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## 'Dr Mahathir loses right to judge MCA after embracing ex-foes'

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**KUALA LUMPUR:** A war of words between Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad and MCA erupted yesterday after the former premier chastised the MCA leadership for supporting Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak despite the graft allegations against him.

Describing Dr Mahathir as a "megalomaniac" and an "egocentric" person, MCA central committee member Datuk Seri Ti Lian Ker said the ex-prime minister was in no position to question MCA's support for Najib.

Ti, who is also MCA religious harmony bureau chairman, said this was because the party had stood by Dr Mahathir when the latter faced corruption allegations during his time as prime minister.

"MCA is a party that subscribes to the rule of law and the people's will.

"Based on this principle, we consistently supported Dr Mahathir when there were allegations of mega corruption scandals against him during his tenure as prime minister."

Ti said there was no reason for MCA to withdraw its support for Najib as there was no proof to the claims made against the prime minister and strategic development firm 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB).

Ti added that Dr Mahathir had lost the right to judge MCA after he formed a political partnership with former foes in PKR and DAP, namely Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim and Lim Kit Siang.

"Dr Mahathir has lost his self-respect and dignity when he ate his

own words by kowtowing to Anwar, whom he sacked in 1998, and Lim, whom he previously equated to a communist."

In a blog post yesterday, Dr Mahathir launched a scathing attack against MCA president Datuk Seri Liow Tiong Lai for criticising DAP's "unprincipled" move (by working with Dr Mahathir).

"The MCA president is disgusted at what he calls the lack of principles on the part of DAP.

"He seems to think that DAP working with me is all wrong.

"But, MCA working together with a known kleptocrat, who has stolen billions of ringgit, is the worst ex-

ample of a lack of principle," said Dr Mahathir, referring to the allegations surrounding Najib and 1MDB.

In a statement on Tuesday, Liow described DAP as a party that was prepared to abandon its principles for the sake of political expediency.

"In 2015, Mahathir, whom DAP once called a dictator, is now an angel overnight.

"What will (DAP secretary-general) Lim Guan Eng sell us next?" Liow was quoted as saying.

In **Kangar**, Perlis Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Azlan Man said Dr Mahathir had sacrificed the principles which he had held onto strongly for 22 years when he chose to be seen together with members of

the opposition.

"What is clearly apparent is that he (Dr Mahathir) has ignored his earlier principles.

"When he was helming the country, the opposition had strongly criticised every policy that he implemented.

"However, Dr Mahathir can now sit with DAP members at functions organised by the party, which is well-known as his enemy, just because of his desire to topple Najib and the Barisan Nasional government, which was elected democratically by the people," he said when commenting on the surprise appearance of Dr Mahathir at the DAP national convention on Sunday.



**Datuk Seri Ti Lian Ker**



**Datuk Seri Azlan Man**