

D164

U E776 AAE

MAHATHIR-SABAH R'R'R'

BM

KOTA KINABALU, OCT 13 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY CALLED ON THE PEOPLE OF SABAH TO RETURN BARISAN NASIONAL CANDIDATES IN THE GENERAL ELECTION, ADVISING THEM AGAINST ALLOWING POLITICAL DIFFERENCES IN THE STATE TO INFLUENCE THE VOTE.

HE REMINDED THE PEOPLE THAT TAKING THE POLITICAL DIFFERENCES IN THE STATE TO THE NATIONAL LEVEL WOULD ONLY END UP IN THEIR BEING LOSERS.

ONLY THE 20 PARLIAMENTARY SEATS IN SABAH ARE CONTESTED IN THE GENERAL ELECTION, AND THEY ARE SHARED BETWEEN PARTI BERSATU SABAH (14 SEATS) AND USNO (SIX) WHICH ARE BN COMPONENT PARTIES AT FEDERAL LEVEL. SABAH CHIEF MINISTER DATUK JOSEPH PAIRIN KITINGAN WAS RETURNED UNOPPOSED IN KENINGAU ON NOMINATION DAY, LEAVING 19 SEATS TO BE DECIDED BY VOTE.

ADDRESSING ABOUT 3,000 PEOPLE AT THE MUNICIPAL PADANG HERE, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR CALLED ON SABAHANS TO UNITE AND SUPPORT THE BN AND THROW OUT THE DAP AND INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES.

+ONLY IN THIS WAY CAN THERE BE A CONTINUATION OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A BETTER STANDARD OF LIVING,+ HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR IS IN SABAH ON A ONE-DAY VISIT AS PART OF A NATION-WIDE TOUR IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE GENERAL ELECTION. -- MORE
1606MST 13 10 90

MAHATHIR-SABAH 2 KOTA KINABALU R'R'R'

THE PRIME MINISTER WAS ACCOMPANIED BY HIS WIFE, DATUK SERI DATIN PADUKA DR SITI HASMAH. DATUK PAIRIN, STATE MINISTERS AND COMMUNITY LEADERS WERE ALSO PRESENT AT THE FUNCTION.

+IT IS IMPORTANT FOR THE PEOPLE OF SABAH TO ELECT REPRESENTATIVES WHO CAN NOT ONLY RAISE PERTINENT ISSUES IN THE DEWAN RAKYAT BUT ALSO HAVE A CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE OTHER STATES AND THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT,+ DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID.

HE REMINDED THE PEOPLE THAT ONLY THROUGH INTER-RACIAL UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION CAN THERE BE MUTUAL PROGRESS.

DRAWING ATTENTION TO THE COUNTRIES WHICH SUFFERED FROM RIOTS, DISTURBANCES AND CALAMITIES RESULTING FROM INTER-ETHNIC AND INTER-RACIAL ENMITY, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID: +IN A MULTI-RACIAL COUNTRY LIKE MALAYSIA, THE BARISAN NASIONAL SYSTEM OF ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNMENT IS THE BEST CHOICE FOR THE PEOPLE.+

IT IS POSSIBLE FOR ANY ONE RACE TO SET UP ITS OWN PARTY, AND FOR THAT MATTER ANY ONE STATE CAN DO SO. +BUT, AFTER ASSUMING POWER, SUCH A STATE GOVERNMENT CAN DO LITTLE WITHOUT THE SUPPORT AND COOPERATION OF THE OTHER STATES THROUGH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.+ -- MORE

1608MST 13 10 90

D171

U E782 AAE
MAHATHIR-SABAH 3 KOTA KINABALU R'R'R'

THAT WAS WHY THE GERAKAN, AFTER CAPTURING PULAU PINANG AND FORMING THE STATE GOVERNMENT IN 1969, JOINED THE BN, HE SAID. ON SABAH, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAD GIVEN ATTENTION TO THE REASONABLE REQUESTS AND DEMANDS FROM THE PEOPLE.

HOWEVER, HE ADDED, THE PEOPLE MUST REALISE AND UNDERSTAND THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAD ALSO TO CONSIDER THE INTERESTS OF THE NATION AND THE STATES AS A WHOLE.

DATUK PAIRIN SAID SABAH WAS A POLITICALLY UNIQUE STATE BECAUSE THE PEOPLE ARE OF DIFFERENT RACES.

HE SAID THAT TO UNITE THE PEOPLE, SABAH REQUIRED COMPREHENSIVE MEDIA RELATIONS. +THIS IS WHY WE ARE ASKING TO BE ALLOWED TO OPERATE OUR OWN TELEVISION AND RADIO STATIONS SO THAT WE CAN SEND MESSAGES OF GOODWILL TO THE PEOPLE MORE EFFECTIVELY.+ -- MORE
1618MST 13 10 90

D173

U E785 AAE
MAHATHIR-SABAH 4 KOTA KINABALU R'R'R'

DATUK PAIRIN SAID THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SHOULD NOT IGNORE THE RIGHTS AND INTERESTS OF THE SABAH PEOPLE, SO AS TO MAINTAIN STABILITY IN ADMINISTRATION.

HE ALSO OUTLINED THE DEMANDS OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT AS WAS MENTIONED IN THE PBS MANIFESTO FOR THE STATE ELECTION IN JULY. THEY INCLUDE:

- + A HIGHER RATE IN OIL ROYALTY.
- + A LOWER TARIFF FOR ELECTRICITY.
- + APPROVAL FOR SETTING UP FREE TRADE ZONES TO ENCOURAGE FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN THE STATE.

THIS EVENING, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR WILL MEET WITH PBS AND USNO LEADERS BEFORE GOING TO THE FEDERAL TERRITORY OF LABUAN. -- BERNAMA