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MAHATHIR: SABAH STAYS IN MALAYSIA

Mahathir referendum

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KOTA BELUD, Sept 12 (Bernama) Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today the decision of the people of Sabah to join Malaysia in 1963 was final and could not be questioned.

He advised the people of Sabah to be wary and not fall prey to efforts by certain individuals to question the decision as they had ulterior motives.

Addressing the people at Kota Belud municipal padang, about 85km from Kota Kinabalu, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said the people of Sabah and Sarawak decided in a referendum in 1963 to +swim or sink+ with Malaysia.

The federation is protected by the Constitution and any effort deemed detrimental to its well being would be dealt with accordingly, he added.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said action in accordance with the law would be taken against those who were in the wrong.

+So, if they have breached the Constitution, don't blame the government if action is taken against them,+ he added. more

♥12/09/19 20MST

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Mahathir referendum 2 Kota Belud

He said the Internal Security Act (ISA) provided clear guidelines as to its implementation and the power vested in the government in situations which threatened national security.

The ISA had been used in the past against political leaders as well as the government in power, he added.

+It's not used only against the opposition as alleged. It has been used against a deputy minister, in fact a leader who later became a Cabinet minister like Saudara Anwar Ibrahim (Finance Minister)+, he said.

Later, he told a press conference that the Federal government's seemingly soft stand towards those who spread anti Federal sentiments among the people of Sabah should not be interpreted as a sign of weakness.

+We can be firm and act according to the law. But, we do not want to, if our soft stand can bring them to their senses,+ he said.

He added, however, that the government could not allow individuals to continue fanning anti Federal and anti Malaysia sentiments among the people.

+If it still continues, we have to take firm action before the situation gets out of hand because the instigation sows seeds of disunity which is detrimental to the nation,+ he said. more

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Mahathir Referendum 3 (last) Kota Belud

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said the seeds of disunity were only to be found among Sabah politicians who wanted to rule the state without supervision of the Federal government.

+They feel shackled and cannot do as they please. By inciting the people, they think they can wield power without Federal government supervision,+ he added.

He said such a situation could not be allowed to go unchecked and the people needed to be told the truth. Bernama