

Newspaper	New Straits Times
Date	26/05/2012

Dr M: Beware those out to seize power by force

NST-26/5/2012

PLANNED CHAOS: Former PM says opposition using non-democratic means to win



Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad says Bersih rallies are a preparation to reject the outcome of the 13th general election

AZURA ABAS
KUALA LUMPUR
news@nst.com.my

FORMER prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad yesterday warned that power seizure via violence would end democracy and bring bad luck to the nation. He said the country would become poor and Vision 2020 would not be realised.

"This is what will happen because of a frustrated non-Barisan Nasional party's failure to seize Putrajaya," Dr Mahathir said in his blog.

Based on past general election results, he said, the opposition was not confident that they could form the government through democratic means.

Looking at how several Arab nations had been toppled by the Arab Spring demonstrations, Dr Mahathir said the opposition would

be inspired to do the same.

"They have to show to the people, especially the world community, that the BN government is cruel and suppresses its citizens similar to what the other Arab dictators have done.

"So, Bersih is created... Bersih's big and violent rallies are a preparation to reject the outcome of the 13th general election should the opposition fail to win.

"Their losses will be followed by non-stop violent demonstrations so that the election results are rejected."

Dr Mahathir said it had been claimed that the BN government had deceived the people in general elections, despite facts showing that the opposition could still win several states and defend their constituencies with the support of the people.

When the government acted to

make the election processes more transparent in accordance to the opposition's own demands, the latter still accused the government of being a liar, he said.

Dr Mahathir said many other allegations of cruelties and wrongdoing were hurled at the government to tarnish its image.

"The nation's stability is threatened. Police are accused of being violent so that they will not be able to control chaos and demonstrations effectively.

"Foreign powers will condemn the government selected by the people for using force to deny freedom of expression and the right to hold demonstrations. Malaysia will be stamped as a police state."

Malaysia had looked after its people well as a progressive nation, Dr Mahathir said, adding that this could all change with such planned chaos.