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Intuitive intelligence and elections



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NO HYSTERIA: Have faith in the cool, calm and collected Malaysians

THE nation has travelled the distance and people are ready to take in their stride the reckoning of the 13th General Election. Malaysians have now a kind of sophistication and scepticism regarding politics and politicians, and are therefore not susceptible to political hysteria. The sophistication encompasses the following experiences:

NATIONAL history of over half a century and a history of national elections for 12 times;

A PLURAL society with diverse cultures -- Islam, Christianity, Buddhism, Hinduism, Confucianism -- all of which nurture living in peace;

THE people are of warm, harmonious temperaments and do not have habits of group violence and revenge;

EVERY voter has a family and wants the future generations to continue to improve the quality of life and ensure sustainability of development;

A STRONG teaching service from primary school across tertiary education and training and development has enabled a majority of Malaysians to acquire the basic processes of straight thinking;

IN all fields, Malaysians have excelled and found creative and elegant solutions to whatever problems they addressed;

MALAYSIANS are politically literate and understand the fact and fiction of conspiracy theory;

MILLIONS of Malaysians who went through the school system are familiar with the Rukun Negara;

THE people have aspirations and hope for the future, driven by Vision 2020 and beyond;

THERE is good physical, scientific, technological and psychological infrastructure, including election infrastructure;

A PROFESSIONAL police force will uphold the peace and the rule of law;

THOUSANDS of people throughout the country have been trained in election management;

POLITICAL parties have generated major and sub-manifestos, which they promised to implement;

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POLITICAL leaders have declared that the people are the leaders of the political parties and the people are king;

THERE are responsible leaders from all political parties who love the country no less than their adversaries;

THERE is evidence of democratic enlightenment, because although four of the states (Penang, Kelantan, Kedah and Selangor), were won by the opposition, the people's decisions in GE12 were respected;

THERE will be national and international observers for the elections;

THE country has learned lessons from destructive elections in other countries and do not want to go the way of lawlessness;

MILLIONS of Malaysians have received higher education; and,

MALAYSIANS have greater self-esteem and confidence in the democratic process.

Notwithstanding the celebrative mood, there will be a few troublemakers, whether hired, or acting on their own. Those who are racists, bigoted, gangsters, bad hats or political mercenaries, power hungry from all parties, may in some isolated instances, be able to cause mischief. However, the good sense of Malaysian civil society will be able to counter any untoward incidents.

To get away from the rut of alarmist mindsets, rationality can be guided by such insights as follows: "When one with honeyed words and evil mind persuades the mob, Great woes befall the state." (Euripedes - Orestes);

"Each of us here today, by our decisions and actions, will influence to some degree the future and the kind of world our children will live in. Let us pledge that together, we will work to build a nation where there is individual accountability and where justice and equality prevails." (Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi); and,

"The ballot is stronger than the bullet." (Abraham Lincoln).

By election day the spin doctors, manipulators, merchants of doubt, media frauds, bloggers and political mercenaries would have done their utmost to achieve their goals. In the post-election aftermath, they will decide on their other initiatives of mass control. However, organised democracy will defeat organised greed.

When all feelings are exhausted and all thoughts reach their limits, then there is need for calm intuitive intelligence to guide decisions. And within the intuitive intelligence, there is a kind of spiritual intelligence. Within the spiritual intelligence there is a kind of poetic and philosophic joy of being simultaneously right and wrong.

The country is in a celebrative mood. Mindfully, with sound judgment, based on their own cultural philosophy, religious belief or political ideology, voters will select their candidates and their party to rule.

Beyond the elections, there is the mission to build an educated, wise and blessed society. As people make their decisions they can reflect on Michelangelo's observation: "The greater danger for most of us is not that our aim is too high and we miss it, but it is too low and we reach it."

If so, therefore, as an individual or as a nation, we cannot reach individual higher self or collective moral and imaginative authority.

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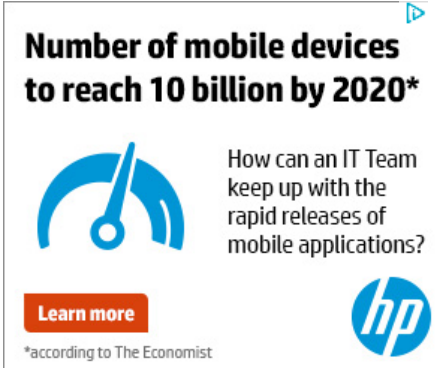
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