

NEWSPAPER CLIPPING
PERDANA LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION

NEW STRAITS TIMES

DATE: 7 / 3 / 2008

He's an opportunist, says Dr Mahathir

NST- 7/3/2008

ALOR STAR: Former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad has reiterated that he felt no guilt whatsoever about what happened to Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

He said a video clip distributed by the opposition containing his remarks about the former deputy prime minister had been distorted to say that he regretted Anwar's jailing.

The recording was taken at a ceramah Dr Mahathir gave two years ago.

"I was making some sarcastic remarks because there were still people who believed I was responsible for his jailing when the fact is, it was the court that found him guilty," he said on Wednesday.

Dr Mahathir also said that the Parti Keadilan Rakyat adviser was an opportunist and would use whatever means available for his own ends.

"Initially, he wanted to join Pas. But when he saw he would get nowhere in that

party, he asked to join Umno, not that we invited him in. I did not bring him into Umno.

"Two days after joining he wanted to be the youth leader, a year later vice-president and a year after that deputy president. I only got a chance to be an elected representative after 18 years, and minister after 28 years.

"I was willing to be patient but he wanted to become prime minister straightaway and even went to the extent of

getting his boys to take swipes at me and accuse me of nepotism and cronyism when in fact he was the one doing it."

Dr Mahathir said Anwar was a chameleon and even his close friend Dr Chandra Muzaffar was criticising him.

"When Anwar is talking to Palestinians, he will support Palestine. It is the same with him if it is with the Chinese or members of Hindraf. When he talks to the Malays, he is a Malay," he said. — Bernama