

THE SUN

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# Opposition spreading lies, says Abdullah

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**ALOR STAR:** Barisan Nasional leader Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi yesterday went on the offensive against the opposition parties, accusing them of slandering the coalition to cause chaos and mistrust among the component parties.

"They (Opposition) make up various stories so that we are suspicious of each other, which leads to chaos, quarrels and eventually we become weak," he said when speaking at "The Leader With The People" gathering in Kuala Kedah.

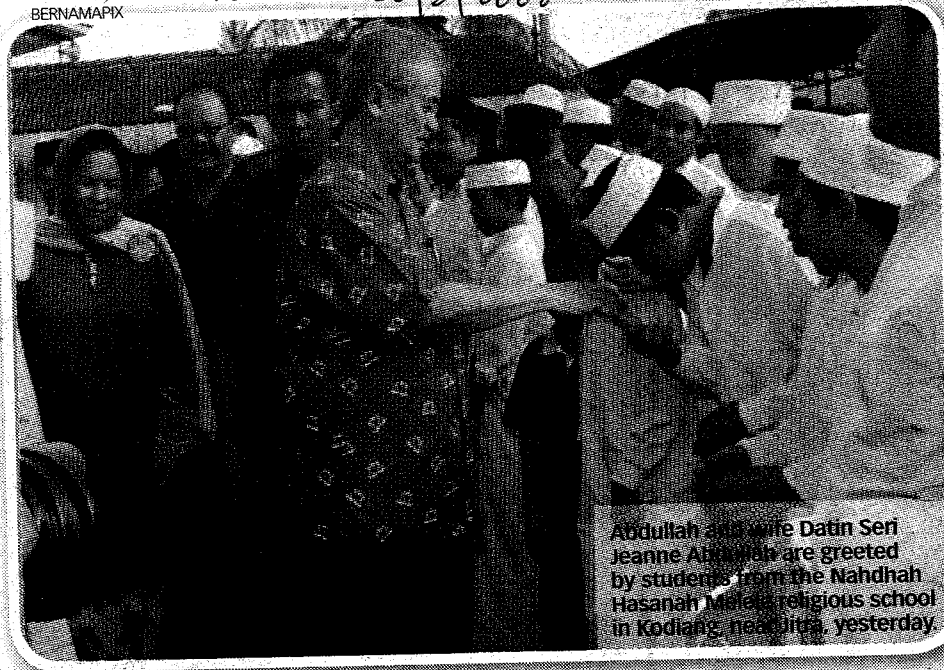
Abdullah said the opposition parties spread lies, claiming the Malays and the Chinese were not supporting each other and made use of Hindraf (Hindu Rights Action Force) to ask Malaysians not to support the BN and MIC.

He was clearly addressing a difficult climate under which the 12th general election is being held, one that is affecting the MCA and MIC, Umno's two biggest allies in the coalition. Opposition parties are bringing up the Hindraf controversy, and other human rights issues, while blaming the MCA and MIC for not doing enough. Rising fuel prices have further complicated matters.

He had earlier reportedly said it would be difficult to repeat the landslide victory he got in 2004, but was confident the BN would continue to get its two-thirds majority in Parliament.

Abdullah said the opposition parties are targeting the BN because they are envious of its success in administering the country and getting support from the majority of the people.

The BN chairman said following the increasingly strong support for the BN, those who are envious of the coalition had made up all kind of stories so that supporters of its component par-



Abdullah and wife Datin Seri Jeanne Abdullah are greeted by students from the Nahdhah Hasanah Malaya religious school in Kodiang, near Alor Star, yesterday.

ties would quarrel among themselves.

"The opposition parties hope that by making up these stories they can influence the people to support them when the BN is divided," he said.

He said the Opposition had been making wild allegations all this while, using various ways but

the people still supported the BN.

"The Opposition must realise why. They know, but pretend not to know although the BN had led Malaysia to become the most developed country among the developing nations in the world."

Abdullah said the people realised that it was only through the BN that the political parties and minor-

ity groups in this country could work together.

"Praise be to God that we have achieved success (in many areas). So who dares to say that his community's wealth and assets have not increased over the years. But success does not come easy while the country will never be peaceful if its people are plagued by suffering and hardship.

"I have never said that we have done everything and that everything is perfect, but the situation in Malaysia has improved and the BN government will continue to implement welfare programmes."

Abdullah said if the poverty level had been 10% previously, it had now gone down to 5.7%.

"We cannot deny that this is another success. If there are no more hardcore poor people and everything is alright, then we don't need the programme to eradicate poverty by 2010."

He stressed that the poverty-eradication programme covered all races in both rural and urban areas. - Bernama

## HOTLY - CONTESTED

The 12th general election will be held on the 28th of May. In the past, the BN has won seven candidates from the SUPP, the MCA, MIC, and other independent candidates took part in the contest.

