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Pak Lah's tribute to Umno veterans

ALOR STAR, Wed. - Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi today paid tribute to Umno veterans and retired civil servants for their solid and unstinting support.

Abdullah, who is also known as Pak Lah, said he would not be where he was today if not for the veterans who had remained steadfast for the party's struggle and ideals.

He said the party's struggle did not end after retirement but should continue throughout one's lifetime.

"Even the Prime Minister (Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamed) has pledged to continue supporting Umno after he retires.

"Dr Mahathir said when he was appointed the Prime Minister, the veterans gave him their full support. So now he has promised that he too will do the same," he said.

Abdullah said even former Deputy Prime Minister Tun Ghafar Baba was here to support the BN campaign although he was unwell.

He said this during a meeting with Umno veterans and retired civil servants at Sekolah Kebangsaan Gunung in Anak Bukit.

Also present were Umno vice-president Tan Sri Muhammad Muhammad Taib, MCA deputy president Datuk Lim Ah Lek, Perak Mentri Besar Datuk Seri Tajol Rosli Ghazali, Perlis Mentri Besar Datuk Seri Shahidan Kassim and Kedah Mentri Besar Datuk Seri Syed Razak Syed Zain.

BN candidate for Anak Bukit Datuk Zakaria Said was also present.

Abdullah also said Umno veterans could still contribute to the party's struggle by continuing to remind the youths of what they were fighting for.

He said the veterans had invaluable experience to ensure that the youths realise how the veterans had made numerous sacrifices for the community, religion and country.