

**'Guided democracy' is the Umno way, no leadership contest necessary – Ku Nan**  
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**By Md Izwan**

Umno secretary-general Datuk Seri Tengku Adnan Mansor stressed that the top two posts in Umno – president and deputy president – need not be contested in the upcoming party elections as the party follows the principle of a “guided democracy”.

He said this after some party leaders and groups insisted on a leadership contest, despite the supreme council's recent decision that there would be no contest for the top two posts held by Datuk Seri Razak and Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin.

“What we want to follow is the ‘guided democracy’. As such, there won't be any contest for the post of president and deputy president. After all, we just had our general elections,” Tengku Adnan told reporters at his office in the Dewan Bandaraya Kuala Lumpur building today.

In keeping with the council's decision, the 191 divisions will hold an informal meeting to choose the top leaders. Almost 2,500 representatives will attend the annual general meeting.

Tengku Adnan maintained that Umno had emerged as a strong party after winning 88 Parliamentary seats in the 13th General Election compared to how the three opposition parties in Pakatan Rakyat (PR) had fared.

'Umno has achieved a prestigious position and, therefore, we should fulfill our responsibilities to the people.

'We as one party won 88 seats. The opposition won 89 seats but they are three parties.' Of the PR coalition, PAS won 21 seats, PKR 30, and DAP 38.

Tengku Adnan, who is also Federal Territory Minister, said that given Umno's performance, members should have a solidarity of purpose and build on the support it had received.

'We have done an overall analysis and found that Malay support for Umno has risen by 30 percent and that is why we do not want the party to break up.

'If we can unite to ensure the posts of president and deputy president are unchallenged, it can only be good for us. Then, we will be able to provide better service and attend to the needs of the Malays. This is the main reason. This is not undemocratic. This is guided democracy.'

Not all the leaders in Umno are in agreement. Pahang Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Adnan Yaakob said there should be a contest because Umno is a party that practises democracy and transparency. He has the support of Umno supreme council member Datuk Seri Idris Jusoh.

Last night, former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad said he fully supported the stand that there should not be contests. He said any form of contest for the two posts would result in a split within Umno and also among the Malays. – 18 June, 2013.

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