

Ex-PM fears foreign meddling if Malays not united
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Former prime minister Dr Mahathir Mohamad has expressed concern over the state of unity among Muslims in the country, saying they are now divided into three factions.

If the situation is allowed to persist, foreign elements could take advantage of the disunity to interfere, according to him.

He said the three factions were fighting among themselves albeit without the use of weapons like in some Muslim countries.

"Because we are divided we become weak. We have probably forgotten that 55 years ago Muslims and Malays in the country were struggling for independence and opposing the Malayan Union.

"Admittedly at the time the Muslims were weak. But even though we did not have the money and other strengths, we managed to resist the Malayan Union because we were united," he said at the breaking of fast at Masjid Al-Ehsan, Kodiang last night.

Also present were his wife Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali and son Mukhriz Mahathir who is also international trade and industry deputy minister and Jerlun MP.

Dr Mahathir further noted that many Muslim countries today were besieged by infighting, warring to defend their sovereignty from foreign powers as well as famine.

He said it was therefore imperative for Muslims in the country to stay united and prevent such adversities.

- Bernama