

Umno Still Dominant Malay Political Party, A Big Achievement, Says Mahathir
Bernama
May 9, 2014

KUALA LUMPUR, May 9 (Bernama) -- Former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad says Umno's ability to remain as a dominant Malay political party in this country is a big achievement for the party.

He said Umno was still accepted (by the Malays) although support had decreased, but it should learn lessons from this situation.

"Most of the political parties that had fought for the country's independence do not exist now. They have gone, rejected by the people.

"But Alhamdulillah (Praise to Allah), Umno is still supported by the Malays although a little support has been lost. Correcting this situation of reduced support will perhaps continue."

Dr Mahathir said this when asked for his comment in conjunction with Umno's 68th anniversary this May 11 at a news conference after he launched a coffee table book titled, 'Reminiscences of Insurrection: Malaysia's Battle Against Terrorism 1960-1990' at the Defence Ministry, here, today.

His advice to Umno was that its leaders needed to listen to the people, including those from the opposition parties.

"But don't give in too much to them (opposition) as their aim is to topple the government. However, if we ignore their criticism, we may continue to lose the people's support," he said.

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Source: <http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v7/newsindex.php?id=1037230>