

# Kubang Pasu's appeal to Dr M

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**JITRA:** The Kubang Pasu Umno division chairman and committee members will send a letter to Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad appealing to him not to contest for the post of divisional delegate.

Chairman Datuk Mohd Johari Baharum said the letter which would be sent today was the final plea before the division's meeting tomorrow.

"The division, including its Wanita, Youth and Puteri wings, hopes that Tun (Mahathir) will not contest," he said at a press conference here yesterday.

"Tun is our idol. We do not want him to contest just so he can speak at the party's general assembly."

However, he added, if Dr Mahathir insisted on contesting, the division would not stop him.

Mohd Johari said the division members had supported Dr Mahathir during his 30 years with the division and his 22 years as Prime Minister.

Mohd Johari said Dr Mahathir had received 15 nominations from a total of 138 branches and was among 17 people listed to contest the post.

Meanwhile, Dr Mahathir's son Datuk Mukhriz Mahathir said Kubang Pasu division members would not reject Dr Mahathir as their delegate as they remember his years of service and contribution.

He said his father had also served as MP for Kubang Pasu for 30 years.

Mukhriz, who is also Umno Youth exco member, said his father was confident of winning.

"Everywhere we went and almost everyone we met indicated that they want the 'golden era' of Kubang Pasu revived," he told newsmen after opening the Merbok Umno Youth divisional meeting in Sungai Petani yesterday.

Mukhriz said Dr Mahathir was going through the correct procedure in the party by contesting as a delegate as he "merely wants to be heard."

He disagreed with the views of senior Umno leaders that

his father would be going beneath his level by contesting for a delegate's post.

Mukhriz claimed that efforts to prevent his father from winning were carried out in a well-planned manner.

"My father is being treated like *kain buruk* (old clothes). If they're not thankful, at least they should remember his contributions to the party," he added.