

21 FEB 1999

Sabah-Quotes

KOTA KINABALU, Feb 21 (Bernama) -- Following are quotable quotes from the speeches of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and other leaders in the run-up to the state election.

" Although I come from Alor Setar, the attention I give to Alor Setar will not be more than what I will give to Keningau." -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said in Keningau, assuring the locals he will give full attention to the development of Keningau, an interior district in Sabah.

" We always take for granted the prevailing harmony as something normal but actually it is something extraordinary." -- Dr Mahathir said in Kota Kinabalu reminding Sabahans not to be swayed by those who stir up communal, religious and cultural issues to win votes.

" They teach us not to be thankful when we get something and instead bite the hands that feed us." -- Dr Mahathir said in Sandakan appealing to the people to reject "hatred philosophy" perpetuated by certain groups not to be thankful to the government for providing various facilities.

" Nobody from the peninsula is contesting, and after winning, it is the people from Sabah who will form the government." -- Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Ibrahim Ali said in Kunak, asking Sabahans to reject anti-peninsula sentiments and allegations that federal leaders are out to seize the rights of Sabahans.

" Sabah is forever the right of Sabahans." -- Ibrahim said on the same issue.

" If anyone ask us to surrender our rights, I'll be the first to oppose." -- Chief Minister Tan Sri Bernard Dompok said in Penampang, assuring Sabahans that Sabah will not lose any of its rights as alleged by the opposition.

" We are already into injury time." -- Dompok said in Penampang using a football terminology to indicate the state assembly will be dissolved any time.

" Don't be like a fish, if you make a mistake by biting the bait, you'll be fried." -- PBS president Datuk Joseph Pairin Kitingan said in Kota Kinabalu reminding voters to be mindful of the promises made in the run-up to the polls.

" But if it involves ordinary members, then it's not a big issue." -- PBS vice-president Haji Malik Chua, said in Penampang condemning party-hopping by assemblymen.

" I agree with Harris it's not nice for us to contest against each other." -- Dayang Maimunah, the daughter of Sabah's Father of Independence Tun Datu Mustapha Harun said in Kudat, commenting on the advice of former Chief Minister Datuk Harris Salleh, who is now heading Bersekutu, that she should

not contest as the party's candidate for the Banggi seat against her younger brother Datuk Amir Kahar of Barisan Nasional. Another of her brother Datu Badaruddin is tipped to be the PBS candidate for the seat.

-- BERNAMA

MAI TS