

MAHATHIR - BN

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PULAU PINANG, OCT 19 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY DISMISSED CLAIMS THAT THE BARISAN NASIONAL IS BEGINNING TO SHAKE FOLLOWING RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AMONG OPPOSITION PARTIES.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS HERE, HE SAID IT WAS ONLY AN OUTSIDE VIEW AND AS FAR AS HE WAS CONCERNED THE OPPOSITION WAS NOT STRONG BUT WEAK.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR, WHO IS BARISAN NASIONAL CHAIRMAN, SAID THERE WAS NOT MUCH DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THIS GENERAL ELECTION AND THE PREVIOUS ONE.

+THERE IS NO CHANGE ... THIS GENERAL ELECTION IS THE SAME AS THE ONE HELD BEFORE,+ HE SAID AFTER A MEET-THE-PEOPLE SESSION AT THE CHINESE ASSEMBLY HALL HERE.

SPEAKING AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE DAP WAS NOT A CONSTRUCTIVE PARTY BUT MORE OF A NEGATIVE ONE. -- MORE  
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DESCRIBING ENCIK LIM KIT SIANG AS A DICTATOR, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE DAP SECRETARY-GENERAL MADE ARBITRARY DECISIONS TO DETERMINE THE COURSE OF HIS PARTY.

PEOPLE WHO DID NOT AGREE WITH ENCIK LIM'S DECISIONS HAD NO PLACE IN THE PARTY AND MIGHT EVEN BE EXPELLED, HE SAID AND URGED URBAN RESIDENTS TO SUPPORT THE BARISAN NASIONAL BECAUSE +THE VOTERS WILL NOT LOSE ANYTHING BUT WILL RECEIVE A LOT OF BENEFITS,+ BY DOING SO.

HE SAID THE URBAN RESIDENTS SHOULD BE GRATEFUL TO THE BARISAN NASIONAL WHICH HAD PROVIDED MUCH COMFORT TO THE THE PEOPLE WHILE THE DAP HAD NOT DONE ANYTHING.

+THE VOTERS SHOULD NOT WASTE THEIR VOTING RIGHTS BY ELECTING PEOPLE WHO ONLY KNOW HOW TO MAKE NOISE, HURL BOOKS AT OTHERS AND STAGE WALK-OUTS WHEN THEIR PROPOSALS ARE NOT AGREED TO,+ DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID.

HE ALSO SAID THE OPPOSITION PACT WAS VERY LOOSE AND AS SUCH WAS UNLIKELY TO ADMINISTER THE COUNTRY WELL IF IT WON.

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HE SAID THE OPPOSITION PACT WAS ONLY FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION AND AFTER THAT THEY WOULD QUARREL AMONG THEMSELVES.

CHIEF MINISTER DR LIM CHONG EU SAID DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR WAS THE MOST OUTSTANDING LEADER AND STATESMAN IN THE NATION'S HISTORY.

AFTER HAVING SERVED UNDER FOUR PRIME MINISTERS, DR LIM CHONG EU HAD FOUND THAT DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR WAS THE BEST PRIME MINISTER.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ATTENDED FRIDAY PRAYERS AT THE MASJID SUNGAI TIRAM, BAYAN LEPAS, BEFORE LEAVING FOR KANGAR, PERLIS.

EARLIER, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR HAD A 40-MINUTE CLOSED DOOR MEETING WITH PULAU PINANG BARISAN NASIONAL CANDIDATES AT AUDITORIUM A, KOMPLEX TUN ABDUL RAZAK. -- BERNAMA