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Dr Mahathir has forgotten MCA's loyalty, says Ong

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KUALA LUMPUR: MCA secretary-general Datuk Seri Ong Ka Chuan has reminded Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad that the party had stood by the former premier when the latter was in power.

"Through thick and thin, MCA has always stood by the BN leadership and its component parties.

"Dr Mahathir has forgotten the numerous occasions when MCA stood besides him when he battled great crises in his career," Ong said yesterday.

He said during the constitutional crisis in 1988, for example, the then MCA president held the position of Barisan Nasional chairman before Umno Baru was admitted to BN so that Dr Mahathir could continue to serve as prime minister.

"When Malaysia suffered forex losses and Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim wanted the International Monetary Fund to come in, MCA stood firmly with Dr Mahathir in

opposing such a proposal to defend our country's economic sovereignty.

"In 1998, at the height of the Reformasi movement when many people took to the streets to support Anwar, MCA stood firmly with Dr Mahathir," Ong added.

Ong was responding to Dr Mahathir's recent statement against MCA, in which he accused the Chinese-based party of lacking principles by working with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak despite the graft allegations hurled against him.

Ong also said Dr Mahathir, in his blog post, had artificially projected MCA as racist while glorying DAP as respectful towards the Federal Constitution.

Dr Mahathir had easily forgotten that he had supported some views of Malay-rights group Perkasa, which once called for the burning of Malay-language Bibles.



Datuk Seri Ong Ka Chuan

"Thwarting criticisms of his hypocritical tie-up with DAP, Dr Mahathir forgot that MCA had contributed to the drafting of the Federal Constitution, with Umno, in

the Reid Commission prior to Merdeka.

"How can Dr Mahathir, a longtime Umno member, possibly blame MCA, which drafted the Federal Constitution, as disrespecting the tenets of the Federal Constitution?" he asked.

He urged Dr Mahathir to respond to the allegations of corruption of his own before firing diatribes at Najib and MCA.

The former prime minister should come clean on all the financial scandals that plagued the nation under his administration, he said.

"Let Dr Mahathir be reminded that prior to the 13th General Election, (DAP adviser) Lim Kit Siang had urged Najib to set up a Royal Commission of Inquiry on the RM100 billion that was siphoned off during Dr Mahathir's tenure.

"But strangely, now Lim and Dr Mahathir have become best friends forever."