

## **Nurul: Dr M effectively called Najib a 'devil'**

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**By Sara Ghazie**

Former prime minister Dr Mahathir Mohamad's recent online rant against his arch-nemesis Anwar Ibrahim was effectively a backhanded comment aimed at Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak, PKR vice-president Nurul Izzah Anwar says.

Commenting on Mahathir's recent blog post, where he used "better the devil you know than the angel you don't know" to deride Anwar, Nurul Izzah said Mahathir had meant that Anwar was the "angel" and Najib was thus the "devil".

However, she said she could not agree with Mahathir labelling Najib as a "devil", if it was intended as such, because it was inappropriate to use such a term on anyone.

Nurul Izzah was commenting on Mahathir's recent blog post in which he criticised Anwar, the PKR de facto leader, for being Malaysia's version of US President Barrack Obama.

He argued Obama had promised a multitude of changes - such as closing down the Guantanamo Bay detention centre and withdrawing troops from the Middle-East - but was short on delivery.

In comparison, Mahathir said BN had listened to the public and changed many laws of late. He said the onus was on the public to inform BN on what other changes were needed, and not putting hope on the untested opposition.

Authoritarian attitude

Speaking at a press conference at the PKR headquarters in Petaling Jaya today, Nurul Izzah said it was a compliment for Mahathir to compare Anwar with Obama.

"If that is what he has to say, I will take it as a compliment because he could have easily referred any politician from Pakatan with Mitt Romney. That would have been disastrous," said Nurul Izzah, who is Anwar's eldest daughter and Lembah Pantai MP.

Meanwhile, former PKR vice-president Sivarasa Rasiah said Mahathir's article reflected the typical comments made by authoritarian rulers, even when they were no longer in power.

"He does not respect democracy and what the people's wishes are. He does not understand that the most important thing is for people to be able to change the government.

"Mahathir's comments are that he just wants one government to remain in power, in a typical authoritarian style of a dictator," Sivarasa explained.

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