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Lesotho Deputy PM praises Malaysia's achievements

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. - Malaysia's economic and political success was today described as a miracle attributed to the country's enlightened leadership of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

The Kingdom of Lesotho Deputy Prime Minister Prof Pakalitha Mosisili said this at a reception hosted by the Malaysian African Finance Ltd tonight.

"You have turned a curse into a blessing, a weakness into a pillar of strength; a country with multi-ethnic population would have otherwise torn itself apart but you instead turned it into a good recipe for success.

"This is the ingredient that distinguishes and characterises the leadership of your country," he said.

Mosisili is leading a 23-member delegation comprising Lesotho's Cabinet Ministers, business leaders, trade unionists and journalists.

Mosisili added that besides the official objectives of his delegation to promote investments to Lesotho, the visit was also meant to be a learning experience.

Expressing his admiration for the Malaysian success story, Mosisili said he hoped his country could emulate such an achievement with the help of the Malaysian people.

"There is an old saying in our country that advises one to ask the way from those who are ahead.

"That is the essence of our visit to your country," he said.

Arriving in Malaysia last Sunday, the delegation had been attending the Langkawi International Dialogue and will be meeting the Malaysian business fraternity before leaving for Singapore on Monday.

At the same reception, Lesotho Minister of Foreign Affairs Kelebone Maope urged Malaysian businessmen to invest in Lesotho as it would not only contribute economically but also help stabilise the country politically.

"The people of Lesotho also suffered during the apartheid era as did the rest of the black population of southern Africa.

"Investment in our country will mean job opportunities for our people and with it we can redeem our economy and self-respect," he said.

Present at the reception at the Bankers Club were Lesotho ambassador in Beijing Prof L.K. Moleko, Felcra director general Datuk Mustapha Juman and MAF Ltd executive chairman Hisham Zainal.

(END)