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Najib: Uphold Umno oath

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'DEFEND PARTY':
Members must always be loyal to party leaders, says president

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THE party oath must always be upheld and not merely followed based on one's whims and fancies, Umno president Datuk Seri Najib Razak said yesterday.

He said he respected only those with principles and were consistent in their loyalty to the party.

One could criticise party leaders and give their views, Najib added, but it must be done within the boundaries of the party and its constitution.

"We must always be loyal to party leaders as this is part of the party's principles. Be mindful, as leaders can come and go. But the party must remain intact to continue its struggle.

"We must always defend the party for our children and grandchildren. If not, history will punish us," he said at a gathering of his friends who had been with him during his



Datuk Seri Najib Razak at a gathering of friends who have been with him during his years in Umno Youth in Putrajaya yesterday. With him is Umno vice-president **Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi**. Pic by Mohd Fadli Hamzah

years in Umno Youth.

Some 1,000 of Najib's friends had turned up to show their support for the party president.

Present were Najib's wife, Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor, Umno vice-president Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi and Umno secretary-general Datuk Seri Tengku Adnan Tengku Mansor.

Najib also said that one should neither take the party oath for granted nor flip-flop on their principles.

"When you once said that there was no need for foreign intervention to solve internal matters, now there is a need for it. Once, DAP was perceived as Umno's enemy, now (some) share the same platform with them," he said.

Though he did not refer to anyone by name, it is believed that Najib was referring to several current and former party leaders, in particular ex-Umno president and former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Najib also called on the Friends of Najib Club, or N87, to pledge their loyalty not merely to him but to Umno.

The N87 Club, which was formed after the 13th General Election, comprises former Youth chiefs when Najib was Umno Youth chief.

"There is no material value in our struggle. It must be based on the value of true friendship.

"We must be loyal to the party in any situation, good or bad."