

Lawyer is Dr M's choice for by-election

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PETALING JAYA: Lawyer Amir Khusyairi Mohd Tanusi has been named as an independent candidate for Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad's new party in the Slim by-election.

The 38-year-old was once a candidate for the Teluk Intan Parti Pribumi Bersatu Malaysia division chairman's post.

Amir's candidacy was announced during an event at Taman Slim Permata in Slim River, Perak, last night. Dr Mahathir was also at the event with his supporters.

The former prime minister earlier announced the formation of his new Malay-based party called "Parti Pejuang Tanahair".

He announced the new party in his blog "Chedet" yesterday via a poem which claimed that Bersatu had been "hijacked" to save kleptocrats.

"Corruption destroys our race and corruption destroys the Malays. If you want positions and money, choose another party.

"If you want to redeem your dignity and defend our rights,

choose our party, choose Pejuang," he said.

Last Friday, Dr Mahathir announced the formation of a new party, following the High Court's decision to strike out a suit by him and others over the nullification of their Bersatu membership.

The new party will include former Bersatu MPs such as Datuk Seri Mukhriz Mahathir, Dr Maszlee Malik, Datuk Marzuki Yahya, Datuk Dr Shahrudin Md Salleh, Datuk Amiruddin Hamzah and Syed Saddiq Syed Abdul Rahman.