

MAHATHIR-UMNO  
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MALACCA, MAY 17 (BERNAMA) — DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER (DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD) IS CONFIDENT THAT POLITICAL MATURITY OF UMNO MEMBERS WILL ENABLE THEM TO ELECT THE NEW PARTY LEADERSHIP IN AN ORDERLY AND RATIONAL MANNER.

OPENING THE ALOR GAJAH UMNO DIVISION DELEGATES' MEETING AT THE ALOR GAJAH TOWN HALL, ABOUT 24 KILOMETRES FROM HERE TODAY, HE SAID HE WAS SURE THAT DESPITE DIFFERENCES IN OPINIONS, UMNO MEMBERS WOULD SUPPORT THE MAJORITY DECISION AND UNANIMOUSLY RALLY BEHIND THE LEADERS ELECTED.

HE SAID THAT WHEN THE POLEMICS WERE OVER, UMNO MEMBERS WOULD ONCE AGAIN CLOSE RANKS BEHIND THEIR POPULARLY-CHOSEN LEADERS.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR, WHO IS UMNO DEPUTY PRESIDENT, REMINDED UMNO MEMBERS THAT HUMILITY IN VICTORY WOULD GIVE GREATER MEANING AND LONGEVITY TO ANY SUCCESS.

HE OBSERVED THAT INCREASING NUMBERS OF THE YOUNG WERE JOINING UMNO AND DESCRIBED THIS AS A VERY ENCOURAGING DEVELOPMENT. —  
BERNAMA MORE 1807/MK

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HE POINTED OUT THAT SINCE THE 1978 ELECTION, MANY OF THE YOUNGER MEMBERS WERE APPOINTED DEPUTY MINISTERS AT CENTRAL LEVEL AND LEADERS OF THEIR OWN STATES.

THIS HAD HELPED STRENGTHEN UMNO AND BENEFITTED THE NATION.

HE SAID THAT COMPARATIVE STUDIES OF OTHER COUNTRIES THAT HAD ACHIEVED INDEPENDENCE WOULD SHOW THAT UMNO HAD THE LONGEST RECORD OF REMAINING IN POWER.

EARLIER, MALACCA CHIEF MINISTER ENCIK ADIB ADAM STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF WISE CHOICE OF PARTY LEADERS AT THE UMNO MALAYSIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY PARTY ELECTION IN JUNE BECAUSE THE RESULT WOULD AFFECT THE FUTURE OF THE PARTY, PEOPLE AND COUNTRY.

HE URGED UMNO MEMBERS TO CONFER WITH ONE ANOTHER FIRST BEFORE MAKING THEIR DECISION SO THAT THERE WOULD BE NO REGRETS LATER.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR WAS GREETED ON ARRIVAL AT THE BATU BERANDAM AIRPORT THIS MORNING BY ABOUT 5,000 UMNO LEADERS AND MEMBERS AND COMMUNITY LEADERS. —BERNAMA MORE 1811/MK

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ENCIK ADIB AND HIS WIFE LED THE RECEPTION GROUP IN GREETING DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR AND DATIN SERI DR. HASMAH.

UPON ARRIVING AT ALOR GAJAH, THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER'S CAR WAS ESCORTED BY A TWO-KILOMETRE LONG PROCESSION OF MOTORCYCLES AND GIVEN A BUNGA MANGGAR AND SIRIH JUNJUNG TRADITIONAL WELCOME. —  
BERNAMA 1814/MK