

Mahathir and Mugabe - spot the difference

MalaysiaKini.com

Aug 14, 2013

YOURSAY 'Mugabe managed to bury his strongest challenger Morgan Tsvangirai and his Movement for Democratic Change by offering the unity government.'

Anwar 'confirms' Najib seeking unity government

your sayFair Play: If an unity government is the way to move forward, why not give it a try? Obviously, it would be better for Pakatan Rakyat to fight for the rakyat from within (as part of the government) if they want to serve them and also to act as a check and balance against excesses.

And DSAI (Anwar Ibrahim), remember 51% of the rakyat voted for Pakatan Rakyat and they want representation too. Gerakan, MIC and MCA are dead and waiting for a proper burial.

Is PM Najib Razak playing a chess game with former PM Dr Mahathir Mohamad? By forming a unity government with Pakatan, it is possible for Umno (at least the moderate side) to reform without losing control.

Of course, Najib and Anwar must strike a deal that is mutually beneficial to both sides. I suppose this could be the only way for the nation to move forward. Besides, time is not on the side with the recent downgrade of the nation's sovereign rating.

Haveagreatday: I read this report on unity government with misgivings. Yet, there's that saying that politics is the art of the impossible - or something like that.

For those of us who root for change, I'm sure most of us can accept the concept of an unity government if real substantial changes can come about.

But if it is only for the political agenda of those desperate for power and glory, I believe the rakyat will speak clearly come GE14.

Cala: If the Umno-led BN regime refuses to 'ubah' (change) as clearly seen from the conduct of its politicians, do you expect Pakatan to accept the invitation?

The hallmark of the regime is cronyism, rent-seeking and injustice, how do you reconcile it with Pakatan's 'ubah, ini kali-lah'? Can black mix with white? Can the 'devil' make friend with an 'angel'?

If Anwar agrees to Najib's proposal, how can he explain the move to the 51% voters who threw their weight behind him?

Newday: It's just a political game. Najib is warning Umno delegates that if he loses the presidency, he may lead his supporters to team up with Pakatan. If Najib is retained, he will deny he ever made such an initiative.

As for Anwar, he has nothing to lose by the disclosure. First, Pakatan leaders will know that only Anwar can possibly lead them to Putrajaya.

Second, those who continue to hound and harass Anwar had better be on guard as he may become PM and home minister. People like the IGP (inspector-general of police), AG (attorney-general), EC (Election Commission) head and deputy, etc.

Third, the big fight for MCA presidency will be all in vain for the winners. It's a good development and good timing too.

Wira: Break Umno into two factions and let the Najib faction form a unity government with Pakatan. This, I believe, can be acceptable by the 51% majority.

Mohican: It will be wise of Pakatan and BN to form an unity government. This is the only way to transform Umno into a modern, progressive and forward looking party.

StoptheRot: Anwar, please be careful. This could be a move designed by Mahathir. His good friend Robert Mugabe managed to bury the latter's strongest challenger Morgan Tsvangirai and his Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) by offering the unity government.

Tsvangirai was given the powerless prime minister position and his party members were also given useless positions. After one term of co-running the country, MDC is now badly defeated.

Mugabe has eliminated a strong opposition by making it a governing party but a subservient one. But after this recent election in Zimbabwe, there is no need to include MDC in the government any more because it has been badly defeated.

Malaysia and Zimbabwe, Mahathir and Mugabe - they have so many similarities.

Faz: I say no to the unity government under the present conditions and circumstances. There is no need to buttress the leaning tree that is about to fall to the ground.

The act may be a turning point for Umno Baru-BN, once it gains its own strength to dump Pakatan as was done to PAS years ago.

Besides, if we truly want a two-party system, the proposed unity government will set us back again. Pakatan must be patient to look for the opportunity in the coming GE as its younger second-liner leaders are much better than those of Umno Baru-BN.

The rakyat need this new power set-up to change what have been put up by years of sleazy Umno Baru-BN regime.

Chiew Eng Ng: Anwar, for any unity government with Pakatan partners, all must agree and there must be certain conditions met, which is what in the Pakatan manifesto so that the 51% who voted for Pakatan are not disappointed.

But I would like to advise not to succumb to the temptation of tasting power for this will be the end of a Malaysian dream of a multi-racial and two-party system we have been yearning for to have check and control on the powers-that-be.

Also Pakatan will regret what PAS had gone through 20 years ago when they were dumped by BN in Kelantan. Anwar, I hope you don't play Pakatan supporters out for you will not be forgiven once trust is lost.

Magnus: I trust that an Almighty Allah will guide Anwar so he does not disappoint decent Malaysians again and betray the trust of a truly democratic Malaysia.

To do so at this point would be unimaginable, and unforgivable by all that is decent within the soul of a democratic Malaysia.

Tehachapi: All told, more political uncertainties and economic and security challenges are expected in the months and years ahead.

With spread of lawlessness, corruption, rampant shooting nationwide and the anticipated loss of investment and talented people, our prospect is now also uncertain.

Let us pray that things get to turn around soon.

