

**PM: Party discipline key to strong showing in GE**  
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PARTY discipline is the key factor that determines whether Umno gets a strong victory in the general election, said Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

In an apparent reference to the danger of internal sabotage, the party president stressed that when there is no respect for the common struggle, Umno would be defeated.

"It is crucial that when a decision has been made by the leaders, (members should) accept it with an open heart and carry it out the best you can," he said when addressing the delegates at the Umno general assembly.

Najib said that everyone should learn from the outcome of the 2008 election.

"It is a clear signal to Umno and its partners in Barisan Nasional to change in line with the aspirations and expectations of the people.

"We cannot merely talk or delay our actions. We must double our efforts. That is the only way for Umno to be recognised, be noticed and be considered by the *rakyat*," he said.

The party president pointed out that the demography of the Malaysian population had changed radically, with 29 million people born after the country was formed and 70% now living in urban areas.

Najib said 80% of the population were under the age of 40, adding that one out of every five voters in the next general election would do so for the first time.

"Previously, we could field anyone if the person was a winnable candidate (but) this is no longer the case today. The lesson for the party is that the success of candidates in a contemporary election depends on whether those they represent accept them.

"Therefore, I urge you to be leaders who competently and humbly serve the people well. We must work hard to convince the *rakyat* that we are their main choice to be leaders and that we can give them a better future," he said.

"Umno and Barisan cannot take things easy and hope to get the people's support based on the nostalgia of our past contributions.

"The 13th general election will present us with a choice as to whether, as individuals or collectively, we want to win," he said.

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