

Support Returning To BN But Must Be Proven In Coming General Election - Ahmad Zahid
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KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 3 (Bernama) -- While empirical studies indicate the support of the people has returned to Umno and Barisan Nasional (BN), Umno delegates must strive to interpret it by ensuring BN obtains a bigger victory at the 13th general election.

Umno vice-president Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi said studies which were carried out by academicians and thinkers proved the support of the people for the government had restrengthened after the political tsunami at the general election in 2008.

Quoting a study by a panel of thinkers directed by the Pas headquarters, he said: "A total of 56.1 per cent agree the DAP tries to erode Malay dominance and that it (DAP) is a chauvinistic party.

"From the study, too, 54.2 per cent agree Umno looks after the rights and dominance of Islam and, 54.1 per cent agree the prime minister has succeeded in reviving the support of the people which had earlier been eroded," he said when winding up the debate at the Umno General Assembly 2011 in the Putra World Trade Centre here Saturday.

Quoting another study which was carried out by the International Islamic University under Prof Datuk Dr Syed Arabi Abdullah Idid, Ahmad Zahid said, the confidence of the people had returned with BN's current performance.

"In 2011, 86 per cent are confident Malaysia is well-managed by BN. In 2010, only 77 per cent were confident of the interpretation of the transformation programme (Government, Economic and Political transformation programmes) but this year, the figure goes up to 82 per cent.

"In fact, the 1Malaysia concept is well-received by the people of Malaysia, namely, 85 per cent this year, as compared to 75 per cent last year," said Ahmad Zahid, who is also defence minister and Bagan Datoh member of parliament.

He said the studies showed that under the leadership of Umno and BN, the transformation plan introduced by Najib gave enthusiasm and confidence to the people.

As such, Ahmad Zahid said all would be more meaningful if it could be proven through the commitment of all the Umno delegates and BN to win back the majority vote in the 13th general election.

In the meantime, he also expressed appreciation for Umno and BN's 'new army', namely the social media practitioners, including users of Twitter, Blogger and Facebook accounts.

"We must appreciate our cyber-troopers who fight for us, help us without reward, without sleep and without remuneration for them.

"We must admit the role of the new media as an important communication tool currently,

and they can decide the failure or success of a ruling party," he said.

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