

CNS4109  
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PM WANTS MALAYSIANS TO FORGE AHEAD FOR PROGRESS  
Mahathir - national day

XUALA LUMPUR, Aug 30 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad wants the people to start working from now to make Malaysia a progressive and respect ed nation.

+If we do not attempt to forge ahead from now we will remain a poor nation,+ he said in his National Day message over Radio and Television Malaysia tonight.

He said Malaysia needed to progress and uphold its sovereignty, as a poor nation would not gain the respect of others.

+A poor nation will not be able to act freely'because it. is too dependent on the goodwill of others,+ he added.

He said al though the country had achieved tremendous progress, the people must always be wary and continue to strive hard to make Malaysia a developed nation, comparable to other developed countries.

However, he warned that the path towards Vision 2020 was certainly not easy and would be full of challenges.

+Nevertheless, we must have faith in our ability to achieve the objectives of the vision,+ he said.-- more

▼30/08/18-13MST

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Mahathir - national day 2 Kuala Lumpur (Embargo)

The Prime Minister said since independence 35 years ago, Malaysia had succeeded in overcoming many barriers and managed to equip the people with knowledge and skill.

He said to achieve the vision, the country must ensure political stability, unity and sustainable economic growth and the people must continue to co-operate and be united.

+We must: also be wary of others who are out to disrupt the unity among the, races. .. and if we do not unite, then our objective of becoming a developed nation will not be realised,+he said.

+I am confident that, Malaysians who love peace and stability will do everything possible to avoid disrupting the harmony.+

Mahathir said Malaysia had proven to the world that its multiracial nature did not prevent it from achieving progress and success although many people had predicted that this country would collapse because it. was multiracial, multicultural and multireligious.-- more

▼30/08/18-18MST

CNS4122

R GE 30-08 00180 EA303

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Mahathir - national day 3 Kuala Lumpur (Embargo)

Malaysia, he said, was among a few countries in the world which continued to enjoy peace, stability and prosperity.

+We have been very fortunate because we do not encounter any racial or religious conflicts as in case of some countries which have resulted in the loss of lives and destruction of property,+ he said.

+We also do not, face starvation, oppression or war and this situation has enabled us to perform our daily tasks peacefully.+

Mahathir said with political stability, the Malaysian economy was strong and growing rapidly and the orderly management of the economy had resulted in a high growth rate.

This encouraging economic growth had enable Malaysians to continue to enjoy a high standard of living.

Malaysia also had a very low unemployment rate and succeeded in stabilising the prices of goods, he said.

Mahathir said Malaysians could also be proud that they have a high standard of education and an efficient administration.-- more

▼30/08/18-38MST

CNS4130

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Mahathir - national day 4. (last) Kuala Lumpur (Embargo)

The Prime Minister said the National Day celebration gave the people the opportunity to reflect on the history of the nation's struggle for independence from the colonialists.

+By reflecting and understanding the history of our people's struggle, Malaysians, especially those born after independence, will be able to appreciate better the true meaning of independence,+ he added.

He said the leaders of today also formulated a vision that would take the nation to a higher level of development.-- Bernama

▼30/08/18-38MST