

♥10/09/14-21MST  
CNS6553

U GE 10-09 00106 ED030  
aae tbe

Mahathir - democracy ""

WITHDRAW IF YOU THINK YOU ARE GOING TO LOSE, MAHATHIR TO CANDIDATES  
bm

KUALA TERENGGANU, Sept 10 (Bernama) -- Umno President Datuk Seri Dr  
Mahathir Mohamad today advised candidates vying for party posts to withdraw  
if they feel they are not going to win.

Addressing Terengganu Umno members at the residence of the Terengganu  
Menteri Besar here, the Prime Minister said withdrawing if one realised  
that one was not going to win was not something shameful rather it would  
bring good to the party. -- more

AL AAM

♥10/09/14-26MST  
CNS6564

U GE 10-09 00115 ED031  
aae tbe

"Mahathir"- democracy 2 Kuala Terengganu

"If we don't contest it's not something wrong and we want to contest  
also it's not wrong but members should make nominations in a disciplined  
way and make decisions based on their respective evaluations," he said.

Dr Mahathir wanted all Umno members to uphold democratic principles in  
their party activities and not accept such principles only when party  
divisions supported them.

"If we accept democracy, don't accept it to the extent of just wanting  
to be a candidate but rather accept democracy to also mean that if we lose,  
we have indeed lost."

AL AAM

♥10/09/14-37MST

CNS6572  
U GE 10-09 00158 ED032  
aae tbe

Mahathir - democracy 3 Kuala Terengganu

He said a person who was defeated in the election should accept the decision of the majority who had chosen his opponent and not resort to enmity.

On the on-going divisional election and nomination process, Dr Mahathir urged party members to go about the process in a healthy manner without resorting to money, threats or making false pledges.

On the question of the election for the post of party deputy president, the Prime Minister said he had suggested that there should not be a contest but voices around him wanted a contest.

"I cannot stop it for otherwise it will be undemocratic as such I have permitted the contest but I don't support anyone," he added.

It was up to the party members to select candidates who could contribute to national development. -- more

AL AAM

▼10/09/14-48MST  
U GE 10-09 00203 ED033  
aae tbe

Mahathir - democracy 4 (last) Kuala Terengganu

The Prime Minister said Malaysians should not blame anyone if corrupt leaders who could harm the country were elected as they themselves elected them.

He also expressed concern over the current campaign to elect Umno leaders and the method of discrediting each other to the extent of giving ammunition to the opposition.

"If we want to practise democracy, then accept the decisions, if people don't want (you), that's it. Go all out for what purpose," he said.

Dr Mahathir said what was important now was for party members to forge closer links among themselves once the decision had been made and accepted.

The Prime Minister also touched on his age as he would be going on 69 soon and said this was frequently talked about by people.

"No one is permanent. I am not permanent and I accept this fact."

"If people want me to sit as president, OK I sit and if they don't want me, I will go."

Dr Mahathir said he would hold to the English saying, "Don't overstay your welcome." -- Bernama

AL AAM

▼10/09/14-10MST