

**Malays now divided into three groups: Mahathir**  
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Former prime minister Dr Mahathir Mohamad hopes that the people will give Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak time and space to strengthen racial solidarity and boost the country's economic development.

He said it was not easy for Najib to resolve problems relating to the economy and unity unless the people gave him their undivided support.

"If he (Najib) does anything bad, then you can criticise, but if he does something good, we should support him so that he will get the strength from our support.

"When he gets strong support, he can discharge his duty more effectively. A weak leader will certainly not be able to protect us," he said.

He said this to reporters after attending a programme in Tanjong Karang yesterday.

Meanwhile, the former prime minister said the Malays must unite again to regain their political power because although they form 60 per cent of the population, the race had been divided into three.

The Malays were now divided into three groups and mathematically, Umno only represented 20 per cent of the 60 per cent Malays. The same was also true of PAS and PKR.

"Twenty per cent for each Malay party is considered weak. The Malays have lost direction, some have joined the DAP.

"There are Malays wearing scarves but carrying the rocket (DAP) flags during the Sibul parliamentary by-election," he said.

- Bernama

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