

PBS-MAHATHIR

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KOTA KINABALU, SEPT 29 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR HAHATHIR MOHAHAD STRESSED TODAY THAT EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE NATIONAL INTEGRATION BETWEEN SABAH/SARAWAK AND PENINSULAR MALAYSIA MUST BE GIVEN PRIORITY IN THE INTEREST AND WELLBEING OF ALL MALAYSIANS.

OPENING THE FOURTH PART1 BERSATU SABAH CONGRESS HERE TODAY, HE ALSO HOPED THAT PAROCHIAL SENTIMENTS WILL BE ERADICATED.

HE SAID THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS ACTING POSITIVELY TO ACHIEVE NATIONAL UNITY AND ITS SUCCESSES CAN BE FELT, ALBEIT LITTLE BY LITTLE.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR, WHO IS ALSO BARISAN NASIONAL CHAIRMAN, REITERATED HIS STATEMENT MADE IN SARAWAK LAST WEEK THAT ALTHOUGH THE GOVERNMENT IS FLEXIBLE IN ATTITUDE, FIRM ACTION WILL BE TAKEN AGAINST ANYONE ACTING AGAINST DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES TO GRAB POWER AND IN THE PROCESS DISRUPT PEACE AND NATIONAL SECURITY. -- MORE
1331MST 29 09 89

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PBS-HAHATHIR 2 KOTA KINABALU

+IN A DEMOCRACY, THERE IS SUFFICIENT AND LAWFUL PROCESS TO GAIN POWER AND FORM A GOVERNMENT THROUGH THE SUPPORT OF THE PEOPLE,+ HE STRESSED. +WE DO NOT NEED TO USE OTHER METHODS WHICH ARE NOT PERMITTED IN SUCH A SYSTEM.+

ON SABAH, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID ITS INDEPENDENCE THROUGH MALAYSIA FOR A QUARTER CENTURY HAS BROUGHT THE STATE TO A LEVEL OF DEVELOPMENT THAT IS MUCH HIGHER THAN WHAT HAD BEEN ACHIEVED UNDER ONE CENTURY OF COLONIALISM.

HE SAID POLITICS IN SABAH, LIKE IN SARAWAK, IS RATHER UNIQUE BECAUSE THE OPPOSITION HERE IS A MEMBER OF THE BN (AT FEDERAL LEVEL).

+WE ARE FLEXIBLE AND TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE CIRCUMSTANCES. NEVERTHELESS1 THIS IS NOT SOMETHING TO BE ENCOURAGED,+ HE SAID, +BN COMPONENT PARTIES MUST COOPERATE CLOSELY AND CHECK THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR OPPOSITION PARTIES TO SLIP INSIDE.+

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID ALTHOUGH BN COMPONENTS MAY FACE INTERNAL PROBLEMS? THEIR ASSOCIATION (WITHIN BN) MUST REMAIN INTACT. -- MORE

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PBS-MAHATHIR 3 KOTA KINABALU (LAST)

HE HOPED PBS, AS A BN COMPONENT, WILL REMAIN STRONG BECAUSE THEN BN AS A WHOLE WILL BE STRONG AND DEVELOPMENT CAN BE CARRIED OUT WITH GREATER VIGOUR.

+IN A MULTIRACIAL SOCIETY LIKE MALAYSIA'S, IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO FULFILL ALL THE WANTS OF ALL QUARTER%,+ HE ADDED.

+BN HAS A FORMULA THAT ENSURES A PLACE FOR ALL COMMUNITIES AND IS RECEPTIVE TO ALL COMMUNITIES, SO MUCH SO THAT OPPOSITION PARTIES LIKE DAP AND PAS ARE NOW TRYING TO COPY IT. +

THE PRIME MINISTER WAS WARMLY WELCOMED BY ABOUT 21000 PEOPLE WHEN HE ARRIVED AT THE SABAH FOUNDATION COMPLEX TO OPEN THE CONGRESS.

HE WAS MET BY CHIEF MINISTER DATUK SERI JOSEPH PAIRIN KITINGAN, WHO IS ALSO PBS PRESIDENT, AND PARTY OFFICIALS.

ALSO PRESENT WERE REPRESENTATIVES OF USNO AND BERJAYA, WHO ARE IN THE OPPOSITION IN THE STATE BUT ARE BN COMPONENTS AT FEDERAL LEVEL. -- BERNAMA

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