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UMNO MEMBERS TOLD NOT TO LET PAROCHIALISM WEAKEN THE PARTY

Mahathir-parochialism

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KOTA BAHARU, Aug 13⁸² (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today advised Umno leaders and members not to let parochialism led to the downfall of the party. (M)

+Our feeling to our respective states should not jeopardise the party's strength,+ he said when officiating Wanita Umno Work Camp Programme 1992 here.

He said Umno leaders and members should accept the concept that Umno being a national party had a leader at the national level.

Umno members should obey him, not because he came from a certain state, but because the party constitution provided a leader at the national level and also in the party's Supreme Council, he said.

Dr Mahathir, who is Umno President, said the members must be loyal to the party for only then would the party be strong nationally. --more

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Mahathir-parochialism 2 (last) Kota Baharu

He said that if there were no party like Umno; then the country's election would see only small parties contesting, which on their own could never influence nor form the government.

+We may have 14 small parties but political dominance could never be ours,+ he said.

Dr Mahathir said Umno had emerged strong and stable because the members were willing to accept their leader at the national level, regardless of the state he came.

Just like in the Barisan Nasional (BN), he said that whenever there was election, there would be enough Umno representatives to form the government.

The opposition tried to copy the BN concept by forming the Gagasan Rakyat and +when people copy us, they are actually praising us+, he said, adding that unfortunately they failed to succeed because of different ideology and concept. --Bernama