

# Dr M: Co-operation between Bumis and non-Bumis vital

MS1 12 SEP 1991

KOTA KINABALU, Wed. — Close and sincere co-operation between Bumiputera and non-Bumiputera businessmen is necessary to ensure mutual benefit, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said.

Such co-operation could be brought about if trade associations and guilds representing both communities work closely for, their common good, he said.

Speaking at a dinner organised by the Sabah United Chinese Chamber of Commerce and the Sabah Bumiputera Chamber of Commerce tonight, Dr Mahathir urged non-Bumiputeras to share their business knowledge with others.

"We do not want Bumiputera businessmen to be mere front-men or be used to get licences and permits."

Non-Bumiputera partners should ensure that their Bumiputera counterparts work hand in hand to help ensure the success of their ventures, the Prime Minister said.

Also present at the dinner were his wife, Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali, Sabah Umno liaison deputy chief Tun Datu Mustapha Datu Harun and Chief Minister Datuk Seri Joseph Pairin Kitingan.

Dr Mahathir said the Government wanted its people to be successful in business and other ventures and had always provided assistance for them.

He said Malaysians should be thankful for the peace and stability, adding that the world recognises Malaysia's success in formulating a system which

guarantees peace and unity in a multi-racial country.

He said people of all origins are represented in the Government and this has been responsible for promoting better co-operation among the various communities. This has helped brought about more development and progress, he added.

Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah later received a cheque for \$150,000 from the Sabah United Chinese Chambers of Commerce for the Ex-Servicemen's Association and a cheque for \$50,000 from the Sabah Bumiputera Chamber of Commerce for Bakti.

Dr Mahathir is in Sabah for a two-day visit and was greeted on arrival earlier by a large crowd at the airport.

He was met by Tun Datu Mustapha Datu Harun, the

deputy Umno liaison chief of Sabah, Chief Minister Datuk Joseph Pairin Kitingan, Akar president Datuk Mark Koding, State Cabinet members and Sabah Umno Youth chief Datuk Railey Jeffrey.

A large banner proclaiming "Kamilah Anak Malaysia. Hidup Mati Bersama Malaysia" (We are sons of Malaysia. We live and die with Malaysia) was prominently held by a section of the crowd.

Dr Mahathir will leave for Kota Belud tomorrow to meet the people and unveil a memorial to commemorate Umno's first electoral victory in Usukan last May.

The Prime Minister will also be honoured with an award "Wira Nusaraya" at Kota Belud.