

'DAP's failure shows Malays not easily fooled'
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DAP's defeat in the Teluk Intan by-election shows that Malays are not easily fooled by the opposition party, Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM) lecturer Hanafiah Harun has said.

An Umno Online report yesterday quoted Hanafiah as saying that the party tried to garner Malay support by fielding Dyana Sofya Mohd Daud as its candidate, but this backfired because voters were unmoved by DAP's "cosmetic politics".

"This is because, although (Dyana) is a Malay, her ideology and thinking are no longer that of a Malay," he said, citing Dyana's criticism of UiTM's exclusivity to Malay students, and her opposition to hudud.

"Therefore, during DAP's campaign around Teluk Intan, we find that the people themselves expressed dissatisfaction towards the party, even to the extent where DAP campaigners were chased off by local residents and prevented from campaigning," Hanafiah said.

Dyana was defeated by Gerakan candidate Mah Siew Keong, by a slim majority of 238 votes in last Saturday's by-election.

DAP claimed in its analysis that it had a slight increase of three percent in Malay support, but suffered from both the low voter