

'Adopt philosophy of love'

Hold to words of Confucius, urges Mahathir

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KUANTAN: Malaysians can live in peace and harmony if they adopt the philosophy of love, compassion and understanding as preached by the Chinese sage, Confucius.

Stating this, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said when such philosophy is rooted in the hearts of Malaysians, they would learn to love, feel compassion and understand each other's problems.

"I hope Chinese Malaysians will hold to the words of Confucius to preserve love, compassion and understanding," the Prime Minister told a gathering at a dinner organised by the Malaysian Federation of Chinese Associations here last night.

Present at the function was his wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah, Pahang Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Adnan Yaakob, MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik and his deputy Datuk Lim Ah Lek.

Stressing the importance of peace and stability in the country, Dr Mahathir cited the chaos faced by neighbouring countries in the wake of the 1997-1998 economic turmoil.

"The situation in Malaysia then was under control and no rioting took place because the country was peaceful.

"This gave the Government the opportunity to concentrate on reviving the economy.

"If the country is unstable, the Government cannot be expected to

make any move or devise plans to revive the economy," he said.

The Prime Minister reiterated that Malaysia was better off than some other countries which had also achieved independence from their colonial masters.

This was because the people know that freedom is precious to them, he said.

He added that lessons from the racial riots in the May 13, 1969 incident have made the people more tolerant of each other.