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MAHATHIR-46

Btl

KUALA TERENGGANU, AUG 23 (BERNAMA) -- P R I M E M I N I S T E R D A T U K S E R I  
DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY LIKENED SOME OF THE SEMANGAT 46 LEADERS TO  
THE HISTORICAL CHARACTERS SIKITOL AND RAJA MANDALIAR WHO HE SAID  
WERE PREPARED TO SEE THE MELAKA MALAY GOVERNMENT FALL TO THE  
PORTUGUESE AFTER NOT GETTING WHAT THEY WANTED.

HE SAID A MORE APPROPRIATE NAME FOR THE PARTY WOULD BE +KUMPULAN  
KECEWA 87+ (FRUSTRATED GROUP 87) BECAUSE THEIR LEADERS WERE UMNO  
LEADERS WHO WERE FRUSTRATED AFTER FAILING TO WIN IMPORTANT POSTS IN  
THE 1987 UMNO GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

+WHEN IT DID NOT GET WHAT IT WANTED, THIS GROUP WAS PREPARED TO  
ACT LIKE SI KITOL AND RAJA MANDALIAR BY FINDING VARIOUS MEANS,  
INCLUDING THROUGH THE COURT, TO BRING DOWN THE PEOPLE THEY HAD  
FAILED TO TOPPLE AT THE ASSEMBLY,+ HE SAID WHEN OPENING THE  
DELEGATES' CONFERENCE OF THE KUALA NERUS UMNO DIVISION AND ITS YOUTH  
AND WANITA WINGS AT KOLEJ AGAMA SULTAN ZAINAL ABIDIN NEAR HERE..

MENTERI BESAR TAN SRI HAJI WAN MOKHTAR AHMAD, MINISTER IN THE  
PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT DATUK DR YUSOF NOR AND SEVERAL UMNO  
DIVISION LEADERS FROM ALL OVER THE STATE WERE AMONG THOSE PRESENT.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT BECAUSE OF THEIR OVER-EAGERNESS FOR  
POWER, THE ACTIONS OF THIS GROUP HAD CAUSED UMNO TO BE DECLARED  
UNLAWFUL BY THE COURTS. -- MORE

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HE SAID THAT AFTER UMNO WAS REVIVED, THIS GROUP WAS STILL NOT  
SATISFIED AND CONTINUED WITH ITS ATTEMPTS TO WREST POWER AND TAKE  
REVENGE ON THOSE WHO HAD OBSTRUCTED THEM FROM ACHIEVING THEIR  
AMBITIONS.

NOW, HE SAID, THIS GROUP WAS USING DECEIT TO CONFUSE THE MALAYS,  
INCLUDING CLAIMING THAT SEHANGAT 46 WAS SIMILAR TO UMNO WHICH WAS  
FORMED IN 1946 UNDER DATUK ONN JAAFAR BECAUSE ITS REGISTRATION DATE  
WAS THE SAME, THAT IS MAY 11.

+ACTUALLY THE RECORDS SHOW THAT THE SEMANGAT 46 PARTY WAS  
REGISTERED ON MAY 5, AND NOT MAY 11 AS CLAIMED BY ITS LEADERS,+ HE  
SAID.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID SUCH DECEITFUL MEANS WERE NOT SURPRISING  
BECAUSE THE SEMANGAT 46 LEADERS COMPRISED FRUSTRATED PEOPLE.

HE URGED UMNO MEMBERS TO ABIDE BY THE REGULATIONS SET BY THE  
PARTY TO ENSURE THAT THE PARTY CONTINUED TO BE STRONG. -- MORE

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+FOR THE SAKE OF UNITY WITHIN **THE PARTY**, WE MUST BE PREPARED TO ACCEPT DEFEAT IN A CONTEST. WE **MUST** GIVE SUPPORT TO THE WINNER AND **AS** LOSERS, WE MUST CLOSE RANKS AND- RETURN T-6 SERVING THE **PARTY**,+ HE **SAID**.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR DISMISSED ALLEGATIONS THAT UMNO WAS NOW NO LONGER A PARTY THAT **PRACTISED** DEMOCRACY BECAUSE ITS SUPREME **COUNCIL** HAD DECIDED TO ADVISE THE MEMBERS TO AVOID CONTESTING FOR **IMP** OR TANT **POSTS** AT **DIVISIONAL** LEVEL.

HE SAID THAT WITH UMNO **IN** THE PROCESS, OF **REVIVING**, CONTESTS FOR IMPORTANT PARTY POSTS COULD CAUSE A SPLIT AMONG THE MEMBERS AND **ULTIMATELY** UMNO'S DESTRUCTION.

HE ALSO **REMINDED THEM** THAT **UMNO** WOULD BE FACING A BIG **TEST**, **NAMELY** THE GENERAL **ELECTION**, WHICH WOULD DEFINITELY BE HELD SOON.

AS SUCH, HE URGED THE MEMBERS TO GIVE UNDIVIDED SUPPORT TO THOSE **SELECTED** AS CANDIDATES FOR THE GENERAL **ELECTION**, BASED ON SUPPORT TO THE PARTY AND NOT TO INDIVIDUALS.,

HE SAID THE DEFEAT OF AN UMNO CANDIDATE WAS NOT THE DEFEAT OF AN INDIVIDUAL BUT THAT OF UMNO AS A WHOLE.

THE PRIME **MINISTER**, ACCOMPANIED BY HIS WIFE, DATUK **SERI** DATIN PADUKA **DRSITI**HASMAH, ARRIVED AT THE SULTAN MAHMUD AIRPORT NEAR HERE THIS MORNING AND LEFT FOR KUALA **LUMPUR** AFTER NOON. -- BERNAMA  
1640MST 25 08 89