

PM: Pas being used by DAP, Semangat

EST 22 SEP 1990

CHANGLOON, Fri. — Pas is no longer the party that it was as it now co-operates closely with non-Muslims, Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

The party that once branded Umo members as *kafir* for co-operating with the MCA and the MIC was today working with the DAP.

Dr Mahathir told a large gathering here that Pas today had very little resemblance to the party that was once led by Dr Burhanuddin Helmi and Datuk Asri Haji Muda.

Later, elaborating this to reporters, the Prime Minister said Pas is only a shadow of its past.

He called on Pas members to reconsider their support for the party saying Umno's door was always open to them.

He said that in its desperate bid for power, Pas had befriended the DAP, which has all along refused to acknowledge Islam as the official religion of the country.

He said certain Pas leaders had allowed the party to be manipulated by the DAP and the much weaker Semangat 46.

He said Pas had not only surrendered Kijal to Semangat 46 in the recent by-election, but had already agreed to give more of its former constituencies to that party.

The Prime Minister said Pas could end up being the victim of its own greed and the greed of Semangat 46.

He said he has proof to show that Semangat 46 intends to kill Pas and the DAP if it gains power.

In an address to Semangat 46 leaders in his house in Kuala Lumpur recently,

the party president, Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah said the co-operation with Pas and the DAP was a temporary measure to gain power.

Once Semangat 46 gained power, it would revive the deregistered Umno and combine it with the existing Umno. After that, it would proceed to kill Pas and the DAP.

The Prime Minister said Umno is willing to provide proof to show that Tengku Razaleigh had indeed made the statement.

He said Semangat 46 leaders, being former members of Umno, should not be too quick at making allegations against the

Government because the Government had ample information about their past and present dealings.

He spoke of a former Umno leader who alleged misdeeds and corruption by the Government when he himself was a former convict.

The only saving grace was that he was pardoned.

This, however, said the Prime Minister, did not erase the fact that he had committed a crime and was found guilty by the court.

Unfortunately, said the Prime Minister, he turned around and hit at the very people who had helped him return to society.

Of Tengku Razaleigh, Dr

Mahathir said the Semangat 46 leader had often made a big fuss about his former colleagues who he claimed had built big houses.

But he himself has a palatial home on an expensive site near the Royal Selangor Golf Club in Kuala Lumpur.

On the criticisms against the Government on the conduct of the Kuala Linggi and Kijal by-elections and the Sabah State elections, the Prime Minister said the former Lord President Tun Mohamed Suffian Hashim and his Election Watch were barking up the wrong tree.

He said the Government

had no control over the newspapers, adding that it was their own decision to report more on the activities of the Barisan Nasional.

While these newspapers did give some coverage to the opposition parties, the Pas-controlled *Harakah* and the DAP-owned *Rocket*, had nothing favourable to say of the Government.

Later, speaking to a gathering after attending Friday prayers at the Padang Perahu mosque near Kodiang, Dr Mahathir said the Malays should not be influenced by the Angkatan Perpaduan Ummah.