

A Weak Government is not good for Multi-racial Malaysia
CheDet.co.cc
May 2, 2008
By Dr. Mahathir Mohamad

I would like to thank all visitors to chedet.com. for their kind words and for welcoming me to the blogosphere. To be honest, I was indeed surprised by the overwhelming response to my weblog.

To my critics and detractors I welcome your comments, but I would appreciate that responses be focussed on the issue that I blog. This is to allow a healthy debate and to gauge points of view which differ from my own.

I apologise that due to the overwhelming traffic, I may not be able to respond to all comments and queries as much as I would like to. I will be selective and respond to points repeatedly raised by commentators in relation to what I've posted.

I shall also not respond, unless absolutely necessary, to issues that have been raised and answered by me in other forums, especially those pertaining to unsubstantiated allegations.

With regards to my first posting on the appointment of judges, most commentators disagreed with my comment that when Government works with the opposition it is a sign of weakness, and that I consider the opposition as the enemy.

Politically, the opposition is the enemy. Being forced to work with the opposition is not undemocratic but it shows up the weakness of the Government.

A weak government is not good for multi-racial Malaysia. It leads to unwarranted challenges against its authority. Governments cannot please everybody. If a Government cannot be firm and is forced to flip-flop there will be a lack of confidence which does not augur well for the smooth implementation of policies or project. Some people might already have noticed this.

A Government with little need for opposition support would be better able to disregard the sniping that all Governments must face. It should however take note of opposition views and respond where necessary.

In today's context, the Federal Government is unable to initiate necessary changes to the constitution and would be held to ransom every time.

One of the most important things about a two-thirds majority is that there would be hardly any threat of defection. Today we hear of this threat everyday. The leadership of the Barisan Nasional is like a cat on hot bricks. And cats on hot bricks cannot achieve anything.

Previous Federal Governments had never failed to obtain the two-thirds majority. As a measure of strength, a two-thirds majority allows a Government to do everything on its own and be totally independent.

But perhaps the proposed request for opposition support is made with sincerity in the spirit of democracy.

The question is why now? Why not when the Government had 90 percent

majority after the General Election of 2004? Changes to the way judges are picked could have been done after the 2004 resounding victory.

I have always been of the opinion that this country must have a strong and independent Federal Government which can then serve the country and people without fear or favour.

But I have been on record in advocating a strong opposition. This is to ensure the Government does not stray from the right path, or abuse its authority.

The combination of a strong (two-thirds majority) Government and an Opposition with the capacity and willingness to check abuses by the Government would serve Malaysia well.

As to the Government's latest proposal to set up a judicial commission, is it because it now thinks it is a good thing or is it a desperate attempt to win back the support it has lost?

As for my criticisms of the leaders of the present Government, I believe I have every right to do so. Retiring from the Government simply means giving up authority and power. It does not mean I must abdicate my role as a citizen. I have every right to be concerned over the flip-flopping mismanagement of this country and that of the party I helped to revive in 1987. The party does not belong to Dato Seri Abdullah alone. Nor is it meant to support him as leader even when he mishandled the elections and the country. The party does not belong to me either. It belongs to all its members. Presently the members are not permitted to be critical. They can merely say yes to what Dato Seri Abdullah says or does.

Since the opposition is also supporting Dato Seri Abdullah, if I do not criticise, then no one will. And without criticisms the Government and Dato Seri Abdullah can really go wrong.

(Reminder: I welcome criticisms and critical comments and I will publish them. However, I will not publish comments containing profanities and demeaning references to certain names. Anonymous postings will also not be published.)

5 Comments

1. *Shaikh*

February 1, 2010 at 4:32 pm | [Permalink](#)

Assalamualaikum WBT.

Tahniah dan Terima Kaseh. Thanks Tun for all.

Sekolah kebangsaan 1 aliran adalah yang terbaik untuk menyatukan semua kaum. Saya sendiri adalah seorang Muslim berketurunan India/Gujarati dgn sdtk campuran Arab/Africa (2nd Generation Proud Malaysian), (mcm rojak) namun dibesarkan dalam suasana semua kaum bersatu padu tanpa ada halangan (tergigit lidah sekali sekala itu perkasa biasa) secara 'bertoleransi'

dan mengamalkan “healthy competition”. Tetapi kebelakangan ini sudah kelihatan agak goyah dengan gangguan “anasir-anasir” luar dan sikap mementingkan diri sendiri masing-masing. Harapan saya agar semua Muslim bersatu dan ingat kembali ajaran Islam yang menuntut kita saling hormat menghormati bukan shj sesama sendiri tetapi dengan umat sejagat... Harap2 kita jangan terlalu taksud dan terpengaruh.. Insyallah.. Terima kasih atas peluang ini.

2. *kalyisah atiqah*

December 29, 2009 at 11:27 pm | [Permalink](#)

Assalamualaikum Tun...

I heard about this blog when i was watching ‘Mahathir’ @ History Channel....quite interesting...

well, I just want to know and i’m so curious....What Do You Think of the 1Malaysia concept? if u can, please answer me.

3. *azimah abu bakar*

October 7, 2008 at 7:57 pm | [Permalink](#)

Salam

i’m commenting on what catwoman commented 2 months ago!

im a 21 year old malay who had attended 7 years of chinese schooling which includes 1 year of kindergarden and also 6 six years of primary.

and being able to converse in mandarin has definitely serve me well

i think it’s crucial that malays chinese and indians truly understand each other (in this case understanding each others mother tongues)for malaysia to become a united country.

having said that, i agree with catwoman and Tun that we only need one sek kebangsaan.

Maybe i could propose that we offer chinese and tamil classes for this one sekolah kebangsaan?

Eid Mubarak & may Allah bless our beloved Tun!

azimah

4. *catwoman*

July 26, 2008 at 9:08 pm | [Permalink](#)

tun pernah bg comment yg bermaksud bahawa m’sia sebenarnya tak perlu ada kan sekolah2 kebangsaan mengikut mcm2 kaum. cukup lah satu jenis sekolah

untuk semua kaum. Oleh itu tun kata m'sia dah cukup baik layan semua kaum dan bina mcm2 jenis sekolah tak mcm negara2 lain. kalau nak tahu langit tinggi rendah tun kata try lah pegi negara2 org lain selain msia.
tun cakap bersahaja, tapi tegas and justified and smooth flow of words. tun knows how to put things at the right places.
saya SUKA sangat ciri2 yg tun ada tu....kdg2 saya tepuk2 tgn sendiri bila tgk tun kat tv bagi justification and comments...tak kiralah dlm atau luar negeri lawan 'mat salleh2' tuuu...
meoww...meowww....

5. [zafrul](#)

June 27, 2008 at 1:15 pm | [Permalink](#)

undurLAH..

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