

**PKR moves to support Dr Mahathir, says it is time to bring change**  
**Malaysian Insider**  
**Feb 29, 2016**

Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad's resignation from Umno will have far-reaching impact on Malaysian politics, and the rakyat must seize this moment to bring about change, says PKR, a party formed to topple the former prime minister when he was in power.

Its deputy president Datuk Seri Mohamed Azmin Ali said Dr Mahathir's "drastic and courageous" move, which was instrumental in bringing Umno to the pinnacle of power and success, would have ramifications with long-term impact on the Malaysian political landscape.

"We are witnessing a sea change in Malaysian politics. The old walls of division built upon years of politicking are finally collapsing.

"The announcement today by Dr Mahathir means that he has finally turned his back on his party.

"The ramifications of such a drastic but courageous move are yet to be fully understood. Nevertheless, there is no doubt they will be far-reaching and will have long term impact on our political landscape," he said in a statement.

PKR was formed with the sole purpose of toppling Dr Mahathir after he sacked former opposition leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim back in 1999.

Dr Mahathir announced his resignation from Umno this afternoon, saying that the party was no longer the Umno he knew as it was now dedicated to keeping current president and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak in power.

Dr Mahathir, who was prime minister and Umno president for 22 years until his retirement in 2003, has since last year been criticising Najib over state-owned investment firm 1Malaysia Development Berhad and the RM2.6 billion donation from the Middle East.

This was the second time he has quit Umno, the first time in May 2008, over unhappiness with Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, the then prime minister who led Barisan Nasional to dismal results in the general election that year.

After quitting, Dr Mahathir said he agreed with opposition parties PKR, Parti Amanah Negara and DAP on the need to remove Najib as prime minister and would set up a core group to achieve this objective.

Azmin, who is also Selangor menteri besar, said Malaysians from all backgrounds, who were paying a heavy price for the alleged crimes of corruption and power abuse of the administration, should now take the opportunity to bring change.

"All the institutions of our constitutional democracy have been violated to an unprecedented level and the mother of all financial scandals has broken loose with the

perpetrators going about with absolute impunity.

“The fundamental principles of governance such as accountability and transparency have been turned upside down. Never in the history of our country has so much damage been wrought by so few.

“I call upon all Malaysians regardless of political affiliation, race, creed or religion to come together for the time is indeed ripe for all of us concerned citizens to seize the moment and bring about real and effective change.” he said. – February 29, 2016.

Copyright © 2015 Edge Insider Sdn Bhd

Source:

<http://www.themalaysianoutsider.com/malaysia/article/pkr-moves-to-support-dr-mahathir-says-it-is-time-to-bring-change>