

# PAS stronghold for 13 years until 1978

ALOR STAR, Tues.

Ulu Muda, the parliamentary seat for which the Barisan Nasional. PAS and an independent candidate are contesting, has 34,113 registered voters.

A PAS stronghold for 13 years until 1978 when it was wrested by the Barisan Ulu Muda was the constituency where Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohammad was defeated by PAS in 1969. Tunku Abdul Rahman was then the Prime Minister

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir lost the seat to the present acting PAS president, Haji Yusof Rawa, by 989 votes.

The constituency was then known as Kota Setar Selatan where Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir was fielded by the then Alliance party

In the 1974 general election, Haji Yusof retained the seat uncontested. PAS was then in the Barisan Nasional.

PAS first won Ulu Muda in 1964 but in 1978 PAS candidate Harun Jusoh, the present Ulu Muda PAS chairman, lost the seat by a 1,098-vote margin

against 11,195 votes secured by Barisan's Haji

Hashim Endut.

An independent, Mohamed Zabidi Lebai Ahmad, received 266 votes and lost his deposit,

Ulu Muda then had 27,603 voters, of whom 80.11 per cent cast their votes.

From then on, PAS support crumbled and in the last general election its strongman Ustaz Fadzil Noor was defeated by a majority of 3,560 votes.

Ustaz Fadzil, now PAS acting deputy president and State commissioner, was beaten by Haji Hashim who retained the seat.

Haji Hashim's resignation came after he was convicted and fined \$5,500 by a magistrate's court for not keeping proper accounts of sale, purchase and storage of rice and for stocking rice from illegal sources.

PAS wants the seat to uphold its image which has been badly tarnished by its party crisis leading to the resignation of its former president. Daltik Asri, Muda, and other leaders.

PAS claims to have about 10,000 members in Ulu Muda.

He polled