

Don't abuse power, Dr M tells Umno

KUALA LUMPUR, 79

Sat. — Umno must take care that it does not abuse the power it is wielding to ensure that it retains its ability to rule the country, Deputy Prime Minister (Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad) said today.

While the party was championing the rights of the Malays and had achieved successes in this, he said, it should at the same time be fair to all.

Awareness

Opening the fifth Umno Damansara division delegates' meeting, he said Umno had no intention to suppress any group including the opposition parties.

He reminded the participants that "power corrupts."

"When we are in power, we must be fair. We are asking for our rights and our place in the country but we must

not be excessive in our demands," he said.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said other groups also had their rights and place in the country.

He said if there was such awareness among Umno members, the party would maintain its power.

The Malays, he said, could now hold up their heads.

In fact, the national leaders were now recognised abroad as evident from the good reception given them on visits overseas.

However, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said Umno members must be disciplined and must be prepared for sacrifice to the common good.