

## **Lend me your votes, says Beng Hock's widow**

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**By Kuek Ser Kuang Keng**

JOHOR It was an emotional moment when Soh Cher Wei, the wife of political aide Teoh Beng Hock who died mysteriously at the building of Selangor Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) in 2009, appealed some 3,000 Johoreans to "lend" her their votes to seek the truth behind her husband's death.

NONE Speaking at a Pakatan mega rally at Johor Jaya, Pasir Gudang yesterday, the young mother was trying to seek justice for Teoh through this general election.

"My vote is not enough. My son cannot vote. But you have (votes). If you don't have any political intentions, you don't know who to vote. Please lend me your vote.

"Let your votes help us to seek the truth behind Teoh's death. I cannot return your votes, but I believe the new government can return you a better Malaysia. Thank you," she said, drawing a round of applause and cheer from the animated crowd.

This was Soh's second speech after she volunteered to campaign for DAP's Kulai candidate Teo Nie Ching on Thursday.

NONE Nie Ching is a personal friend of Teoh even before she joined DAP to become the political aide of caretaker Selangor state exco Ean Yong Hian Wah.

In her six-minute speech, Soh, who is a civil servant, reminded the audience that the truth is still being denied four years after Teoh died.

"I have been waiting for four years. It should not be like this. Yesterday at Kulai, I reminded myself not to mention BN nor the government or sensitive words if possible.

"Today I also reminded myself not to mention (caretaker prime minister) Najib (Abdul Razak) so I may have a chance (not to be penalised by the government).

"But I cannot help it. I still want to ask you, when do you want to give us the truth? You took him away, you are responsible to give us the truth," said the teary mother.

"If your son dies, can you accept that he died for RM2,400?" she asks, wiping her

tears away with a piece of tissue paper.

"Those who rear cows don't have to die, those who purchased things with exorbitant prices don't have to die, why does a person who bought things with only RM2,400 have to die?"

"My son is already three years old, he has never seen his father, he has every right to know the truth. So Najib, return justice to us! Return the truth to us! How did Teoh die?" said the sad widow, drawing another round of cheers from the floor.

Soh unfazed

The government teacher was unfazed that action could be taken against her for speaking at Pakatan ceramah.

"I would come (and speak at Pakatan ceramah) for the third, fourth or fifth time (if I'm asked to). I don't think they would pardon me but at least I die (penalised) for a cause," she added.

Yesterday in another Pakatan ceramah in Kulai, she brought along her three-year-old son who was born after Teoh died.

"My son only knows how to say 'dad is black'. He saw his father from our T-shirt and photos which show his dad is black.

NONE" My son knows nothing. He has never seen his father. He said that his father was beaten to death, that's it, and that he needs to go and pray for his father," she said.

During yesterday's event, which was the last mega ceramah in Johor Jaya before polling day, Pakatan managed to rope in another unusual speaker - Stanley Thai (left), the owner of listed glove manufacturer Supermax Corp.

"If the current government continues, our economy would go down.

"Vietnam and Burma will grow faster than us very soon. So it is important for me to convey this message that we must change the government," he spoke in English.

The current economic system, he claimed, "bullies" businessmen and only benefits BN's cronies.

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