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KUALA LUMPUR, March 9 (Bernama) -- Malaysia today appealed to the government of Iraq to exercise care with a view to preventing bloodshed among its people following the reported rebellion against the rule of President Saddam Hussein.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said he was worried over a move by the people of Iraq to rebel against President Saddam which might invite the military to use force to retain the present administration.

The people of Iraq should be given the opportunity to voice their views and, he told reporters after chairing a meeting of the Umno Supreme Council here.

As a democracy, Malaysia believed that a government should have the support of the people, he said.

Expressing Malaysia's desire not to interfere in the internal affairs of any country, he said nevertheless a government should abide by the people's wishes. -- Bernama

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