

**Dr M: Bersih 'violence' a warm-up to Pakatan GE loss**  
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Long-serving former PM Dr Mahathir Mohamad has called the Bersih 3.0 rally Pakatan Rakyat's warm-up for "violent demonstrations" should it fail to win the next general election.

"The Bersih demonstrations ... are a preparation to reject the results of the 13th general election should the opposition fail to win it.

"Their defeat will be followed by violent demonstrations that will go on and on so that the election results are rejected and a new government is put in place, that is approved by the opposition," Mahathir posted on his blog today.

"After that, they will attempt to hold an election again that they can manipulate," he added.

Writing under his pet name 'Chedet', the former premier of 22 years continued to demonise the rally for clean and fair elections as "violent" and a "creation" of the opposition.

His criticisms came in the face of mounting violence against Pakatan Rakyat events, including an incident in Lembah Pantai, Kuala Lumpur, yesterday at PKR de facto leader Anwar Ibrahim's ceramah.

Singing praises on BN's track record at elections, Mahathir blamed the disastrous 2008 election on "the people's hatred" for his successor Abdullah Ahmad Badawi's administration.

'Thus, Bersih is born,' he writes

"What must be conceded by all parties, including Malaysians and foreign observers, is that to date BN could not be toppled through elections...

chedet mahathir blog 020508"However, they (the opposition) needs to convince the people and the wider world that the BN government is autocratic and oppresses the people, like the dictatorships of the Arab countries.

Mahathir said many allegations had been thrown to tarnish the government's image, and that its downfall would be heralded by rounds of violent demonstrations and chaos, with the police being accused of brutality in order to prevent the force from controlling the situation.

"Foreign governments would condemn the government of the people for supposedly using violence to suppress the freedom of speech and to hold demonstrations. Malaysia would be branded as a police state," he writes in his blog.

Mahathir warns that Malaysia, despite being the most advanced among developing nations, could become unstable and unable to provide for its people.

“If violence is their way and they succeed in grasping power, believe me that it would be the end of democracy and misfortune would befall our beloved country.”

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