

**Umno Steadfast In Fighting For The People - Dr Mahathir
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KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 26 (Bernama) -- Former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad today said that Umno has remained steadfast in fighting for the good of the people and the country all these years.

"We've reinvented Umno. However, we're still the same party with the same principles. We're still fighting for the race, the religion and the country. That's Umno's principal objective although the methods (now) may differ," he said.

Dr Mahathir noted that it had always been the opposition's tactic to accuse the government of not doing enough for the people.

"We'll be told more needs to be done because it's the duty of the opposition to say (the government has) never done enough.

"However, the government has to respond to them by considering whether it is enough or not. Sometimes, what the opposition say is nonsense, we don't have to follow them," he told reporters after hosting a luncheon for delegates attending the 3rd Umno International Forum themed 'Conflict and Conciliation in People's Politics - Looking Back or Looking Forward?' here today.

The two-day forum was opened by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

Dr Mahathir, a former Umno president, also rapped the opposition for organising demonstrations to mislead the public that the upcoming general election would be unfair to them.

"They are creating an atmosphere where people are being told that the election will be unfair, and to reject election (results), hold demonstrations so that they can get power if they lose in the election," he said.

Dr Mahathir described opposition leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim as "highly skilled" in organising public demonstrations as an instrument to put him to Putrajaya.

He noted that Anwar was against demonstrations when he was in the government.

Meanwhile, Dr Mahathir said that the Barisan Nasional government had never sidelined non-Malay youths in the country, with various measures being taken to encourage them to join the civil service, police and armed forces, among others.

Dr Mahathir pointed out that the government had accommodated the country's young people far more than other countries in the world, providing them opportunities in education and creating jobs.

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