OF UMNO ON MAY 11, 1946.

HE SAID THE MALAYS HAD NOW FORGOTTEN ABOUT THEIR FEARS THEN OF THE BRITISH WHO WANTED TO SEIZE THEIR RIGHTS AND COUNTRY AND MAKE THE RULERS AS +CHIEF KADIS+ TO BE MERELY IN CHARGE OF CUSTOMS AND ISLAMIC MATTERS.

HE SAID THAT BECAUSE OF THEIR FORGETTING ABOUT THE PRESSURE OF LIFE OF THE MALAYS AT THAT TIME, SOME OF THEM NOW WERE PREPARED TO DO +ALL SORTS OF THINGS+ TO THE EXTENT OF HANDING OVER THE FATE OF THE RACE TO THE COURTS.

THIS HAD LED TO THE ORGANISATION THAT HAD PROTECTED THE MALAYS BEING RULED UNLAWFUL, HE SAID AT THE BREAKING OF FAST AND +NUZUL QURAN+ AT MASJID KAMPUNG PULAU KETAM NEAR HERE TONIGHT.

HE SAID IT WAS FORTUNATE THAT THE ORGANISATION THAT HAD BEEN RULED UNLAWFUL HAD BEEN REPLACED BY ANOTHER BODY. -- MORE
2249MST 11 05 88

D163

R E224 AAE
MAHATHIR - MALAYS 2 ALOR SETAR

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE DAY ON WHICH UMNO WAS SET UP WAS AN IMPORTANT DATE TO REFLECT UPON FOR REMEMBERING THE LESSON THAT THE MALAYS COULD BE UNITED WHEN PRESSURED.

AT THAT TIME THERE WAS NOT MUCH SPLIT AMONG THE MALAYS BECAUSE OF THEIR FEAR THAT THEY WOULD GO DOWN AS A RACE, HE SAID.

+OUR FATE WAS SO DEPENDENT ON UMNO AT THAT TIME AND MAY 11 IS THE DATE OF THE BIRTH OF THE BASTION FOR DEFENDING THE POSITION OF THE MALAY RACE,+ HE SAID.

THE PRIME MINISTER WAS ALSO CONFIDENT THAT EVEN THOUGH A PERSON WAS NOT AN UMNO SUPPORTER HE WOULD, IF HE ASKED HIMSELF HONESTLY, AGREE THAT THE FATE OF THE MALAYS HAD ALL THIS WHILE BEEN SAFEGUARDED BECAUSE OF UMNO.

HE SAID THE PEOPLE OF THE COUNTRY MUST REALISE THAT THEY WERE NOT SUFFERING LIKE THOSE IN SOME ISLAMIC COUNTRIES AND THUS SHOULD NOT ACT RASHLY OR IRRESPONSIBLY TO THE EXTENT OF CAUSING THE RACE TO BE THREATENED.

-- MORE

2255MST 11 05 88

D164

U E225 AAE
MAHATHIR-MALAYS 3 JITRA

KEDAH MENTERI BESAR DATUK SERI HAJI OSMAN AROFF SAID THE PEOPLE OF KEDAH STOOD SOLIDLY BEHIND DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR.

HE SAID THE PEOPLE IN THE STATE HOPED DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR WOULD NOT STEP BACK FROM FACING ANY FORM OF CHALLENGE AT PRESENT OR IN THE FUTURE.

-- BERNAMA

2256MST 11 05 88