

'Unity is our guiding principle'

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Deputy Umno president Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin states recipe to win the general election

TO emerge victorious in what has been described as a "do-or-die" battle in the next general election, Deputy Umno president Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said traitors, backstabbers and party saboteurs had no place in Umno.

"Unity is the guiding principle in the coming general election and we must accept whoever is chosen as a candidate.

"We must get rid of traitors, backstabbers and those who know nothing else but to criticise and sabotage the party," he said in his winding up speech on the last day of Umno General Assembly 2011 yesterday.

He also listed out seven ingredients which he said could ensure Umno and Barisan Nasional victory in the general election.

Forging unity among the rank and file, strengthening loyalty and serving the people with sincerity are among the qualities which he said would ensure Umno is elected again to serve the people.

"If we adopt and put into practice these ingredients, God willing, Umno will win big, with at least a two-thirds majority.

"Our target must not be less than two-thirds majority."

Muhyiddin, who is also deputy prime minister, said a united front could be achieved through "unity of hearts and minds" of all Umno members.

"Once this is achieved, the party must band together under a common goal to win in the polls. All these traits must be translated into tangible work through the concept of wahdatul amal (solidarity)."

He also reminded Umno members at all levels to accept the leadership's decision on candidates selected by the party president.

He also touched on disciplinary cases involving party members in the last general election where the party's disciplinary board identified 22 "offences" committed by members from six states.

"Of the cases, three members had their membership revoked, six were suspended, one was given a stern warning and 12 others were found not guilty due to lack of evidence."

He suggested that the disciplinary board act against errant members before and during the general election.

Reminding members to give undivided support and loyalty to Datuk Seri Najib Razak, Muhyiddin said the leadership needed a strong and reliable force comprising the rank and file during a crucial battle like the general election.

"It is important that there are no bad elements who would taint the image of the party before and during the election."

"Do not be too calculative (berkira) when doing party's work and put party interest above anything else."

Muhyiddin said members should adopt the concept of making sacrifices during Aidiladha to ensure victory. "It is a form of jihad to ensure the survival of the party and the Malay race."

On an unrelated matter, Muhyiddin, who is also education minister, said the ongoing educational transformation efforts were meant at improving the quality of the sector.

He said three phases were being carried out to improve vocational studies by 2020 and these included a pioneer project for pre-vocational courses at secondary schools.

Another plan, he said was to expand the J-QAF (Program Jawi, Quran dan Fardu Ain) learning method in Islamic education for secondary schools by 2013.

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