

U E737 AAE  
MAHATHIR - MALAYS Q'Q'Q'

BM

KUALA LUMPUR, AUG 15 (BERNAMA) -- THE MALAYS SHOULD BE DARING TO ABSORB ELEMENTS OF OTHER CIVILISATIONS AND DISCARD THOSE UNSUITABLE WITH PASSAGE OF TIME IN THEIR EFFORT TO ATTAIN GLORY, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE MALAY; SHOULD BE BRAVE TO CHANGE VALUES OF LIFE WHICH HAD BECOME PART OF THEIR CIVILISATION THAT CLEARLY HAD OBSTRUCTED THEIR RACE FROM ATTAINING SUCCESS.

+IF TODAY WE FEEL THAT OUR CIVILISATION IS NOT SO GLORIOUS AS AT OTHER TIME, THE REASON IS BECAUSE OF THE PRESENCE OF DETRIMENTAL VALUES IN OUR CIVILISATION WHICH WE NOW INHERITED,+ HE SAID WHEN OPENING SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON MALAY CIVILISATION HERE. THE FIVE-DAY CONVENTION IS ATTENDED BY MORE THAN 300 PARTICIPANTS FROM 25 COUNTRIES.

HE SAID IF THE MALAY CIVILISATION DID NOT WANT TO BE THE SUBJECT OF STUDY OF PAST HISTORY, THE MALAYS SHOULD ACCEPT ADAPTABILITY AS PART OF THE CHARACTERISTIC OF ITS CIVILISATION.

+IT WILL NOT ELIMINATE MALAY CIVILISATION. ON THE OTHER HAND, IT WILL HELP MAINTAIN THE CIVILISATION ALTHOUGH THERE WILL BE A LITTLE BIT OF DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE PAST AND PRESENT,+ HE SAID.-- MORE

1855MST 15 08 89

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MAHATHIR-MALAYS 2 KUALA LUMPUR Q'Q'Q'

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE STUDY ON CURRENT MALAY CIVILISATION AND IN THE 21ST CENTURY SHOULD FOCUS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF CHARACTERISTICS RELATED TO THE PROGRESS AND RETROGRESS OF THE MALAYS.

HE SAID SUCH STUDY REQUIRED INTELLECTUAL HONESTY WITHOUT EXCLUDING CERTAIN DETRIMENTAL ELEMENT OF CIVILISATION JUST BECAUSE IT PROVIDED A REFLECTION OF THE CIVILISATION ITSELF.

+IF A CERTAIN ELEMENT IS DETRIMENTAL, WE MUST BE BRAVE TO SAY SO. NOTHING IS WORSE THAN RETAINING SOMETHING BAD MERELY OUT OF SENTIMENT AND ARROGANT.

+THE BAD MUST BE ELIMINATED EVEN THOUGH IT IS PART OF OUR IDENTITY. AN OBSTACLE TO SUCCESS SHOULD NATURALLY BE DISCARDED?+ HE SAID.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID IDENTIFYING THE BAD ELEMENT IN THE PAST, GLORIOUS OR OTHERWISE, WAS AN EFFORT THAT COULD NOT BE NEGLECTED BECAUSE REPEATING IT WOULD BRING ADVERSE EFFECT AS IN THE PAST. -- MORE

1938MST 15 08 89

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U E752 AAE

MAHATHIR-MALAYS 3 KUALA LUMPUR Q'Q'Q'

WHILE TAKING THE HELAKA MALAY CIVILISATION AS AN EXAMPLE! DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID IT ALSO PRODUCED PEOPLE LIKE KITOL AND RAJA MENDALIAR WHO WERE TRAITORS TO THE MALAY RACE.

HE SAID THE CIVILISATION FROM THE WEST HAD NOT ONLY SUCCEEDED IN PHYSICALLY SEIZING MALAY TERRITORIES BUT ALSO DESTROYED ELEMENTS OF THE MALAY CIVILISATION TO THE EXTEND OF CAUSING IGNORANCE AMONG THE MALAYS THEMSELVES OF CERTAIN ASPECTS OF THEIR CIVILISATION AND CAUSED THEM TO ASSUME ALL THEY INHERITED AS BAD.

A CIVILISATION WAS NOT FORMED OVERNIGHT BUT TOOK CONSIDERABLE TIME TO ATTAIN IDEAL WAYS, VALUES AND PRACTICES! HE SAID.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID EVERY CIVILISATION WHICH HAD THE ABILITY TO PROGRESS WOULD POSSESS DYNAMIC CHARACTERISTICS AND WOULD CHANGE WHEN CHANGE WAS NECESSARY.

A STATIC CIVILISATION ON THE OTHER HAND WOULD DISAPPEAR AS IN THE CASE OF PAST EGYPTIAN, PHOENICIAN, GREEK AND MONGOLIAN CIVILISATIONS, HE SAID. -- MORE

1942MST 15 08 89

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U E758 AAE  
MAHATHIR - MALAYS 4 KUALA LUMPUR R'R'R'

HE SAID THOUGH INFLUENCED BY WESTERN CIVILISATION- THE MALAYS SHOULD BE THANKFUL THAT NOT ALL THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE MALAY CIVILISATION WERE LOST ALTHOUGH SOMETIMES IT WAS DIFFICULT TO FIND SIMILARITY BETWEEN THE CURRENT MALAY CIVILISATION AND THAT SAID TO BE THE ORIGINAL OF THE PAST GLORIOUS ERA.

HE SAID THE CIVILISATION WHICH BROUGHT PROGRESS IN ONE ERA NEED NOT NECESSARILY BRING SIMILAR SUCCESS IN ANOTHER ERA BUT PAST CIVILISATION WHICH DID NOT CHANGE WOULD DEFINITELY BRING NO PROGRESS AT ALL IF RETAINED.

THE PRIME MINISTER FELT THAT INHERITANCE OF A GLORIOUS PAST WOULD BE MEANINGLESS IF NOT FOLLOWED BY CONCRETE EFFORTS AND ACTIONS TOWARDS THE ATTAINMENT OF GLORY IN THE PRESENT AND IN FUTURE.

ACCORDING TO HIM, THE EXISTING SYSTEM OF COMMUNICATIONS HAD MADE THE WORLD INTO A GLOBAL VILLAGE WHERE NO SINGLE COMMUNITY COULD ISOLATE ITSELF FROM THE OUTSIDE WORLD.

+BASED ON THIS REALITY, IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT THE BASIS OF PAST CIVILISATION SHOULD NOT BE TO THE EXTENT OF WEAKENING US AND MAKING US BACKWARD,+ HE SAID.

+WHAT IS THE USE OF CIVILISATION IF WE COULD NOT ACHIEVE A HAPPY LIFE? CIVILISATION WHICH DOES NOT BRING PROGRESS WILL ONLY BECOME READING MATERIAL,+ HE SAID, -- MORE  
2007MST 15 08 89

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U E760 AAE  
MAHATHIR - MALAYS 5 KUALA LUMPUR R'R'R'

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR THEN LAUNCHED A BOOK PRODUCED BY THE DEWAN BAHASA DAN PUSTAKA (DBP) ENTITLED +TAMADUN MELAYU+ (MALAY CIVILISATION). HE ALSO VISITED AN EXHIBITION ON MALAY MANUSCRIPTS ORGANISED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CONVENTION.

CULTURE AND TOURISM MINISTER DATUK SABBARUDDIN CHIK, IN HIS WELCOMING SPEECH, SAID A STUDY ON MALAY CIVILISATION AND CULTURE BEING UNDERTAKEN BY SCHOLARS FROM ASIA, AFRICA, AMERICA AND EUROPE INDICATED THIS PART OF THE WORLD WAS LIKELY TO EXPERIENCE RAPID PROGRESS AND ECONOMIC GROWTH IN THE 21ST CENTURY COMPARED TO OTHER REGIONS.

HE SAID ABOUT 760 EUROPEAN SCHOLARS APART FROM THOSE FROM JAPAN, CHINA, KOREA AND AUSTRALIA WERE CURRENTLY INVOLVED IN THE STUDY OF MALAY CIVILISATION.

EARLIER THE PRIME MINISTER WAS GIVEN A TRADITIONAL MALAY WELCOME WITH BUNGA MANGGAR AND SILAT.

ABOUT 92 WORKING PAPERS WILL BE TABLED AT THE CONVENTION ORGANISED BY THE CULTURE AND TOURISM MINISTRY WITH THE COOPERATION OF MALAYSIA AIRLINES (MAS), DBP AND THE BAHASA MALAYSIA DAILY, THE BERITA HARIAN.

AMONG THOSE TABLING THE WORKING PAPERS ARE JOURNALISTS AND NOVELISTS MOCHTAR LUBIS (INDONESIA), DR. PETER S. BELLWOOD (AUSTRALIA), PROF. YOSHIAKI ISHIRAWA (JAPAN), L. FRANK HANTHO TOUNEH (UNITED STATES), PROF. KHANG KYOUNG SEOCK (SOUTH KOREA), DR. LAWRENT METZGER (FRANCE), DR. LUIS FELIPE FERREIRA REIS THOMAS (PORTUGAL), PROF. ZEUS A. SALAZAR (THE PHILIPPINES), PROF. WU ZONG YU (CHINA), DR. KRAUS WERNER (WEST GERMANY) AND PROF. VLADILEN ALEXANDEROVITCH TSYGANOV (SOVIET UNION). -- BERNAMA.

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