

**Zaid 'happy' that Dr M quit Umno**  
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**By Arfa Yunus and Tarrence Tan**

**Former Umno minister says the Malay community can now look to Mahathir in their search for a new political party.**

PETALING JAYA: Zaid Ibrahim is “delighted” former premier Dr Mahathir Mohamad has quit Umno.

“I’m so happy. The Malays now will now look to Tun M in their search for a new political party that will serve the interests of the Malays and all Malaysians,” the former law minister told FMT.

Saifuddin Abdullah, who defected to PKR last year, also welcomed Mahathir’s decision.

Saifuddin, who was previously the deputy higher education minister, hoped that this time, Mahathir’s decision was done with the desire to bring down the Umno-BN government so comprehensive reforms could be implemented.

DAP’s Hannah Yeoh, meanwhile, tweeted that Mahathir stepping down would usher in the dawn of a “weaker Umno”.

Earlier today, Mahathir announced that he was leaving Umno as a sign of protest against the administration of Prime Minister Najib Razak.

He also accused Umno of being dedicated to protecting Najib.

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