

# PM: We must ensure continued growth

# Stand together,

# BN parties told

By Joseph Bingkasan  
and Colin Forsythe

**KOTA KINABALU, Fri. — Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today called on Barisan Nasional component parties to close ranks to ward off challenges by those aspiring for power to fulfil personal ambitions.**

He also warned those out to grab power through causing and exploiting chaos and disorder that the Government had sufficient legal means to act against them

The Prime Minister said the co-operation among Barisan parties had provided the country political stability, without which progress and development would be impossible.

"It is in the interest of everybody and every organisation to ensure that the present economic growth continues uninterrupted," he said at opening of the 4th Parti Bersatu Sabah congress at the Yayasan Sabah auditorium.

Dr Mahathir referred to the unique situation in Sabah and Sarawak where BN component parties co-operated at Federal level but remained in the States' opposition.

He said although the BN was flexible in this as it took into account local sentiments, it was not something to be encouraged.

"We prefer co-operation among all BN component parties so that the Opposition will not get the chance to capitalise on the situation," he said.

According to Dr Mahathir, the BN coalition would always remain strong even if one or two of them were faced with internal problems, as long as the other component parties remained stable.

"The BN system has proved effective and that's why Pas and the DAP are also trying to copy us. But they won't succeed, as there is no sincer-

ity and co-operation between them."

"The Opposition only hoodwinks the people to try and win the elections. The DAP's support for a Pas-style Islamic country and Pas' support for the DAP's Malaysian Malaysia is only election talk," he said.

Dr Mahathir said in multi-racial Malaysia it was difficult to please everyone although the BN had successfully worked out a formula which served every race fairly.

He also warned that should power-crazy politicians be voted into power, the country would experience an era of darkness as these politicians only wanted power for selfish reasons.

"We practise the democratic system which gives the people the power to decide who they want in the Government. Those who neglect the aspirations and needs of the people will not last long," he said.

He also said he was satisfied with the co-operation given by the State

---

#### □ SABAH, SARAWAK TO RETAIN SPECIAL STATUS: P2

---

Governments of Sabah and Sarawak in their efforts to promote national integration.

Saying he was happy with the pace of development in Sabah, the Prime Minister added that the Federal Government would do all to help the State solve the problem of illegal immigrants.

Dr Mahathir and his entourage flew in on an executive jet this morning and were greeted by Chief Minister Datuk Seri Joseph Pairin Kitingan at the airport before being taken to the Yayasan Sabah building.

It was the Prime Minister's first visit to Sabah since 1986 and the first time he had officiated at a PBS congress. He attended Friday prayers at the State mosque before having lunch at a local hotel.

He left for Kuala Lumpur later in the afternoon.