

10 AUG 2002  
Mahathir-BN  
DON'T BE ARROGANT, DR MAHATHIR TELLS BN LEADERS

IPOH, Aug 10 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today reminded Barisan Nasional (BN) leaders not to be arrogant or flaunt their wealth as this could lead to defeat in the general election.

The Prime Minister said as politicians, they must realise that they owed their position to the support of the rakyat and they could lose in the general election if they were not careful.

"If they don't appreciate (the support), forget who they are, I'm certain the politician concerned will not be supported and will lose his position," he said at a dinner in conjunction with the Premier Badminton Championship and to celebrate his 21 years' service as Prime Minister hosted by the Perak BN Supporters Club, here tonight.

He said if BN leaders wished to succeed in their political career, they must know how to win the people's heart and to refrain from being arrogant and to live luxuriously as this could erode the support of the people.

Also present were his wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and Datin Seri Endon Mahmood and Perak Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Tajol Rosli Ghazali.

Others present included MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik, MIC president Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu, Gerakan president Datuk Seri Lim Kheng Yaik, Defence Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak, several cabinet ministers, menteris besar and chief ministers.

Dr Mahathir also said Malaysia's achievements and rapid development during the 21 years that he was Prime Minister would not have been possible without the assistance and support of various quarters.

"Numerous praises were directed at me during the video clip shown just now. Actually, I could not have done all those things without assistance and support from politicians, BN leaders, government officers and everyone involved with the country's development," he said.

He said all those things would not have been achieved if he merely made the decisions and gave instructions but there was no one capable to implement them.

He said opportunities should also be given to new faces who were appointed to hold certain posts to demonstrate their capabilities and not to have any doubt or not to respect them.

During his one-day visit to Perak, Dr Mahathir had visited the Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris (UPSI) in Tanjong Malim, and attended a luncheon with state BN leaders before closing the Premier Cup Badminton Tournament at Stadium Indera Mulia.

-- BERNAMA  
AR KAY AO