

MAHATHIR-THANKS

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(P)

KUALA LUMPUR, MAY 1 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER (DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD) TODAY EXPRESSED THANKS TO THE ALMIGHTY FOR THE BLESSINGS VOUCHSAFED HIM TO LEAD UMNO FOR ANOTHER THREE-YEAR TERM.

THIS WAS HIS IMMEDIATE RESPONSE WHEN REPORTERS COVERING THE LAUNCHING OF THE UMNO YOUTH MOVEMENT FOUNDATION +GERAKBAKTI PEMUDA+ CONGRATULATED HIM ON BEING RETURNED UNOPPOSED AS UMNO PRESIDENT FOR A SECOND TERM.

EARLIER, THE UMNO YOUTH MEMBERS AND INVITED GUESTS WHO INCLUDED MENTERIS BESAR AND CABINET MINISTERS GAVE HIM A THUNDEROUS OVATION FOR THE SOLID BACKING HE RECEIVED FROM UMNO DIVISIONS.

ASKED BY REPORTERS WHETHER HE HAD ANTICIPATED THAT HE WOULD NOT BE CHALLENGED FOR THE PRESIDENCY, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR REPLIED: +I WAS HOPING IT.+

THE UMNO PRESIDENT RECEIVED NOMINATIONS FROM 99 OF THE 114 UMNO DIVISIONS WHEN NOMINATIONS CLOSED AT 4.30 PM YESTERDAY. THE REMAINING DIVISIONS HAD NOT SEND IN ANY NOMINATION FOR PARTY ELECTIONS ON MAY 25. - BERNAMA 1935/A1