

Mahathir exposes Pas' bag of dirty ploys

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KOTA BARU, Wed. — Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has exposed several Pas tactics to weaken the Barisan Nasional and topple it in the coming general election.

He said one such Pas tactic was to trap Umno members into taking extreme steps which could frighten the other Barisan Nasional component parties.

Pas had adopted this tactic in 1969 and was using it again in the hope of creating a split among the Barisan Nasional component parties so as to weaken them.

The Opposition party was trying to convince Umno members that the Government's move to assimilate Islamic values was insufficient and hoped to prompt the Umno members to become extreme.

The Prime Minister was speaking at a dinner hosted in his honour by Menteri Besar Datuk Haji Mohamad Yaacob tonight.

The Prime Minister warned Umno members not to be trapped into taking extreme action as this would benefit Pas.

He said Pas knew that it could not hope to win the general election as long as the Barisan Nasional remained united and strong.

Umno members must think deeply before taking any action if they were provoked by Pas.

Dr Mahathir reminded Umno members that they must be moderate because it was in accordance with Islam.

He said the harmony enjoyed by the people in this country was due to Umno's and the Government's moderation.

However, Pas had tried to undermine the confidence of the people by saying that what the Government did was wrong.

Dr Mahathir stressed that Pas leaders were responsible for the propaganda against Umno and the Government and that the followers of the party were innocent.

It was up to Umno members to make them realise their mistake and mend their ways.