

**Umno youth to focus on people's issues - Khairy
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The Umno Youth general assembly will focus on issues faced by the people and the role played by the government through the various agencies to overcome such problems.

Umno Youth chief Khairy Jamaluddin (*left*) said delegates of the movement would also raise the weaknesses in the administration of DAP, PAS and Parti Keadilan Rakyat (PKR).

During the assembly, Umno Youth would project a new image adding that "Umno Youth is now seen to be more inclusive and progressive than it was a few years ago" and able to attract the younger generation who can become the champions of the people through the 1Malaysia concept, introduced by Prime Minister and Umno President Najib Abdul Razak.

"This is a significant change because we have always been an open and progressive party but perhaps in the last few years the pressure from ethnocentric groups has prevailed over party policies.

"I think it's important for us that the prime minister brings in a new philosophy of unity in 1Malaysia and Umno Youth must be in sync with what the prime minister wants and the momentum has begun," he told reporters after having lunch with delegates here today.

Khairy hoped this Umno AGM would continue to see the party emerge as a progressive centrist party with every Malaysian interest at heart.

"The movement will also focus on drawing the attention of young voters. We want to show that although our main struggle is to champion the needs of the Malays, we will continue to raise issues faced by the general public to strengthen the 1Malaysia concept," he said.

Khairy said the AGM would demonstrate that Umno was still the pre-eminent political party and vehicle for the Malays and nobody can take the Malay agenda away from Umno.

The Umno General Assembly which kicks off with the assembly of three Umno wings opened by Umno Deputy President and Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, is attended by 4,907 delegates comprising 2,543 delegates for the Umno General Assembly, 793 for Wanita, 795 for Youth and 776 for Puteri.

- Bernama

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