

# Wanita <sup>2</sup> chief: Mothers are <sup>526.9.98</sup> pacifiers

KUALA LUMPUR: Wanita Umno chief Datuk Dr Siti Zaharah Sulaiman has called on members to fall back on their maternal instincts in facing the party's problems.

"In the name of party unity and at crucial moments like these, women, as mothers, should act as a balancing force to control the tension," she said in reference to the expulsion of Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim from the party on Sept 3.

"As members, we should safeguard the party's harmony. If father and son have a squabble, the mother is the pacifier," she said.

She also said members must show their full support for Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in handling the country's problems.

"If not for our resilience and Dr Mahathir's efficient leadership, Malaysia would have been crushed long ago," she said in her speech at the movement's Women's Day celebration here yesterday.

She said Wanita members should also avoid actions which were out of the boundaries of the law as they could jeopardise the country's stability.

Citing Anwar's expulsion, Dr Siti Zaharah said she was shocked when she heard the news.

"Factually, we are convinced it happened. Although traditionally we support both the president and his deputy, the party had decided to dismiss Anwar.

"(Thus), we should sideline him (Anwar) as Umno is not based on an individual," Dr Siti Zaharah said.