

28/07/2000

Bishop Yong: Leaders have made integration successful

KOTA KINABALU, Thurs. - Malaysia's committed, pragmatic and visionary leaders have made the country a unique model of successful integration of people from diverse ethnic, religious and cultural backgrounds.

Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of Sabah Datuk Yong Ping Chung said from the sea of diversity had emerged a united, dynamic and progressive nation that had excelled in many fields.

"It has taken us many years to achieve this and it has not been without struggles, tensions and sacrifices," he said at a Majlis Bersama Rakyat with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today.

Yong, who is also the Archbishop of the Province of the Anglican Church in Southeast Asia, spoke at the function on behalf of the people of Sabah.

He said it was the people's responsibility to give undivided support to all morally and ethically sound undertakings by the Government.

"This means peace, truth and justice must be held with integrity," he said.

Yong cautioned the people that what took so long to build could be destroyed overnight.

As such, he said it was important for the people to continue to sustain what had been achieved and move forward together.

He said there was a need for the people to ensure that good nation-building would continue so that the future generations would enjoy even greater peace and happiness.

The Archbishop also called on the people to value peace, saying that without it the nation would not be able to progress.

"In this aspect we want to thank our Prime Minister for sharing his dream of a Bangsa Malaysia," he said.

The Prime Minister's dream could only be achieved through mutual love and respect, deep care and concern as well as fair and just play.

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