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# 'BERSATU CAN PROTECT MALAY RIGHTS'

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Malays urged to join party and rectify its flaws, says Dr Mahathir

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**P**ARTI Pribumi Bersatu Malaysia (Bersatu) can be a new "home" for the Malays who are currently gripped by fear and uncertainties after the fall of Umno at the 14th General Election (GE-14), says Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

The Bersatu chairman said the Malays had also acknowledged the fact that disunity among them would cost them their rights and privileges.

"The Malays want a strong party and Bersatu is the party for the

Malays, even other other races want to join Bersatu.

"If they (Malays) do not join Bersatu, where do they want to go? They can't join Umno. Umno is shattered.

"They join Bersatu because they (the Malays) are afraid and feel threatened... they feel that if they break apart, they can no longer have rights and be treated equally in this country.

"They are looking for a party. They can't join PKR (Parti Keadilan Rakyat) because it accepts membership from other races.

"They can't join Amanah because it is also open to all races, nor can they join DAP.

"So what are their options?" he said in an interview with several senior local media editors recently.

Based on current political developments, Dr Mahathir said Bersatu was the only Malay party in the government after GE14.

While recognising the party's teething problems, he called on any persons with such beliefs to join Bersatu and help rectify the flaws.

"If not Bersatu, then who? Want to join Umno? Even if you can join them, what's so great about it?

"Umno are thugs. Where do they (Malays) want to go?

"We are not giving them (leadership) positions but to those who are clean and not from Umno, we will allocate places for them.

"We're the only Malay party there is. If they want a Malay party, Bersatu is here.

"If Bersatu isn't good, then come and fix it. If you know how to fix it, join us and fix it," he said.

Commenting on how long it will take to win over the confidence of

the Malay community, Dr Mahathir expressed hope that it would be achieved in a shorter period than expected.

He said Bersatu is currently conducting behavioural studies which encompasses values held by each segment of society.

**If Bersatu isn't good, then come and fix it**

**TUN DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD**  
Bersatu chairman

Dr Mahathir said the Chinese, apart from possessing solid work ethics, are also dynamic and knowledgeable, which has led them

to achieve numerous successes despite not forming any alliances.

"Look at the country now. The Malays are leaving the city to live in the kampung.

"There's no longer a Kampung Kerinchi, no more Kampung Abdullah Hukum, no more Sungai Penchala. They are poor and are afraid of becoming even poorer.

"They sold off their land at high prices and have since moved to the rural areas. The city, meanwhile, expands to the rural areas.

"Once again, they sell off their land and the process repeats itself. They (Malays) want someone to protect them, and they believe that only the Malays can do so. They want this party.

"If we do not approach them, we would not be able to gain their support and we would constantly lose.

"I was confident that (former prime minister Datuk Seri) Najib (Razak) would win in the 14th general election, just like in GE13.

"Yes, the popular vote went to the (then) opposition but because of the structure of Constitution, the Malays could still win the election and form the government.

"But instead, they went ahead and formed an incompetent crooked government... kleptocrats," he said.