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## 'Party's challenges enormous'

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**KUALA LUMPUR:** The disarray among the opposition will be a challenge for Parti Pribumi Bersatu Malaysia (Parti Pribumi).

Former deputy prime minister Tun Musa Hitam said the challenge for Parti Pribumi was collaborating with other opposition parties, as having another party for Bumiputeras would split Malay votes.

"I'm not so sure if it (the party) will succeed. Based on history, it might not be able to work because the challenges are enormous," Musa said after his book, *Frankly Speaking*, was launched by Sultan of Perak Sultan Nazrin Muizzuddin Shah here yesterday.

He said the party needed to work with the opposition in order to succeed in the next general election.

"If they do get together, the next problem is for them to have one voice."

On Tuesday, former deputy prime minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin submitted documents to the Registrar of Societies to support the application to form Parti Pribumi.



**Tun Musa Hitam**

The party is backed by former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

In **Jasin**, Malacca, Umno veteran Tan Sri Abdul Aziz Tapa described the formation of Parti Pribumi as an act of disloyalty. The 93-year-old Umno founding member expressed his disappointment that disgruntled former party leaders were trying to cause a rift in Umno.

Aziz said party members would back Umno by giving their full support to their leaders.

"We stood by our leaders, believing that they would do what was right for us and protect the welfare of Malays."

He said Parti Pribumi was formed to topple Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak, and not to champion the rights of Bumiputeras.

"Umno is the largest and one of the oldest parties in the country which fought hard for the people, in particular, the Malays. Parti Pribumi is a new Malay-based party on the political scene, and it is likely that it will not last long."

Aziz said Najib and his father, Tun Abdul Razak Hussein, were great leaders who managed the country well in their own ways.

"They have their styles. Najib strives for unity, which is why he upholds the '1Malaysia' slogan. His father, on the other hand, is a Father of Development."

Aziz reminded the younger Umno members not to sell their soul merely for their personal interest.