

# PAS playing old tricks again, says Mahathir

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SUBANG: PAS is up to its old tricks again of saying one thing but having different intentions, said former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

PAS said it wanted to set up an Islamic state by coming out with a blueprint but its aim was actually to cheat people so that it could win votes, he said.

"They don't have anything. They know they cannot do it. They call it Islamic state, but it is not Islamic at all. It is just a PAS state," Dr Mahathir said.

He pointed out that Malaysia was already an Islamic nation and this was acknowledged by the whole world.

"So there is no need for PAS to tell lies about us. The whole world acknowledges us as a model for them.

"They want to copy Malaysia. They didn't say they want to copy or co-operate with Kelantan or Nik Aziz or the syaitan's friend," he told reporters yesterday after arriving at the RMAF Subang from a two-week vacation abroad.

Dr Mahathir also cited two examples of PAS' political game.

One was when Kelantan Menteri Besar Datuk Nik Aziz Nik Mat issued a statement that he had forced Dr Mahathir to resign although Nik Aziz had earlier said that Dr Mahathir was play-acting when he announced his intention to retire.

The other was when PAS information chief Datuk Dr Harun Din stated that he would contest the Kubang Pasu parliamentary seat if Dr Mahathir defended the seat although PAS knew that Dr Mahathir would not be seeking re-election.

Dr Mahathir said it was no wonder that PAS could cheat the people since Nik Aziz had said that he would even co-operate with the devil and that God uttered profanity.

On his role during the general election, Dr Mahathir said he felt he had a duty to explain to the people how PAS cheated the people.

On whether DAP's rejection of PAS' Islamic state blueprint was a political ploy, he said the opposition parties would still work together as "they are comedians, engaged in a *sandiwara* (play-acting)."