

SPEECH BY: DATO' SERI DR. MAHATHIR BIN MOHAMAD  
( PRIME MINISTER )

EVENT: THE DINNER IN HONOUR OF HRH PRINCE SIHANOUK

VENUE: SRI PERDANA, KUALA LUMPUR

DATE: 22 AUG 1986

TIME:

Your Royal Highness;  
Excellencies;  
Distinguished guests;  
Ladies and Gentlemen.

It gives me great pleasure to welcome Your Royal Highness and members of Your entourage to Malaysia. I trust Your Royal Highness and members of the entourage will have a pleasant and enjoyable stay in Malaysia. We are happy that Your Highness is in good health which makes it possible for this visit to be undertaken. We have been looking forward for this visit as it provides us an opportunity to exchange views on matters of common interest.

2. We in Malaysia are following closely the development in Kampuchea particularly the efforts by the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea under the leadership of Your Royal Highness' to liberate Kampuchea from the foreign military occupation. We discern many encouraging signs in the progress of the struggle by the Khmer resistance forces recently , notably the high degree of solidarity and cohesion among the patriotic forces of the CGDK as well as cooperation and coordination in the liberation struggle.

3. While the struggle is being intensified we are pleased the CGDK is increasingly active in political and diplomatic initiatives to find a political solution to the Kampuchean problem. The CGDK Eight Point Proposal made in March 1986 is a constructive and reasonable proposal which demonstrated the flexibility of the CGDK in its earnest desire to end the conflict. Malaysia and other members of ASEAN support the Proposal. We are heartened that the CGDK leaders have been active in promoting it and the wide international support it has received. Vietnam's repeated rejection of the Proposal is clear evidence of its intransigence and inflexibility.

4. It is gratifying to note that the CGDK under Your Highness's leadership enjoys considerable respect internationally. The overwhelming support received at the UN is clear evidence of this. The vast majority of the international community abhor Vietnam's policy towards Kampuchea. We are sparing no efforts to ensure that the international community will continue to support the Kampuchean cause at the UN and other international fora.

Malaysia has been actively involved with its ASEAN partners in the ASEAN Missions which visited East and West Africa, West Asia and Latin America to secure their continuing support as well as to promote the CGDK Eight Point Proposal.

Your Royal Highness,

5. We are happy to see that under the leadership of Your Royal Highness the Kampuchean nationalist forces have exhibited determination and patriotism to stand united to restore the freedom, independence and dignity to their country. They deserve the profound admiration of Kampuchea's friends in the international community. We believe it is important that the CGDK continues to maintain and work for greater unity amongst Kampuchean freedom fighters in the coming years. Their unity is crucial to the success of their struggle as well as their effectiveness in the political, diplomatic and military struggle against Vietnam. We are confident that under Your Highness's leadership these objectives could be achieved despite the odds that confront you and the Khmer People.

6. Malaysia reaffirms its support for the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea. We have been consistent in our opposition to the aggression committed against Kampuchea and the continued occupation of Kampuchea by foreign forces in defiance of the UN Charter and resolutions. Malaysia may not be able to assist much but Your Highness can be assured of our continuing political and diplomatic commitment in pursuit of peace for Kampuchea.

7. Once again, I would like to express our pleasure at having Your Royal Highness and members of your entourage with us and our prayer is always for the success of Your Royal Highness and the Kampuchean people in all their endeavours.