

Newspaper	The Star
Date	26/08/2012

# Dr M: Beware the hate tactics

The Star - 26/8/2012

It's the only way Pakatan can survive, says former PM

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**KUALA LUMPUR:** Pakatan Rakyat is sowing hatred against the Government to survive, said former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

"They live on this hatred. If you look at the Opposition, the main thing they do is to create hatred for the Government.

"Whatever good the Government does, they forget but focus on what is bad and make people hate the Government," he told reporters during his Hari Raya open house celebrations here yesterday.

He cited Barisan Nasional's success in managing the country's economy towards achieving 5.4% growth despite the global recession as an example of Pakatan choosing to remain silent.

"If they mention that, then the people won't hate the Government. The idea is that you must hate the Government which means 'Hate the Government, therefore vote for me (Pakatan)," he added.

He said Barisan was growing stronger as Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak's efforts seemed to be bearing results.

"I do not know when he will call for elections but if he gives himself a bit more time,



**Light moment:** Dr Mahathir and wife Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali sharing a light moment with some of the textile workers who came to the open house from Kuala Lumpur.

we would be able to revive support from the rakyat," said Dr Mahathir, who was asked to comment on the preparedness of Barisan's election machinery in facing the coming 13th general election.

He also clarified his recent blog posting that Malaysians would be better off with the "devil they know" compared to the "angel they did not know", made in reference to Pakatan's populist promises while demonising the Government.

"We are the devil people know, they are the angels people don't know. Sometimes even angels also can do a lot of wrong things," he said.

He warned that Pakatan's call for a change of Government via the polls would lead to dire consequences for the nation.

"You should change for the better, but if you change for something worse, you will regret it," he said.

On him being subpoenaed by DAP's chair-

man Karpal Singh as a witness in his sedition trial, Dr Mahathir said he was willing to be called to testify.

He also denied allegations by Karpal that he was more seditious towards the royalty when enacting laws during his tenure with regard to their immunity.

He clarified that the issue was different as it was in regards to the royalty being subjected to the law when acting beyond their official duties.