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'LET'S WATCH THEM SINK'

# DR M 'GILA TALAK' LEADER

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It's time people reject Pakatan Harapan, says Zahid

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**D** EPUTY Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi has described Parti Pribumi Bersatu Malaysia (PPBM) chairman Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad as "gila talak".

Zahid said a leader who had passed his time should become a statesman and give advice to his successors.

"The people had given him 22 years to lead (the country), but as he is 'gila talak', I think we have to change.

"It is time for the people to reject Pakatan Harapan which is led by a man who is 'gila talak'.

"At his age, he should *zika* (reciting prayers) and leave it to us to manage the country.

"During his time, it was not that he was strong but it was we who had assisted him," he said at a meet-the-people session at Kelantan Poverty Foundation organised by the Ketereh Umno division.

Present were Kelantan Umno chief Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed, his deputy Datuk Ahmad Jazlan Yaakub and Umno Information chief Tan Sri Annuar Musa. The event drew about 20,000 people.

Zahid, who is also Umno vice-president, said the party was the backbone of Barisan Nasional (BN) as it had the biggest number



Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi greeting well-wishers in Kota Baru yesterday.  
PIC BY FATHIL ASRI

of seats in parliament and many state assemblies.

He said it was absurd for Dr Mahathir to be a Pakatan top leader when PPBM only had one parliamentary seat.

"(Pakatan) now has three main leaders. Let's just watch them sink as they pull the pact into different directions," he said.

Zahid said in other countries, it was the present leaders who would blame their predecessors for various policies, but it was the reverse in Malaysia.

"The present leaders are trying to make improvements beside rectifying the administrative system and current political situation," he said.

Zahid also said he was confident that the new Malay political wave would spur more people to support Umno and BN.

He said Kelantan voters who were living elsewhere should consider the needs of those living in the state.

"They should close the old book and open a new one to support Umno in the coming general election so that the state will prosper," he said.

Earlier, Zahid was greeted by 1,000 superbikers bearing the party and state flags.

At the gathering, he also presented awards to 100 people in Ketereh in 25 categories.

He later performed Friday prayers at Bukit Marak mosque.

At a subsequent Hari Raya gathering at Dataran Rehal, Zahid said Muslims should show their solidarity and fight against aggressive and unacceptable actions of their enemies.

"The religion must be respected although we come from different backgrounds.

"The state and federal governments have different political beliefs, but we have put them aside to champion issues of the people and ummah, including the Rohingya," he said.

More than 5,000 people attended the gathering.

On another note, Zahid said loyalty to the leadership, or "wala", was a good trait to be practised.

"Once, I was invited by Mustapa to his office of the second finance minister. He handed me a letter to end my tenure as chairman of Bank Simpanan Nasional.

"I never felt slighted because of my 'wala'. When I am in a different position (now), he continues to give his 'wala' to me just like I had done to him," he said.