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MODERATION AMONG THE RACES CONTRIBUTES TO MALAYSIA'S PROGRESS

Mahathir-moderation

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KAJANG, July 23, (Bernama) -- Moderation and non-extremism by the multiracial people in the country have made Malaysia a peaceful and stable country with rapid economic growth, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

The prime minister said this was because the people were prepared to set aside racial issues so that together they could develop the country.

This situation was brought about by the system practised by the Barisan Nasional (BN) in ruling the country, he said at a political meeting at the National Youth Vocational Institute at Dusun Tua, near here.

He said many countries with plural societies had tried to forget the racial reality and set up political parties, which apparently did not take the races into account, to solve the racial problems and yet the problems erupted.

In Malaysia, racial political parties were allowed but each party was merged under the BN to solve the racial problems, he added. -- more

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He said good values founded by Islam and other noble values which were accepted by all the races in the country had made Malaysia one of the most progressive developing countries.

He wanted these good values to continue to be practised and made a way of life to ensure the country's success in the future.

The prime minister said the DAP had claimed to be a multiracial party when in fact it was a Chinese-extremist party.

This could be seen when DAP secretary-general Lim Kit Siang could only get the signatures of the Chinese in his effort to get his suspension from attending the Dewan Rakyat lifted.

He said the same applied to the PBS which also claimed to be a multiracial party when it controlled by only one race.

Dr Mahathir also asked the people not be jealous of the rich in the country, adding that they should remember that the government collected taxes from the rich like the big private firms and the poor benefited from the taxes.

The meeting rounded-up Dr Mahathir's one-day visit to Hulu Langat. --
Bernama

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