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Najib: Umno **vital** for bumi survival

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> Don't support those who betray party, says PM

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KUALA LUMPUR: Supporting Umno and not the people who are against the party is of paramount importance to ensure bumiputras do not fall, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak.

Speaking at the 50th anniversary celebrations of Majlis Amanah Rakyat (Mara) here yesterday, he said without Umno, Mara would not exist, thus spelling doom for bumiputras and the Malays.

"But Mara will exist as long as Umno is in power," he said to loud applause.

Najib also spoke about past Umno leaders who are against the party now, and advised Muslims not to conspire or collude with them.

"Don't support those who betray Umno, even if they were once Umno leaders. They must defend the current leadership of the party," he said.

Najib also announced that all Mara agencies and subsidiaries will be consolidated into a single entity known as MaraCorp to ensure organisation, uniformity and good governance.

He said it would be a government-linked corporation valued at RM1.4 billion, with no additional government funding.

Najib also announced that the new Rural Capital Bhd will make entrepreneurial loans easier to consolidate and help entrepreneurs in this competitive market.

Among the other announcements are the establishment of University Mara which follows the success of UniKL, which has since been approved by the Higher Education Ministry.

Yayasan Pelajaran Mara will also be rebranded as Yayasan Mara, he said. "It has funds of RM800 million which can now be used for other aid programmes like welfare, flood and drought assistance - not just education," he added.

He also announced that Jalan Semarang, running next to the Mara building here, would be changed to Jalan Mara.



Najib visits the Mara Digital Mall after launching Mara's 50th anniversary celebrations. Behind him is Rural and Regional Development Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob.