

**Choose Umno Leaders Capable Of Assisting President, Deputy - Mukhriz
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ALOR SETAR, Aug 10 (Bernama) -- Leaders standing for the Umno election in October should be magnanimous, clean and have high integrity, as among their virtues.

Kedah Menteri Besar Datuk Mukhriz Tun Dr Mahathir said these attributes were important to ensure elected leaders were capable of assisting Umno president and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak and his deputy, Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, who is also deputy prime minister, in continuing to strengthen the party.

"About 150,000 voters in the election will be selecting leaders from the supreme council to division level, who could really meet the aspirations of the people," he told reporters at the menteri besar's open house, in conjunction with Aidilfitri celebrations at Seri Mentaloon here Saturday.

He was commenting on Najib's statement yesterday, in which the Umno president hoped the impending party election would not undermine or threaten Umno as the strongest party in the country.

Najib said, as the party had amended its constitution, Umno was now more open, democratic and inclusive and this attracted many to contest for posts in the party.

Mukhriz said the strength of the party should be sustained to assist in its transformation, as inspired by the party leadership.

He said even though Umno was basically a party which championed the struggles of the Malays, it did not deny the rights of others.

Meanwhile, he said he was happy with the attendance of about 50,000 people to the open house today, which was a good sign for the state's future.

The event was also attended by the Yang di-Pertuan Agong, Tuanku Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah; Kedah Sultan Council of Regency chairman Tunku Annuar Sultan Badlishah, as well as members of the Sultan of Kedah Regency Council, Tan Sri Tunku Abdul Hamid Thani Sultan Badlishah and Tan Sri Tunku Puteri Intan Safinaz Sultan Abdul Halim.

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