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| Newspaper | THESUN |
| Date | 28 JAN 2015 |

Shahidan offers to mediate between Dr M and Najib

The Sun - 28/1/2015

KUALA LUMPUR: Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Shahidan Kassim said infighting in Umno is unnecessary as neither side will emerge victorious.

Offering himself as a mediator between former prime minister Tim Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak, Shahidan said the public spat must not be allowed to continue and more energy should be devoted to governance.

"It is unnecessary to fight publicly. It will only aggravate the situation, the country needs to focus on helping flood victims and nationbuilding.

"I will meet with Tun (Mahathir) as soon as possible. We should direct more efforts to address the country's problems following recent global developments," he told reporters after having lunch with members of the Youth Parliament at the Parliament building yesterday.

Shahidan said he hoped he could help resolve the tiff and that he would be very sad if it prolongs.

Mahathir, who is still regarded as a powerM figure within Umno, had been increasingly critical of Najib's administration since mid-2014 and the prime minister's supporters had taken to the media to defend him. - **by Lee Choon Fai**