

# PM: There is a Brutus in everyone

UMNO president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad yesterday ended speculation on the "Who was Brutus?" poser, something he raised in his opening address at the party's general assembly on Friday.

"There is a Brutus in everyone of us ... all of us here have a Brutus in our hearts. That is the desire to do something, giving a good excuse for doing something bad.

"Brutus is lust," he said in his winding-up speech that ended the four-day assembly.

Dr Mahathir said there were two sides to human beings — one controlled by the mind, and the other by lust.

He said he raised the story of the murder of Julius Caesar by his own adopted son, so that "we do not use a person like him as an example".

"If we want to do good, then we do it. But if we want to do bad, we should not give a good excuse for it," Dr Mahathir said.

He said if this trait of Bru-

tus could be eliminated, Umno would be a more peaceful party where there would be no attempt "to repay good deeds with bad".

Umno members, he said, would be the ones to lose if they had this trait in them.

Dr Mahathir recalled that he had helped and "supported someone in the past" to gain position. But that very same person attempted to take over his place.

"We must practise noble values ... what is in Brutus is not noble."

Dr Mahathir said that Umno wanted unity so that a Malay and Bumiputera race could emerge to successfully overcome whatever problems it faced.

This, he stressed was a reminder to all Umno members, not just delegates, wherever they may be.

Later, asked at a Press conference on this, he said he merely wanted to give the delegates and members a reminder about the forces within them.

"Sometimes desire wins, sometimes the noble values within us win," he said.