

21 JUN 2002
Umno-ovation
STANDING OVATION FOR DR MAHATHIR

KUALA LUMPUR, June 21 (Bernama) -- Umno delegates attending the party's general assembly here today gave a standing ovation to their president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad whom they regarded as the champion of the Malays.

Kedah delegate Datuk Badruddin Amiruldin, during the debate on the motion of thanks for the presidential address, had urged the other delegates to join him in a show of respect and appreciation to the Prime Minister for all he had done.

He hoped Dr Mahathir would not be easily discouraged in his efforts to improve the Malays.

Badruddin also urged Umno members to come to Dr Mahathir's aid when he was under attack by the opposition.

"When Dr Mahathir is under attack, don't wait for Dr Mahathir to defend himself," he said.

He also urged Umno members to have confidence in the Supreme Council.

"We put them there. We should follow thier bidding. They are all Malays and certainly they will not sell us out," he said.

Badruddin also urged the Malays not to depend too much on government subsidy but instead to strive to be self-reliant.

"As champions of the Malays, we must inculcate new spirit among the Malays to overcome various challenges," he said.

He also urged the government to fill important posts in departments and agencies with young Umno professionals.

-- BERNAMA

BD AZZ RHM ABG