

'Al Ma'unah case shows country is ruled by law'

SUN 30 DEC 2001

KUALA LUMPUR, Sat: The decision on the Al Ma'unah case shows that the country is ruled according to the law and does not discriminate against a VIP or an ordinary person.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said it also goes to show that the law in this country does not discriminate against the guilty party, regardless of race and religion.

"That was a decision made by the court. In this country, whoever is involved with murder is punished with the death penalty

"With this, I think the family of those murdered will feel that they have obtained justice," he told a press conference after opening the PPP's 48th

annual general assembly here today

Mahathir said the government has never tolerated such an action of waging war. Asked about his opinion of the court's decision, Mahathir said: "I follow whatever is decided by the court, although sometimes we feel uneasy, we still accept the court's decision as this is the country's judicial process.

"We have to respect the court. We cannot criticise a judge when we are not satisfied with the decision."

Asked if he is happy with the decision, Mahathir said: "I cannot say that I am happy I am not happy when someone is sentenced to death. But this is the decision. It is a question of justice".