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MAHATHIR - PAS
BM

CHANGLUN, SEPT 21, (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY REITERATED HIS CALL TO PAS AND PARTI SEMANGAT 46 MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS TO JOIN UMNO EN BLOC IN THE INTEREST OF ISLAM AND MALAY UNITY.

HE SAID THE MANY ACTIONS OF LEADERS OF THE TWO OPPOSITION PARTIES SHOWED A DEVIATION FROM THEIR ORIGINAL STRUGGLE AND THEY WERE NOW WORKING ONLY FOR THEIR OWN INTERESTS.

+PAS LEADERS, FOR INSTANCE, HAVE FORGOTTEN THEIR ORIGINAL STRUGGLE TO SET UP AN ISLAMIC STATE AND INSTEAD THEY ARE FLIRTING WITH THE DAP WHICH IS CLEARLY OPPOSED TO ALL FORMS OF ISLAMIC MOVEMENT,+ THE UMNO PRESIDENT SAID AT A MEET THE PEOPLE SESSION AT SEKOLAH MENENGAH CHANGLUN HERE.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR, ACCOMPANIED BY HIS WIFE DATUK SERI DATIN PADUKA DR SITI HASMAH, IS ON A TWO-DAY VISIT TO HIS KUBANG PASU PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY.

HE SAID SINCE PAS OPTED FOR A PACT WITH THE DAP AND SEMANGAT 46, THOUSANDS OF PAS' MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS HAD JOINED UMNO AND THIS AUGURED WELL FOR THE UNITY OF THE +UMMAH+. -- MORE
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MAHATHIR - PAS 2 CHANGLUN

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR HOPED PAS MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS WOULD CEASE THEIR ENMITY WITH UMNO MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS WHO WERE AFTER ALL OF THE SAME RACE AND RELIGION.

HE SAID IT WAS USELESS FOR PAS MEMBERS TO CONTINUE SUPPORTING THEIR LEADERS WHO WERE ONLY INTERESTED IN THEIR OWN POSITIONS AND WERE WILLING TO +SELL+ NO FEWER THAN 60 PARLIAMENTARY SEATS, WHICH THE PARTY CONTESTED IN THE PAST, TO SEMANGAT 46 AND THE DAP, MERELY TO GET THE SUPPORT OF THE TWO PARTIES.

THIS MEANT THAT MANY PAS MEMBERS ASPIRING TO BECOME CANDIDATES WOULD BE DISAPPOINTED AND ONLY CERTAIN PEOPLE IN THE PARTY HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONTEST, HE ADDED.

HE WAS HAPPY TO NOTE THAT AN INCREASING NUMBER OF PAS MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS IN KEDAH HAD BECOME AWARE OF THE MANUPULATIVE TACTICS OF THEIR LEADERS AND WERE NOW BEGINNING TO JOIN UMNO.

EVEN IF THEY REMAINED IN PAS, IT WAS CERTAIN THEY WOULD SUPPORT BARISAN NASIONAL CANDIDATES IN THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION, HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR THEN EXPOSED THE +TRAP+ SET UP BY SEMANGAT 46 TO +KILL+ PAS AFTER THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION. -- MORE
1312MST 21 09 90

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MAHATHIR - PAS 3 CHANGLUN

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID PARTI SEMANGAT 46 LEADER, TENGGU RAZALEIGH HAMZAH, EXPLAINED AT A CLOSED DOOR MEETING AT HIS RESIDENCE IN KUALA LUMPUR RECENTLY, HIS PLANS TO +KILL+ PAS AFTER HIS WISH WAS FULFILLED THROUGH THE PACT.

+I HAVE A TAPE RECORDING OF HIS SPEECH AND ANY PAS MEMBER WISHING TO HEAR IT CAN GET IT,+ HE ADDED.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID IT WAS A BIG MISTAKE FOR PAS TO CO-OPERATE WITH SEMANGAT 46 BECAUSE ITS LEADERS WERE ONLY INTERESTED IN THEMSELVES.

THIS WAS CLEARLY SEEN IN THEIR ACTIONS WHICH RESULTED IN UMNO BEING DECLARED UNLAWFUL BY THE COURTS, THUS, CAUSING THE PARTY'S ASSETS TO BE TRANSFERRED TO THE GOVERNMENT AND UMNO HAD TO RENT THEM FROM THE GOVERNMENT, HE ADDED.

ON CLAIMS THAT NEWSPAPERS SUCH AS THE NEW STRAITS TIMES, UTUSAN AND BERITA HARIAN WERE OWNED BY THE GOVERNMENT, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD NEVER OWNED ANY NEWSPAPERS BUT THE PAPERS WERE OWNED BY PARTIES.

IF THE NEWSPAPERS WERE RELUCTANT TO CARRY NEWS ABOUT OPPOSITION PARTIES THEN IT WAS THEIR RIGHT JUST LIKE HARAKAH (PAS) AND ROCKET (DAP) WHICH ONLY CARRIED STORIES DISCREDITING THE GOVERNMENT AND BARISAN NASIONAL. -- BERNAMA

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