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NEW STRAITS TIMES

DATE: 21/04/2008

PM outshines Dr Mahathir

NOT- 21/4/2008

I COULDN'T help crying as I listened to the prime minister's speech on April 17 acknowledging the gross injustice done to a former lord president and five Supreme Court judges in 1988.

I think what Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi did to set right the wrongs of the past under his predecessor, Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, was the most decent thing to do.

Admitting the errors of the past and awarding goodwill payments is a gesture to make up for the pain and loss the judges suffered.

It is, perhaps, the best way to close the book on a sorry chapter of judicial history.

Despite what I may have thought in the past of Abdullah's competence and leadership style, I think, on this occasion, he stands head and shoulders above most leaders.

Indeed, Abdullah outshines the one who claimed he was only following procedures in act-

ing against these towering figures of the judiciary in 1988.

AZIZ ABDULLAH
Kuala Lumpur

Thank you

I READ with tears in my eyes that the prime minister has acknowledged the contributions of the six judges of the 1988 judicial crisis and the pain and humiliation that they suffered.

I thank the prime minister for this gesture.

It may have taken a big man to "get rid" of the six judges but it took a bigger man to acknowledge the wrong done to them.

The bigger man, of course, is the prime minister, Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, who with his speech on April 17, has put us, the country and the judiciary back on the right track.

SHEILA DE COSTA
Seri Kembangan