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Don't let success lead to complacency, says Mohd Zin

MALACCA, Sat. - Umno Supreme Council member Datuk Seri Mohd Zin Abdul Ghani said the success that the party and country had achieved for the past 50 years should not make members complacent.

"The challenge faced by Umno in the coming century is not only to be an umbrella of Malays and other races but also to play an active role in international politics."

Mohd Zin, who is also the State Umno liaison committee chairman, said this when launching the New Straits Times photo exhibition on the party's 50-year struggle, at Mahkota Parade today.

He said there was a need for Umno leaders to correct the injustice, discrimination and human rights violations happening throughout the world.

"This is what our present leadership is doing, to fight injustice be it anywhere.

"However, there is also an immediate need to strengthen party unity and stability. If there is instability in the party then it will not only affect the Malay community but also other races dependent on us to lead them."

Mohd Zin, who is also Chief Minister, said it was necessary for the people, regardless of their race, to visit the photo exhibition, organised by the New Straits Times, State Umno and Fujicolor.

He said they could reminisce on the party's struggle for the last 50 years.

"Malays have since come a long way. This can be seen in our Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad being recognised as a leader of the third world while our Deputy Prime Minister has always been associated with championing for justice and uplifting the level of Malays."

"Similarly, Tan Sri Razali Ismail's appointment as United Nations' Assembly president has certainly shown that Malays are able to lead well," he said.

Mohd Zin said members, however, should not be lax with the little success that they had achieved and must continue to improve themselves.

Also present at the opening were party Supreme Council member Datuk Wira Mohd Ali Rustam, who is also the Deputy Transport Minister, State Umno secretary Datuk Sahar Arpan, who is also the chairman of the committee for the exhibition, New Straits Times Sdn Bhd Group Editor Datuk A. Kadir Jasin, NSTSB Assistant Group Editor Ahmad A. Talib and Umno veteran member Datuk Aziz Tapa.

Kadir, in his speech, hoped the people, not just Umno members but also other communities, would visit the exhibition to remind them of the country's history and the significant role played by the party.

"In exhibitions held in other States, it is not only Malays who viewed them but also people from other races."

Some 100 photos depicting the history of Umno would be on show at Mahkota Parade from today till April 2. In addition, 23 Lat cartoons are on display.

Four companies - Ikatan Prestij Sdn Bhd, A Famosa Golf Resort Bhd, Geahin Engineering Berhad and Kuala Lumpur-based Gibca Holdings Sdn Bhd - are sponsoring the exhibition.

Visitors to the exhibition stand to win prizes in the form of vouchers donated by the Malacca Renaissance Hotel and Century Mahkota Hotel.

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