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Siamese voters want BN by-election win as gift to Dr Mahathir

PENANG, Sat. - Malaysians of Siamese descent want a Barisan Nasional victory in the Anak Bukit and Pendang by-elections as a gift to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Malaysian Siamese Association president Datuk Charern Inthacat said this was the general consensus of the community's voters in both constituencies.

He said ensuring victories was the best form of appreciation and gratitude in recognition of Dr Mahathir's sacrifices and contributions to the nation over the past 21 years.

"We are a small ethnic minority, but the small number can be decisive, too," he said in Jitra today.

The Pendang parliamentary seat has the largest concentration of Siamese voters in the country, numbering about 2,600 of the total 54,471 voters. There are more than 10 villages with Siamese majorities in Pendang, namely Titi Akar and Padang Maheson. Anak Bukit has a substantial number of Siamese voters and the community leaders would work with other BN component parties to ensure a victory, said Charern.

He said the community was grateful to the Government and Dr Mahathir's leadership for raising their economic status.

On Pas' attempt to explain its hudud laws to non-Muslims, he said Siamese and non-Malays in both constituencies were mature enough not to be fooled by the Opposition's tactics.