

## **Naming Dr Mahathir As PM Designate By PH A Grave Mistake, Says Former DAP State Leader**

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**By MT Webmaster**

(Borneo Post) – A former Democratic Action Party (DAP) state leader believes the decision to name Tun Dr Mahathir as Prime Minister designate by Pakatan Harapan (PH) is a big mistake that will result in many people, especially the younger generation staying away from PRU 14.

Speaking to The Borneo Post yesterday, Voon Lee Shan who is a practising lawyer, said before PH put Mahathir as PM designate, they should have sought the opinions of the people.

“Naming Mahathir as PM designate would give Barisan Nasional (BN) a winning edge in this election because people knew what Mahathir has done.”

Voon is one of the founding members of Parti KeAdilan Nasional (KeAdilan) Sarawak when former deputy prime minister, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim was jailed in 1999 before joining and contesting on DAP ticket later that years, Voon insisted that Dr Mahathir never showed he was remorseful.

“After many years in politics, he should have realised that many things he did was wrong but until now I don’t see Mahathir was truly remorseful.

“He was Prime Minister for 22 years, biggest issue affecting Sabah and Sarawak is MA63. So when you were PM, apa yang kamu buat (what is you effort)?” Voon questioned.

Voon added that it is ironic that Keadilan – later rebranded as Parti Keadilan Rakyat – PKR was set up to fight Dr Mahathir but has now put him as the Pakatan Harapan (PH) coalition top leader.

“Where is our credibility as an opposition? We cannot be in politics as a matter of convenience. If it is wrong, we must not defend it and says it is correct. But again, they

said there is no permanent enemy or permanent friend in politics. Correct. But, what I mean here, if the thing that he did is correct, I have to support him,” he explained.

Voon said the decision by PH to name Dr Mahathir as PM designate has triggered #undirosak, a campaign to spoil votes as a protest against that decision. When asked, who should PH name as PM designate, Voon quickly reply Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah.

“She has been in politics for so long, and very experienced, her name is not tainted and never being associated with any scandal. She got very clean record. Furthermore, Wan Azizah is acceptable by all opposition parties and in fact BN component seldom attack her. She is a very moderate leader.”

Voon suggested that Dr Mahathir instead should be made Minister Mentor like Lee Kuan Yew after he stepped down as Singapore’s prime minister.

“If Mahathir becomes mentor minister that will be a different story as it will give impression to the people that he is not power hungry,” he suggested.

The biggest issue for Sarawak he added is MA63 and Pakatan Harapan is making a big mistake by giving too much attention to Federal issues.

“The mood, the trend is Malaya-based. Not much on Sabah and Sarawak issues. Pakatan Harapan now is on the wrong track, based on my analysis because they are only attacking Malayan issues, Najib issues, 1MDB issues but they forget Sabah and Sarawak. Sabah and Sarawak are fixed deposits for Barisan Nasional. If they can take away the fixed deposit, only then they can take Federal,” Voon predicted.

Voon also believed Pakatan Harapan will find it very difficult to counter populist measures taken by BN in the election.

“If BN gives BR1M, deposit to buy houses, deposit to buy car, deposit to buy motorcycle, they will be very popular and can easily win the election. The impact however will be very bad for the country. Inflation will happen, and investors would run away,” he said.

Voon also insisted that MA63 issue will be very close to Sarawakians heart, especially over the rights to our natural resources such as oil and gas.

“The biggest issue is the oil and gas is ours. We decide how much to give to them, not asking from them. It is ours. Up to us how much we want to give. If you asked me, I want 100% – why 20%, it is ours,” he said.

Voon said the book *The Birth of Malaysia* written by a former deputy chief minister, the late Datuk Amar James Wong Kim Min is a good source of information on the rights of Sarawak under MA63.

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Sources: <https://www.malaysia-today.net/naming-dr-mahathir-as-pm-designate-by-ph-a-grave-mistake-says-former-dap-state-leader/>