

Clashes have a link to opposition, says Mahathir

KUALA LIPIS Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said he believes that there is a link between the racial clashes at Kampung Medan and the opposition

He said this was based on use of poor people in squatter colonies in the area to protest against the Government

The opposition seems to be targeting the poor and poisoned their minds that the Government had neglected them or did not care about their plight

To gain political mileage they even went to the extent of showing sympathy by visiting the injured in hospitals

They do not have any sympathy for the people's plight their concern will only come when there is political mileage and based on this I believe such clashes have a link to the opposition he said after meeting Raub and Kuala Lipis Umno division committee members at the Kuala Lipis

Umno office here yesterday

Dr Mahathir also said that rumours were circulating in the affected areas to evoke anger among the Malays about the actual number of deaths involved in the clashes

I do not know who is behind these rumours or their background but they had circulated

rumours that hundreds of Malays had been killed

The same rumours are circulating among Indians that many of their people were killed

These people want the situation to continue in the hope that it will lead to riots like in a neighbouring country