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Party chief impresses visiting politicians

DELEGATES from foreign political parties commended party president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad for his frankness when talking on the problems of the Malays and religion.

Singapore Malay National Organisation president Borhan Ariffin said even though Dr Mahathir's speech sounded harsh, it was meant to advise them to excel and improve themselves.

"When Malays in Malaysia fail or are unable to develop themselves, it not only reflects on them, but also on the Malays in Singapore."

African National Congress (South Africa) treasurer-general Mendi Msimang said the problem of Malays being complacent about their privileges was also a problem faced by the black population of his country.

"They have to face the challenges of life on their own. The speech was a form of moral regeneration for the country."

Sudanese National Congress delegation leader Dr El-Sadiq Bakhit said there were many similarities between Umno and his party, in terms of its Islamic orientation and moderation, and its struggle to unite the Muslims and non-Muslims in the country.

"Our party has benefited from our relationship with Umno. Umno has also attended our conventions and assemblies," he said.

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