

## **Hold the wheel! Dr M takes Siti Hasmah for a drive in 'Apa 100'**

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Weekend cruising took a playful twist as former prime minister Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his wife, Dr Siti Hasmah Ali, hit the road in a compact white two-door Toyota iQ, sporting the cheeky number plate “Apa 100”.

In a video titled “Weekend Cruising” posted on Facebook, Siti Hasmah clutches a soft toy named “Bambi”, looking slightly flustered as her 100-year-old husband takes the wheel.

“We’re going for a drive!” she tells Bambi, before asking Mahathir if the car is “electric or petroleum,” to which Mahathir replies it is not electric.

As the former premier prepares to pull away, Siti Hasmah reaches over and tells him to hold the steering wheel.

Mahathir lets go entirely, waving his hands dramatically and saying there is no need to do so.

When she tells him to turn, he quips with a grin: “Ini tak payah pusing, dia pusing sendiri” (“No need to turn, it turns by itself”).

The couple then cruises along before stopping at Warong Din, where fans are treated to a surprise meet-and-greet, complete with photos and autographs.

During the drive, Mahathir also checks if his wife is comfortable and points out a passing train.

Mahathir and Siti Hasmah have been married for almost seven decades. Siti Hasmah is a year younger than Mahathir; they married when she was 30 and he was 31.

### **‘He never talks to me about politics’**

In a 2018 interview, after her husband became prime minister for a second time, Siti Hasmah revealed that Mahathir never talks about politics with her because he does not want her to worry, and she has always remained non-political.

“When I married Mahathir, I was still a government servant and even at that time, no government servant would take part in politics.

“I’ve kept to that, and he never spoke to me about politics anyway. Even now, he

says if he tells me anything, I will worry, and that's not good for me," she said.

Siti Hasmah also revealed that while the couple do have their arguments, love keeps them together.

"... You have to really love each other, you need to trust each other, and you have to see to each other's needs.

"Of course lah we fight, but they are over remeh-temeh (inconsequential) things that can be solved straightaway. In Islam, tiga hari husband and wife tak bercakap tu berdosa (it is a sin for a husband and wife to not talk to each other for three days).

"All married couples fight; it is the making up that is fun, isn't it?" she said.

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