

'Umno resolves to unite Malays'

Nst - 2 JAN 2001

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon. — Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today said the party's resolution this year is to unite its members and the Malays.

The Prime Minister said the party would also work towards strengthening unity among the Barisan Nasional component parties.

"The effort to unite the Malays is to safeguard their interests and not

to create animosity among them.

"We must remember that we need not unite solely to oppose others. It's just to safeguard our interests," he said at the People's Progressive Party's new year open house at Putra World Trade Centre.

Dr Mahathir was commenting on a report by a Malay daily welcoming his call for Umno, Pas and Parti Keadilan Nasional to discuss the issue of re-uniting the Malays.

The same daily had reported that Abim, Kelantan Menteri Besar Datuk Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat and Keadilan president Datin Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail had welcomed Dr Mahathir's initiative.

Dr Mahathir said just because some Malays had succeeded, it did not mean that they were already strong.

"The Malays are not aware of their weaknesses," he said.