

Umno will apply to set aside injunction

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By **SABRY SHARIFF**

KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs. — Umno will use legal means to ensure that the party's 43rd anniversary celebrations will be held as scheduled, its president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said tonight.

"God willing, the **Malays** will be able to celebrate Umno's 43rd anniversary in Johore Baru on May 10 and 11," he told newsmen at **Dewan** Sultan Sulaiman in Kampung Baru here.

Earlier, Umno deputy president Encik Ghafar Baba, speaking to reporters at the party headquarters, said Umno had instructed its lawyers to apply to the Seremban High Court to set aside an injunction obtained by a businessman yesterday, restraining the party from holding the celebrations.

He expects the lawyers to act soon. "What is important is that we want the injunction lifted."

High Court judge Mr Justice Mustapha Hussain granted the injunction following the filing of an *ex-parte* summons in chambers by businessman and former Umno member Abdul Rahim Abdul Rahman of Kampung **Tanjung Agas**, Port Dickson, at the Seremban High Court yesterday.

The injunction restrains Umno, its officers, servants or agents, from making any further statements, oral or written, whether through the mass media or otherwise, pertaining to the anniversary celebrations, except to announce its cancellation.

In Shah **Alam**, Umno secretary-general Datuk Mohamed Rahmat said that the injunction would not deter preparations for the celebrations.

He was confident that the problem could be resolved before May 10.

In his brief speech after the *maghrib* prayer at the **Dewan** Sultan Sulaiman, Dr Mahathir urged the **Malays**, especially the younger generation, to set aside their differences and unite behind Umno to defend and uphold Malay rights.

He regretted the attitude of some **Malays** who seemed to have forgotten the struggle of the pre-independence **Malays** in ensuring the special **privileges** of the community were not taken away under the British-proposed **Malayan Union**.

"This younger generation of **Malays** realise that the **Malays** now have Umno and the Government to protect their interests," he said.

"But they are not appreciative of the struggle that took place 43 years ago, when **Malays** under the threat of losing their rights with the implementation of the British-proposed **Malayan Union** rallied their forces on May 11 and 12 in Johore

Need to keep spirit that led to formation of Umno

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Baru, culminating in the birth of Umno."

Dr Mahathir said that the Malays then were able to put aside their differences and unite behind Umno to protect and defend their rights, adding the same spirit should continue to guide them 43 years later.

He said without this spirit,

Malays would not be a respected race today; neither for that matter would Malaysia or then Malaya have achieved so much success.

He urged Malays to remember March 14 (when Malay social and political organisations gathered to discuss the establishment of a single Malay organisation to fight the Ma-

layan Union) and May 11 and 12, 1946, regardless of any attempt to stop them from doing so.

"Even if the court declares the party anniversary celebrations illegal, nobody can stop the Malays from celebrating Umno's birth because it is a party not only for Umno members but all Malays," said Dr Mahathir.

Dr Mahathir was the guest-of-honour at the Selangor and Federal Territory Umno breaking of the fast, which was held to celebrate the birth of Umno, the Prime Minister's successful heart operation in January, and the Sultan of Johore's April 8 award of the Darjah Kerabat Yang Amat Mulia Pangkat Pertama (DK1) to him.