

Hisham: Don't shun Dr M

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ALOR STAR: Umno Youth chief Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Tun Hussein has called on members not to shun Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

"Don't add to his heartache (by shunning him).

"I know what my father (former prime minister Tun Hussein Onn) and grandfather (Umno founder Onn Jaafar) went through after they were out of Umno," he said when opening the Alor

Star Umno Youth delegates' conference last Saturday night.

Stressing that Umno Youth would always support Abdullah, Hishammuddin said Abdullah had to make unpopular decisions in order not to burden the future generation.

In **Kota Kinabalu**, Umno supreme council member Datuk Mustapa Mohamed likened the issue to a "small

fire that is in danger of spreading if not stopped fast".

"It cannot be allowed to continue as it will weaken the party. We have to explain (the issues) to party members and the people," he told reporters after opening the Kota Kinabalu Umno division meeting.

Speaking to the delegates, he said the party had elected Abdullah and no one should question his leadership.

In **Kuala Lumpur**, Pahang Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Adnan Yaakob said Dr Mahathir could have presented his views and criticisms by going through the proper channels instead of criticising Abdullah and the Government in the open.

However, Adnan, who is also a party supreme council member, added that he did not see the situation as being serious because incidents in

the past had shown that Umno continued to be strong despite a lot of setbacks.

"If there is any avenue for both Abdullah and Dr Mahathir to meet and resolve their problems, then by all means please help out," he told the delegates at the Bukit Bintang Umno division meeting.