

21/06/2003

Growth with equity the way to move, says Awang Adek

MALAYSIA will continue to be on the right track to Vision 2020 as long as it subscribes to the policy of economic growth with equity.

Kelantan Umno treasurer Datuk Dr Awang Adek Hussin said this had been the basis for the country's success all this while.

"It also gives us the moral authority to do whatever is necessary to eradicate poverty and help those lagging behind, the majority of whom are Bumiputera," he said.

Seconding the motion on economy, Awang Adek, who is also Bachok Umno division deputy chief and a first-time speaker at the assembly, said growth with equity would get the people moving to attain developed status.

"This will ensure that people of the various races continue to live in peace and harmony.

"If this is not properly handled, globalisation, which is based on unfettered capitalism, will prevail," he said.

Preventing this scenario should not merely be regarded as a Malay agenda, but a national agenda.

"It will also ensure that Umno continues with its struggle to protect the dignity of the race, religion and nation." Awang Adek called on Umno members to heed the advice of party president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

"We know he loves Umno and has always advised us to cultivate party unity and to avoid bickering.

"If anyone among us shed tears listening to the president's speech, let us use the same tears to cleanse the dirt we have brought to the party.

"This is what we call air mata kasih (tears of love) so that we do not cry in emptiness and, as a race, need not cry anymore in the future."