

**Umno rebels moot new Mahathir-Mukhriz-Muhyiddin party**  
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Gerakan Ketua Cawangan Malaysia (GKCM), comprising rebel Umno branch leaders, has raised the possibility of a new political party after Umno purged key opponents of Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak's leadership.

According to GKCM, the '3M' party could be led by former premier Dr Mahathir Mohamad who quit Umno early this year and two party leaders sacked yesterday - deputy president Muhyiddin Yassin and Umno supreme council member Mukhriz Mahathir.

"GKCM will commence action. Umno is plagued by a serious loss of confidence. Is it goodbye to Umno?" said GKCM president Kamarul Azman in a statement today.

Kamarul reminded Najib and the Umno supreme council of the popular uprising in the Philippines.

"The people will rise up to oppose the widespread abuse of power in the country.

"Najib and the supreme council should heed the People's Power revolution which succeeded in overthrowing Ferdinand Marcos in the Philippines between Feb 22 and 26, 1986," he said.

Apart from the unanimous sacking yesterday, the Umno supreme council also suspended another Najib's critic, Umno vice-president Shafie Apdal.

Kamarul claimed Najib is facing integrity issues.

"Najib is the most hated person in the country but he cannot accept this reality," he said.

Mahathir had previously called Najib a dictator, likening him to Uganda's Idi Amin.

Najib in his victory speech after the Sungai Besar and Kuala Kangsar by-election on June 18 however trumpeted his popularity.

"He called me the Idi Amin of Malaysia. (Well) the Idi Amin of Malaysia is more popular," declared Najib.

Najib yesterday also announced that the government would cut funding to Perdana Leadership Foundation, an organisation led by Mahathir.

Mahathir and his allies accuse Najib of corruption and vow to unseat him as prime minister. Najib denies any wrongdoing.

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