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## Pakatan Harapan rapped for 'betrayal'

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**KUALA LUMPUR:** Hundreds of opposition supporters have expressed disappointment with the Pakatan Harapan leadership for choosing to work alongside longtime political enemy Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Dozens of opposition-friendly groups and several Pakatan Harapan leaders yesterday said they were shocked by the opposition bloc's decision to back the Mahathir-Kit Siang declaration. Some went so far as to call the move an act of betrayal.

"The opposition leaders did not even bother consulting their party members or supporters before signing the declaration.

"Pakatan Harapan has become lazy, and its leaders are only after power," said outspoken PKR member Badrul Hisham Shaharin at an anti-Dr Mahathir forum here last night.

Badrul, popularly known as Chegubard, said Pakatan Harapan had gone against its own principles by cooperating with Dr Mahathir, former deputy prime minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin and former Kedah menteri besar Datuk Seri Mukhriz Mahathir.

Present at the forum were representatives of Solidariti Anak Muda Malaysia, Otai Reformis, Parti Sosialis Malaysia and Jaringan Rakyat Tertindas, among others.

Parti Amanah Negara working committee member Saari Sungib said he disagreed with his party's move to endorse the Mahathir-Kit Siang declaration.

"I would like to remind Pakatan Harapan that if Dr Mahathir says he is fighting for the people, he is lying. I urge the Pakatan Harapan leadership to review its decision to sign the declaration.

"I will also ask the leadership to gauge the level of anger among the people and its supporters. People are angry because they signed the declaration without seeking their approval," he said.

Activists who spoke at the forum said they were angered by the move to work hand in glove with Dr Mahathir, and demanded an explanation from the Pakatan leadership.

"Pakatan Harapan has backstabbed us. Without the people's support, they would not have achieved success in the last two general elections. Now that they have power, they have become arrogant.

"They owe us an explanation. The three parties, PKR, DAP and Amanah have yet to hold a press conference to explain why they need to rely on Dr Mahathir to oust (Prime Minister) Datuk Seri Najib Razak," said an opposition supporter, who only wanted to be known as Tan.