

# Election process in M'sia always fair, transparent, says VC

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KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) Vice Chancellor Prof. Datuk Dr Mohd Harun Abdullah said history has shown that the election process in Malaysia since independence, is competent, fair and transparent.

He said that Malaysia is a country that practices parliamentary democracy and constitutional monarchy as the sole basis for selecting the government adding that the power to decide the government lies in the hands of the people.

"History has shown that Malaysian democracy has successfully provided a fertile base for national stability and prosperity which its citizens have enjoyed for more than five decades.

"The practice of democracy in Malaysia has remained and has

worked even though it may be intense and highly competitive, but in the end it is successful because all parties respect the process and the results. Hopefully, this tradition continues for the benefit of the people and national stability."

He said the government picked through the election, whether at the federal or state level, is the government that has the support and confidence of the majority of the people in line with the practice of democracy.

"The practice of democracy as a governing core is the best mechanism ever invented by humans.

"Differences of opinion, ideas and views does not necessarily equate to chaos or disunity but if handled and managed well has historically been shown to be a blessing which ends up benefiting

the people and development of the country," said Harun.

He said this in his speech at the launching of the 'Fifth May' discourse event on Wednesday at UMS to discuss the analysis of the results and events surrounding the recent 13th General Elections.

"He said the BN victory is the result of a large contribution from majority wins in the State and in Sarawak.

"This is because in the past four years, Malaysians, especially in Sabah and Sarawak have been able to experience and see first hand how the planning phase of



Dr Mohd Harun

the national transformation initiative involving the Government Transformation Programme, Economic, Political and Social have been implemented subsequent to fruition in improving the well-being and prosperity of this country.

"However today, there are still those who still cannot accept the recent election victory by the Barisan Nasional Government.

"Various accusations and inaccurate information are being disseminated in the social web to influence the community to create a negative sentiment towards the top leadership of the country. Such conditions if left unchecked and not constrained by various parties, will affect the harmony of the country."

He said the UMS Non Academic Administration and Professional

Staff Association (PPUMS) and Dewan Bahasa and Pustaka (DBP) has taken the right step in an effort to prevent people from continuing to receive inaccurate information.

He also took the opportunity to congratulate the organisers for organising the discourse as a platform to provide real insight to those present on the issues surrounding the last general election.

Also present at the event were PPUMS President No'Man Datuk Ahmad, UMS Registrar Lt Kol (K) Datuk Abdullah Mohd Said, Malay Chamber of Business and Commerce Vice President and DPMM Sabah President Datuk Ag. Buhtamam Ag Mahmud and DBP Columnist Dr. Jeniri Amir together with more than 100 participants.