

I have outlined solution to Khalil, says Mahathir

The Star - 26/7/2008

KUALA LUMPUR: Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad has met Yang Dipertua Negeri of Malacca Tun Khalil Yaakob, who is playing the role of a mediator following his strained relationship with the present leadership of the country.

Confirming this yesterday, Dr Mahathir said: "When Khalil met me before I left for my holidays recently, I told him what needed to be done.

"I told him the solution is very simple, just don't bow to Singapore's demands, don't undermine Proton and don't sell Augusta."

He was at the launch of a book, *The Chinese Malaysian Contribution*, which recorded the roles played by Chinese migrants in building the country during the pre- and post-Merdeka years.

Dr Mahathir said Khalil had met Abdullah but has not reverted to him to discuss the proposed meeting between the two leaders.

Khalil has refused to confirm his role as a mediator to defuse the discord between Abdullah and Dr Mahathir.

Dr Mahathir said he planned to hold a gathering of Umno

members soon.

He said he would explain to the members what they don't understand, adding that he anticipated some resistance from the party.

Despite the resistance, Dr Mahathir is adamant in explaining to Umno members the current situation.

He said some media had been biased in their reporting on the spat between him and the prime minister.

He said he was willing to speak at the Umno assembly in November if the party allowed him to do so.