

DR M WINS

STAR 25 APR 1987

Ghafar defeats Musa by 40 votes

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KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. — Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who was re-elected Umno president for a third term today, said his priority now is to run the party and the Government.

"I had promised that even if I had won by one vote I would continue to serve, and I have got more than one," he told reporters shortly after the results of the party elections were announced.

Dr Mahathir defeated Trade and Industry Minister Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah by 43 votes. He obtained 761 votes to Tengku Razaleigh's 718 votes.

Asked how he felt about the majority, Dr Mahathir said: "How I feel is of no consequence. What is important is what Umno does and that is to have a proper election and to make a proper decision."

He said the slim majority would not prevent him from running the party effectively and his aspiration was to govern the country as well as before.

Incumbent deputy president Datuk Musa Hitam, who lost to Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Ghafar Baba by 40 votes, called on all Umno members to respect the verdict of the delegates.

"A decision has been made. The delegates have decided who should lead the party and the verdict must be respected since Umno stands for Malay unity," he said.

Datuk Musa polled 699 votes against Encik Ghafar's 739. There were 41 spoilt votes.

The three vice-presidents elected were Datuk Seri Wan Mokhtar Ahmad (935), Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi (879) and Encik Anwar Ibrahim (850).

Those who lost out were Datuk Rais Yatim (690), Datuk Seri Ramli Ngah Talib (667) and Datuk Harun Idris (398).

The results were announced by Umno general assembly permanent chairman Tan Sri Sulaiman Ninam Shah at 10.45pm at the Putra World Trade Centre.

Dr Mahathir and Encik Ghafar were at *Sri Perdana* when they were informed of the results. Together with them, among others, were Encik Anwar and Wanita Umno chief Datin Paduka Rafidah Aziz.

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AT A GLANCE

PRESIDENT:

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad: 761

Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah: 718

DEPUTY PRESIDENT:

Encik Ghafar Baba: 739

Datuk Musa Hitam: 699

VICE-PRESIDENT (3):

Datuk Seri Amar Wan Mokhtar Ahmad: 935

Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi: 879

Encik Anwar Ibrahim: 850

Datuk Rais Yatim: 690

Datuk Seri Ramli Ngah Talib: 667

Datuk Harun Idris: 398

Dr Mahathir:

How I feel is no consequence. What is important is what Umno does and that is to have a proper election and to make a proper decision ... After something like this, we should remain calm and make an analysis as well as seek the opinions of the party members.

Datuk Musa:

A decision has been made ... the verdict must be respected by all ... Party members should stay calm and be united ... respect the verdict and pledge my support to them (Dr Mahathir and Encik Ghafar) ...

Encik Anwar:

I did not expect to get the highest number of votes. I expected to get in. It was a tough fight. I got in on my first try. We had professional delegates.

Too early to make changes, says Dr M

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Tengku Razaleigh and Datuk Musa were in their respective homes when the results were announced. The announcement was carried "live" over radio and television.

Tan Sri Sulaiman retained his post as permanent chairman, polling 850 votes. The other contestants were Shamsuri Haji Salleh (453), Mohamed Nor Mohamed Dom (106), R.M. Idris (32) and Baharum Shah Indera (19).

For the deputy permanent chairman's post, incumbent Datuk Shuib Haji Ahmad won with 533 votes. The other contestants were Abdul Rahman Mohamed (313), Shamsuri Mat Salleh (310), Mohamed Amin Haji Daud (203) and Azman Attar Othman (107).

The results of the supreme council elections will

be announced by 11am tomorrow.

Encik Ghafar declined to answer questions from reporters except to say that he had expected to win.

"Dr Mahathir has answered; he's my boss," he said.

To which Dr Mahathir quipped: "No, we are a team. Only the positions are different ... one is a forward; the other is a centre-half."

Asked whether there would be a Cabinet reshuffle, the Prime Minister said: "I am too sleepy to answer that question. I will think about it."

When reporters repeated the question, he said: "It is too early to make changes to the leadership. We will see."

On the future of Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah as a Cabinet Minister, he replied: "Be patient."

On whether there would be a change in the style of leadership, Dr Mahathir laughed and said "you will have to wait and see."

He also said it was too early to predict what would be done. "After something like this, we should remain calm and make an analysis as well as seek the opinions of the party members," he added.

Earlier, Dr Mahathir said he was happy the general assembly went very well today and the election procedures were followed very closely.

He was also thankful that the elections went smoothly and efficiently without incident.

Dr Mahathir added that the party delegates were mature and carried out their responsibilities with full awareness.

He said Umno members should now reunite.