

Leaders: United Umno spells victory

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KUALA LUMPUR, Sun. — Barisan Nasional leaders said today a stronger and united Umno will help secure a bigger victory for the coalition in the general election.

MCA vice-president Datuk Dr Fong Chan Onn said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had established a strong foundation for unity in the coalition.

“We are now better prepared for the general election and MCA wants to thank the Prime Minister for his leadership,” said Fong who is also Human Resources Minister.

He added that MCA members should rally behind Dr Mahathir and work hard to ensure a convincing victory for BN in the next polls.

Yesterday, in Dr Mahathir’s winding-up speech at the 54th Umno general assembly, he said he was satisfied that he was leaving behind a stronger and united party.

MIC vice-president Datuk S. Veerasingam said with Umno at its best, the entire BN automatically became stronger and this placed the

coalition on a very sound footing to face the general election.

“We wish to thank the Prime Minister for his commitment and dedication. He has united the Malays and brought Umno to what it is today.

“I am confident that with the present strength of Umno, we can look forward to a resounding victory for the BN,” he added.

Gerakan vice-president Senator Datuk Dr S. Vijayarajnam said being the backbone of the BN, it was important that Umno was strong and united to ensure a strong showing in the general election.

Meanwhile, Umno vice-president Tan Sri Muhammad Muhammad Taib said Umno leaders had pledged to work together and set aside all personal differences and agendas for the sake of the party.

“We will work together and ensure the BN machinery is well oiled and ready to face the general election. What is important is party unity and it is the responsibility of all Umno

members to maintain the unity and further strengthen the party.”

Wanita Umno secretary Datuk Faridah Abu Hassan said Umno members should carry on with programmes to further strengthen the party.

PPP president Datuk M. Kayveas said BN component party members should practise a high level of tolerance among each other and focus all their strength in ensuring a strong victory in the next general election.

He said although the parties had their own ideologies, they should be prepared to look beyond these to ensure a convincing victory for the BN.

“I think we should all learn from Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad what the true meaning of love for one’s party is all about.

“When Dr Mahathir was expelled from Umno on Sept 26, 1969, he did not go out and form any splinter party but continued working for Umno until he was re-admitted in March 7, 1972,” he said.