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Dr M: Wrong choice can lead to oppressive govt

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LUMUT: Electing a wrong political party into power could lead to an oppressive government that is less sympathetic towards the Malays.

In his talk on unity at the Royal Malaysian Navy base here yesterday, former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad said that Barisan National (BN), unlike the Opposition, is a collection of 14 united component parties of different beliefs and races but with a single goal, the betterment of the country.

“BN is extraordinary because they cooperate, work together and share with each other. The Opposition is merely a pact, each with its own goals and agendas.

“One aims to only gain power, the other brought their own brand of beliefs, and the third is only interested in forwarding their race,” said Mahathir.

He then cited that Umno was formed by Malays, who made up 60% of the people in the country, uniting together and successfully bringing down the British formed Malayan Union.

“Because of greed the people’s votes split, turning a powerful majority into a weak minority.

“After independence, some began to realise that politics leads to power and prestige and this is what they are after, not the betterment of the country. And when they can’t get it in the party that they are in, they form another.”

Mahathir said choosing the wrong government may lead to a Malaysia that is not united and a Malaysia that will always be in turmoil with internal fighting.