

25 FEB 1999

MCA-Pledge

MCA PLEDGES FULL SUPPORT TO DR MAHATHIR

KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 25 (Bernama) -- The MCA has pledged to continue supporting and giving full cooperation to the Barisan Nasional (BN) and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in the interest of the country and the people.

MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik said the MCA would continue with its political struggles to ensure that the country would remain peaceful and stable.

"The MCA will remain a honest, sincere and loyal partner to UMNO, MIC, Gerakan and others in the BN in working together to bring progress to the country and to ensure a brighter future for all," he said in his speech at the MCA 50th anniversary dinner at the Bukit Jalil National Stadium, here this evening.

He said that in many countries in the world, good and wise leaders were respected, protected, supported and given encouragement.

"They want such leaders to stay on leading the country in the interest of the people and country...and in Malaysia, we are fortunate to have such a leader in the person of Dr Mahathir and may he continues to lead Malaysia in years to come," he said.

Looking back at the contributions and roles played by MCA in nation-building in general and for the Chinese community in particular, Dr Ling said MCA members could take pride in the party's achievement.

The MCA had succeeded in uniting the Chinese community, divided after the Second World War because of different dialects, provinces and educational background, he said.

"MCA has also been playing a positive role in providing political leadership to the Chinese community from the past to the present," he said.

Dr Ling said MCA was formed on Feb 27 1949 by a group of Chinese leaders who were far-sighted with the purpose of championing the rights of the Chinese who were then oppressed by the colonialists and communist terrorists.

"The contributions and sacrifices of these leaders including Tun Tan Cheng Lock, Tun H.S. Lee, Tun Leong Yew Koh, Tun Omar Ong Yoke Lin and Yong Shook Lin should be appreciated for without their contributions MCA would not have strong foundation as it is today," he said.

--BERNAMA

AKT ABG