

08 JUN 2003

Malaysia-Peace

BE PROUD TO BE MALAYSIANS, SAYS MUSTAPA

KOTA BAHARU, June 8 (Bernama) -- Malaysians must oppose those who join foreigners to criticise the country, the National Economic Action Council Executive Director Datuk Mustapa Mohamed said.

This should be done by educating them by explaining that Malaysia is a prosperous and peaceful nation.

"To run down a country is shameful, we must be lucky to be Malaysians and live in a peaceful and prosperous country. There is no reason for people to criticise the country," he told reporters after presenting the Sultan Ismail College Alumni Association scholarships and financial aids to 100 underprivileged students in the state today.

Mustapa, who is the Kelantan Umno Liaison Committee Chairman, was asked to comment on the prime minister's statement yesterday that there was a group of people who do not trust the government's ability to handle crisis and joined foreigners to condemn the country.

Mustapa said these people are those who failed to achieve their personal agenda.

However, he said a majority of the people are thankful for the nation's progress and success.

"Majority accept the fact that Malaysia is an example among Islamic countries," he said.

He said the people should be proud that the government managed to save the country from various crises that threatened its economic stability.

"The biggest challenge we faced was the economic crisis but Dr Mahathir and other leaders succeeded in restoring the confidence within a short period of time that enabled us to continue enjoying the success," he added.

-- BERNAMA

BD VP