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Mahathir-Umno

DR MAHATHIR FAVOURS NO CONTEST FOR TOP TWO POSTS IN UMNO

PENANG, May 3 (Bernama) -- Former Umno President Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad still favours no contest for the top two posts in Umno in the coming party elections.

He said the posts of president and deputy president should not be contested to avoid a split within the party.

"Until death...", he said when asked for how long that it should remain so.

He was speaking to reporters after presenting a keynote address at an international seminar on Antarctica at Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) here today.

He said the two posts should be filled through transition of power.

"There's a vacancy now for the post of deputy president (as Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi is now acting president) and it's best that we appoint someone to the post so that we have a successor," he said.

Dr Mahathir said that of course when there was a vacancy, there should be an election but in the interest of the party and to avoid a split, the post should not be contested.

However, he said he had no objection to the contest for the three vice-president's posts.

"The vice-presidency posts can be contested," he said.

-- BERNAMA

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