

**I never treated Umno as private property, Mahathir returns fire**  
**MalaysiaKini.com**  
**May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016**  
**Zikri Kamarulzaman**

Indulging in crude potshots, Dr Mahathir Mohamad accused Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak of turning Umno into his private property.

On two occasions, the former premier referred to how Umno has been turned into "Najis (filth)".

He was responding to the prime minister who accused him of biting the hand that fed him, claiming that Mahathir and his family reaped enormous benefits from Umno and BN.

This was after the former premier urged the opposition to be united to defeat BN in the upcoming by-elections.

"He also gained a lot from Umno," said Mahathir. "But I never treated it (the party) as my private property."

"He's now changed Umno to 'Najis (filth), I mean Najib," he told reporters in Subang Jaya.

He had uttered the same crude remark during a question and answer session earlier.

"In my heart I am still an Umno man. But now Umno is a 'parti Najis' (filthy party)... Najib," he had said, to roaring laughter from the crowd.

Mahathir is spearheading a campaign to oust Najib, dubbed the Citizens' Declaration, which has allegedly amassed more than one million signatures.

The former premier accuses the prime minister of corruption and putting the country at great financial risk over the 1MDB scandal.

He has even called on voters to ensure that BN loses in the upcoming twin by-elections in Kuala Kangsar and Sungai Besar to teach Najib a lesson.

Najib has denied all accusations against him.

Copyright © 1999-2016 Mkini Dotcom Sdn. Bhd  
Source: <https://www.malysiakini.com/news/342215>