

19 SEP 1996

Meeting-Umno/S46

KELANTAN UMNO AND S46 LEADERS HOLD UNITY MEETING

KOTA BAHARU, Sept 19 (Bernama) -- Kelantan leaders of Umno and Parti Melayu Semangat 46 (S46) held their first formal meeting today and immediately termed it as the starting point to unite the Malays.

On top of the agenda at the one-hour meeting was the Malay Unity Assembly to be held here on Oct 3.

The Kelantan Umno team was led by its deputy chairman Datuk Annuar Musa, who is the Rural Development Minister, while the S46 side was headed by its state chairman and Deputy Menteri Besar II Datuk Rozali Isohak.

Also present were Entrepreneur Development Minister Datuk Mustapa Mohamed, state Umno secretary Ahmad Shahibuddin Mohamad Noor, state S46 secretary Senator Mohamad Zain Daud, Umno and S46 state assemblymen, divisional heads as well as state Youth and Wanita heads from both parties.

Speaking to reporters later, Annuar said the meeting was the starting point to unite the Malays after the dissolution of S46 next month.

He said the meeting decided to set up a joint committee to prepare for the assembly which will be attended by Prime Minister and Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and S46 president Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah.

At least 50,000 people would attend the event, he said.

He called on the party's state and divisional leaders to sincerely begin forging cooperation at all levels in order to smoothen the process of S46 members joining Umno.

Meanwhile, Rozali said all S46 members were happy with the decision to return to Umno.

"It will not be difficult to be with old colleagues because we have been together in the past. Maybe there is a need for one or two meetings, after that we may be more Umno than Umno," he said. -- BERNAMA

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