

'Lost' BN must find its way back, says Liow
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By Yow Hong Chieh

KUALA LUMPUR, Mar 11 — Barisan Nasional (BN) "lost its way" in 2008 and must work to get back on track, Datuk Seri Liow Tiong Lai has said.

The MCA deputy president told Utusan Malaysia's Sunday edition Minggu Malaysia the ruling coalition had been "proud and unrealistic" before Election 2008, which he described as a wake-up call for BN.

"We once lost our way, now we need to come back to the right path," he told the Malay-language daily in an interview published today.

Liow (picture) stressed, however, that BN has already begun to learn from its mistakes that, pointing out that it was now more down-to-earth and responsive to public demands.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak's many walkabouts and meet-the-people sessions were an example of this new, humbler approach, he said.

"We don't want to show that this party is elite, and we even drink at mamak stalls with the people," he said.

Liow nonetheless pledged that BN would continue to better itself if the people felt such changes were not enough.

Najib apologised last week for BN's past mistakes, which cost the ruling coalition its customary two-thirds parliamentary majority and four states in 2008.

He said BN would rectify its mistakes and make it up to the public by serving them as best as it can.

"I believe we should not be arrogant. In a parliamentary democracy, we have to subject ourselves to the power of the people," he had said at a meet-the-people session in Baling.

"We must have made mistakes for the people to have rejected us. We apologise for our past mistakes. The victors apologise, as do the losers."

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