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PULAU PINANG, SEPT 23 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY CALLED ON LEADERS OF BARISAN NASIONAL'S (BN) COMPONENT PARTIES TO AVOID CHAMPIONING NARROW PARTY AIMS BUT SHOULD STRUGGLE FOR CAUSES BENEFITING THE COUNTRY.

THE PRIME MINISTER WHO IS ALSO THE BN CHAIRMAN SAID COMPONENT PARTIES SHOULD WORK TOWARDS ENSURING A LASTING POLITICAL STABILITY AND UNITY AMONG THE PEOPLE.

OPENING THE GERAKAN DELEGATES CONFERENCE HERE, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE BN PRACTISES TOLERANCE, HONESTY AND RESPONSIBILITY AND WHATEVER IT DOES WAS FOR THE SAKE OF THE PEOPLE? NOT JUST A CERTAIN PARTY OR RACE.

+BN CONFRONTS PROBLEMS IN A RATIONAL AND RESPONSIBLE MANNER AND WILL ALWAYS COMPROMISE, ALL FOR THE SAKE OF THE PEOPLE,+ HE SAID.

WITH THE PEOPLE AND THE COUNTRY IN MIND, THE BN HAD ALWAYS CALLED ON THE OPPOSITION NOT TO POLITICISE EVERY ISSUE, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID.--MORE  
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+ALTHOUGH SOMETIMES THERE MIGHT BE SOME DIFFERENCES OF OPINION ON CERTAIN MATTERS, THE BN IS GENERALLY UNITED AND MISUNDERSTANDINGS WERE THRASHED OUT.

+WE SHOULD NOT LET OUR DIFFERING VIEWS BE EXPLOITED TO THE EXTENT THAT THEY BECOME THE SOURCE OF DISPUTES WHICH WILL JEOPARDISE THE COUNTRY'S POLITICAL STABILITY,+ DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID.

HE ALSO SAID THE MODERATE ATTITUDE OF BN COMPONENT PARTY MEMBERS WAS ONE OF THE FACTORS WHICH ALLOWED THE GOVERNMENT TO SUCCESSFULLY IMPLEMENT DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS.

+IF WE SUCCUMB TO EXTREMISM, THERE WILL BE CHAOS IN THE COUNTRY AND THE PEOPLE WILL SUFFER,+ HE SAID.

HE ALSO GAVE AN ASSURANCE THAT THE BN WOULD ENSURE THE COUNTRY WAS SAFEGUARDED FROM THREATS SO THAT THE PEOPLE WOULD ENJOY THE PEACE.

+THE BN IS NOT JUST UNITED DURING ELECTIONS OR WHEN FACING CHALLENGES BUT WE WILL ALWAYS BE UNITED IN OUR ACTIONS,+ HE SAID.  
--BERNAMA

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