

New Format In Umno Election Can Eliminate Money Politics - Political Analysts
Bernama
27 July, 2013

KUALA LUMPUR, July 27 (Bernama) -- Political analysts are confident that money politics in Umno can be overcome with the party's Supreme Council election on Oct 5 to be decided by its more than 150,000 members for the first time.

A geostrategist, Prof Dr Azmi Hassan said there would be no room for money politics when such a huge number of delegates were given the power to choose the party leaders.

"When the 150,000 delegates are given the power to vote according to the new format of the Umno election, elements of corruption can be dismissed, unlike previously when only a small number of delegates are allowed to vote," he said when contacted by Bernama here Saturday.

Umno will hold its Supreme Council elections on Oct 5, simultaneously with the divisional delegates meetings nationwide, while the national-level elections for the Wanita Umno, Umno Youth and Puteri Umno wings is on Sept 28

The party' general assembly will be from Dec 2 to 7.

Azmi regarded the new election format in Umno as "a brave move to carry out political transformation in Umno" and believed that it was also an indication for other parties in Barisan Nasional (BN) to do the same.

Meanwhile, a lecturer in political and international studies at Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM), Md Shukri Shuib, said besides eliminating money politics in the party, members should also understand the ethics of democracy.

There should also be strict monitoring by the party management to ensure transparency in the election process, he added.

Political analyst Associate Prof Datuk Zainal Abidin Borhan said delegates should be made aware of Umno's history and the spirit behind its establishment so that they would make a wise decision in selecting the candidates to be the party leaders.

"Allowing about five per cent of the more than 3 million members to vote is a democratic action that could eliminate the elitists among Umno leaders," he added.

-- BERNAMA

Copyright © 2013 BERNAMA

Source: <http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v7/newsindex.php?id=966525>