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MCA lost at the ballot boxes but WINS on PRINCIPLES

MCA was defeated at the polls, but that is the price to pay when our party stands upright on principles. We refused to cave in despite the verbal lynching by PAS against MCA in the former's insistence to unconstitutionally increase the punishments in the Syariah Court (Criminal Jurisdiction) Act 1965 better known by its acronym RUU355, and this costed us votes.

For having stood our ground to safeguard the constitutional rights of all Malaysians including Muslims, MCA was provocatively branded "anti-Islam" - this despite our party's highest respect and deference for Islam. Oft times, our press statements have referred to the tenets of justice, mercy and compassion which Islam teaches.

After GE13, *Utusan Malaysia* headlined "apa lagi Cina mau" and certain quarters slammed the purported "Chinese tsunami". However, *Utusan* became oblivious to the "Malay

tsunami" in the making. The Malay votes which traditionally would go to MCA under BN's umbrella, this time swerved to the Opposition who are now in power.

During the campaign period, MCA had cautioned that Malay voters would never vote for DAP, but that a "Malay tsunami" would only see Malays shifting towards the conservative end; and indeed, this movement thus jeopardised our candidates' chances.

In 3- or multi-cornered fights in Parliamentary constituencies like Bentong, Raub, Tanjung Malim, Tanjung Piai, Kuantan or state seats of Chenderiang, Gurun, Kulim, Kelebang, Duyong or Bemban, PAS was the deciding factor and successfully became the spoiler of votes which traditionally would have flowed to MCA or that our party had an opportunity of recovering those lost seats.

Pakatan Harapan The NEW UMNO LAMA

The Mahathir factor

Overall, BN grossly underestimated the return and renaissance of Tun Dr Mahathir Mohammad. He made inroads into the Felda Malay heartlands where DAP and even PKR could not even broach and would be shooed away before. While the elders are staunch UMNO supporters, the younger generation, having encountered the pangs and high costs of urban living, also contributed towards convincing their parents and grandparents to give PH a try.

Sympathy grew when Dr Mahathir lamented about his private jet having technical problems which were spotted by the pilot. Combined with his old guards iron lady Tan Sri Rafidah Aziz, Tun Daim Zainuddin openly canvassing votes for DAP, or Tan Sri Syed Hamid Albar writing about "vote for change" during the campaign period, these brought somewhat entertainment to an otherwise placid campaign.

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The Publicity chief writes ...

If Malaysia's good economic outlook is real,

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PH govt should not cry wolf to

scare investors off

Learning from the fable of "The Boy Who Cried Wolf", no one believes a liar even when he/she speaks the truth. In the case of national debt, the newly-formed Pakatan Harapan-government has come up with a questionable figure of RM1.08 trillion, which contradicts the RM705.104 billion in Bank Negara's report as of 22 May 2018.

To further complicate the situation, the newly-appointed Finance Minister Lim Guan Eng claimed that the federal government's liabilities amount was 80.3% of the GDP as of 31 Dec 2017, which covers government debt, government guarantees and lease payments for Public-Private Partnerships . This was despite the former premier Dato' Sri Najib's rebuttal that the obligations and financial commitments remained unchanged before 9 May 2018 and after the general elections, and the official federal government debt should be RM686.8 billion (50.8% of the GDP), which is within the internationally accepted norm of 55% or below for a country's debt-to-GDP ratio.

How will the country benefit from all these hearsays that claimed the alarming national debt is pushing Malaysia to the brink of bankruptcy? Bursa Malaysia responded in a terrible way, whereby foreign investors were seen withdrawing US\$800 million from its bond market. The handsome US\$11 billion revenue from GST will be gone soon, to be replaced by the old Sales and Services Tax (SST) which will fetch a lower sum of money to cushion off the effects of volatile oil prices.

It remains a doubt as to whether investors will continue to trust Malaysia, when Lim Guan Eng said that the current government is coping well with its debt obligations, and the country's economic fundamentals are still intact with a strong and stable financial sector.

Malaysia's stock benchmark has erased its gains for 2018. Bloomberg Asia Wipe out. MS Malaysian Stocks Just Lost All of This Year's Cain. STI



Stronger Together!

Senator Dato' Chai Kim Sen MCA Publicity Bureau Chairman **MCA Deputy National** Organising Secretary

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menampung hidup."



GST became a protantity

Anger at the GST which rightfully or wrongfully was blamed for the increase in the cost of living, and reduced purchasing power, against the perceived ostentatious lifestyle of certain individuals deemed untouchable, or funding cuts to federal Ministries rendered the BN government as out of touch with daily bread and butter issues.

Despite BN persuading the rakyat on the GDP growth of 5.7%, this did not gel with the masses. But ask any person irrespective of education level, immediately, one would identify GST with indignation of price hikes.

Post GE14: Recouping & Stability

A man of principles, MCA President Dato' Sri Liow Tiong Lai on 11 May 2018 declared that he would not seek re-election but would ensure a smooth transition of leadership in MCA besides strengthening the party for stability whilst undertaking our role seriously as an Opposition to monitor and keep a check and balance on the Pakatan Harapan government.

MCA upholds democracy. We congratulate our opponents and harbour no ill feelings at voters. It is also a time for our party to re-evaluate our strengths, improve on our weaknesses to progress from this societal backlash. As MCA is now part of the Opposition, we hold PH to their words, and expect them to fulfil their 10 main pledges within the 100 days they gave.





Ultimately, Malaysia is a peaceful country. Unlike the Arab Spring uprising of December 2010, there were no killings or bloodshed and the transition of power from BN to PH was smooth and graceful via the ballot box. But we will keep a lookout on the performance of PH. We also hope that PH's victory will not descend down the slippery slope of the Arab Spring which saw the resurgence of ultra-religious extremism and instability after the old order was thrown out.

Four Broken Promises In 2 Weeks

At the peak of their jubilance of installing a new regime, it is all too easy for Pakatan Harapan (PH) supporters to forget their real foes — conniving and unaccounted leaderships. They have to open their eyes and acknowledge that the government they elected is not perfect; and they, as the staunchest of backers for the new administration, need to be the loudest critics too. After all, they voted in the new government because they think we need a two-party system, and believe in PH's pledge to give them what they want. .

So, that was exactly what PH did — they made promises. So many in fact they had to come out with a 149-page book, titled "Buku Harapan", that imparts no other information than page after page of promises, without any single accomplishment to speak off.

In just two weeks since Pakatan Harapan seized power and formed a new government, they are already breaking promises left and right. Riding on the zeal of their supporters who readily embrace ignorance and eagerly look the other way when it comes to the shortcomings of their new leaders, the PH-led government seemingly is presented with a blank cheque to disregard any number of pledges.



Broken Promise **PH Manifesto:** In order to limit his powers, the Prime Minister is prohibited from holding other Cabinet positions.

What happened instead: Tun Mahathir named himself Education Minister. This is, in fact, a brilliant political move by the Prime Minister. In one fell swoop, he managed to position himself into a better position while taking away from political rivals within his coalition.

In a clumsy bid to defend the action of their coalition's leader, Anwar Ibrahim and Lim Kit Siang twisted the written words of the PH Manifesto in an unconvincing fashion. To the surprise of no one, it placated none of the dissent. When Tun Mahathir removed himself after public uproar, he was instead applauded for his "integrity" while his compeers were ridiculed.



Promise

PH Manifesto: To reduce the power of the PM to influence the appointment of key officials to the EC, MACC, Malaysian Human Rights Commission and Judicial Appointment Commission, such appointments must be affirmed by the relevant Parliament Select Committees. MACC Commissioners must be validated democratically by Parliament to provide effective check and balance.

What happened instead: Tun Mahathir appointed Mohd Shukri Abdull as the MACC Chief Commissioner, when, in fact, the first Parliament session has yet to convene. This appointment is anything but democratic. It is more like an autocratic gesture of Tun M handpicking an ally that would carry out his future biddings.

An ally who is not even qualified enough to handle the first task Tun M handed him — investigate 1MDB. Shukri whined so much about his previous encounter with 1MDB, claiming that he was bullied and threatened, that even DAP lawmaker Ramkarpal Singh had to call him out to stop his public outbursts. Ramkarpal noted that Shukri's seeking of attention would only suggest that the MACC chief's impartiality has been compromised.

PH Manifesto: Petrol prices will be stabilised and reduced.

What happened instead: Petrol prices are stable but yet to reduce (as of 28 May 2018). It is still set at RM2.20 per liter for RON95, RM2.47 per litre for RON97, and RM2.18 per litre for diesel.

As of now, no subsidy has been implemented.

Broken Promise 3





PH Manifesto: There would be no revenge on Najib Razak.

What happened instead: Najib Razak and his family were subjected to unorthordox pre-dawn police raids that lasted 15 hours on the eve of Ramadan. It was not enough for the new leaders to place Najib on the Immigration Department's blacklist, but setting up a police barricade in front of his house on the pretext of "safeguarding security"?

Speculations abound that such moves were designed to intimidate and embarrass him. Since GE14, the former PM's residence has been placed under heavy police control. The police have ample opportunity to raid his home, so why did they choose specifically to do it at an ungodly hour if not to exact revenge?

Giving credit where it is due: Najib had been compliant and co-operative to all manners of probings and posed no security threat. He deserves the respect and right to retain dignity.

Broken Promise

A wise citizen understands the virtue of beholding politicians with skepticism. As part of the ruling coalition for 60 years, BN understands how hard it is to come through with every commitment. However, backpedaling out of four promises in two weeks? This foreshadows a future governance of unfulfilled promises and broken words.

PKR really for the rakyat or personal glory?

Why were PKR's top brass MIA during Tun M's press conference on the top 3 Cabinet posts?





The recent spat from PKR leaders when Prime Minister Tun Dr. Mahathir Mohammad appointed three ministers invites people to suspect that they were never taught about the importance of unity. PKR firebrand, Rafizi Ramli, blew a vein over this, and managed to make a scene on social media. He alleged that Tun M had bulldozed over this line-up and added that the appointments were not finalised. Coming to Rafizi's defence, PKR Kelana Jaya MP Wong Chen pressed that Tun M's decisions were made without consulting PKR. Both undermined the PM's authority when they should be giving him support to build his Cabinet and get into the business of governing the country.

Honestly, Rafizi should know better. He already had a long political career to comprehend that grievances should be, first, taken up with his party and resolved internally — and not going public, slinging dirt the first opportunity he got. If he can't keep his emotions in check and stop seeking cheap publicity, what else separates him from the likes of Jamal Yunos?

According to Singapore's *The Straits Times* (14 May 2018), Rafizi is not the only one dissatisfied with Tun M's choice of cabinet line-up. The Singapore news portal has reported an insider source revealing that PKR President Dato' Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail allegedly questioned the decision of allocating the much coveted finance portfolio to a Chinese. Although later another unnamed PKR leader told *Free Malaysia Today* that ST's report is "completely fabricated and false", it is hard to find the latter source more credible than the former as both remained anonymous.

PKR'S HISTORY OF INFIGHTING

Pakatan consistently claims that their dysfunctional relationship between component parties and leaders is simply a by-product of democracy. They then consistently promise to step up their game and stop letting infighting get the better of them. And from the episode of this new Cabinet appointment, we know it is simply not true — they are still jumping at each others' throat so hastily after riding voters' sentiment to Putrajaya.

Frankly speaking, it is unsightly to see fractures appearing within three days of the new government being formed after the rakyat placed hope in them.



MCA Champions Chinese Education, unlike DAP Which is a vote-fishing spoiler

Feeling intimidated by MCA's numerous achievements in championing the cause of Chinese education, again and again DAP went out to fish votes by making malicious claims to spoil the positive development of Chinese education.

From the unveiled construction plans of 10 new SJKCs in Johor and Selangor, and the relocation of 6 others with poor enrolment (10+6), to the special allocation given to Chinese primary and secondary schools on an annual basis, MCA through the Barisan Nasional (BN)'s umbrella, never failed to deliver our promises in meeting the demand for quality Chinese education. As quoted in the New Straits Times on 25 Feb 2018, then Prime Minister Dato' Sri Najib Razak had favourably mentioned that the BN government had increased the number of Chinese schools after being informed by MCA and Gerakan of the escalating population and demand for Chinese schools in certain areas.



PM: I removed unpopular clause in Education Act

Najih Razak reminded that he was the oni dan unopopular clause undation Act when he insister. The standard properties of the standard standard properties of the standard standard properties. The standard properties of the standard properties of the standard properties of the standard properties. The standard properties of the standard properti

Moreover, not many were aware that because of MCA's continuous efforts in pushing for Chinese vernacular-based education to be integrated as part of our national-type education system, Clause 21(2) of the Education Act 1961 was removed by Najib who was the then Education Minister between 1996 and 2000. The removal of that Clause has disabled the conversion of vernacular schools into a national school.

What is DAP's contribution in defending Chinese education in the national education landscape? None, but endless badmouthing and stealing credits! Selangor Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Azmin Ali prior to the dissolution of the Dewan Rakyat, proudly claimed that UEC

was recognised for enrolment into Universiti Selangor and Kolej Universiti Islam Selangor, which come under the jurisdiction of the state government. In reality, UEC has long been recognised for enrolment into private institutes of higher learning in the country, following amendments to the Education Act 1996, as well as a directive from the Ministry of Higher Education on 19 Mar 2004.

To further twist MCA's efforts in constructing more Chinese schools, the PKR-held state government had set all kinds of unreasonable conditions, which ultimately delayed the issuance of a Development Order for construction to start. Those affected included SJKC Tun Tan Siew Sin, SJKC Kheng Chee (Puchong), SJKC Bandar Sungai Long, SJKC Bukit Serdang Seri Kembangan, SJKC Kajang Utama, SJKC Choon Hwa (Pandan) and others.

Despite constantly claiming that the PKR-led Selangor state administration vehemently supports Chinese education and more lands will be sourced to expand it, there is still no new SJKC in sight even after multiple announcements made by former DAP state assemblyman Teresa Kok and state excos on having it at 8, 7 or 4! Simply empty promises made!

While MCA keeps a record in defending the development of Chinese education, DAP only finds faults by picking bones out of eggshells, deliberately maligning good efforts made by MCA, so that people will be misled into voting for DAP, which does nothing but steal credits!





while PAS GAINED more ballots

Pakatan Harapan (PH) may bask in glory for its watershed history of capturing Putrajaya for the first time in 61 years but it must take cognisance that its popular vote had actually SUNK by an astonishing 100,000 plus votes.

Meanwhile, PH should also be aware of mushrooming religious conservatism ala PAS was most pronounced in the 14th general election (GE14).

Observing the return of votes from GE 2013 and 2018, PAS having ditched its Pakatan Rakyat allies of PKR and DAP, and having booted out its

	9 May 2018	5 May 2013	Status	
Voter Turnout	12,299,514	11,257,147	1,042,367	
Voter turnout percentage	82.32%	84.84%	2.52%	
2018 Pakatan Harapan (DAP + PKR + PAN + PPBM) + PH allies Warisan + Independent	5,518,638 + 280,520 + 38,125 = 5,837,283	2013 Pakatan Rakyat (DAP + PKR + PAS) 5,623,984	105,346	
2018 Pakatan Harapan + Allies Popular Vote Percentage	48.31%	2013 Pakatan Rakyat Popular Vote Percentage 50.87%	2.56%	
PAS alone	2,041,105	1,633,389	407,716	
PAS Popular Vote Percentage	16.89%	14.78%	1.14%	

GE14

splinter members who formed Amanah, the hardline religious party did INCREASE its vote bank in excess of 400,000 ballots.

The departure of popular votes from Pakatan to PAS in 2018 does suggest many of its members and followers still cling to the callings of PAS' top leadership. Back in 2008 and 2013, voters jetted on the Rocket with an Eye on hoping to land on the Moon's surface.

Seats Captured by Malay Based/Majority Parties in GE14

3	Party	Parliament Seats Contested	Parliament Seats Won	State Seats Contested	State Seats Won
	OWWO	120	54	342	150
	(J-15) CILCOLOS PARTI ESTAN ESMALATORA OPAS	157	18	396	90
	Amanah	34	11	109	29
	Sala mana di Cinin di Cinin	52	12	102	22
	PARTI R EADILAN RAKYAT	71	48	163	80

In GE14, PAS contested the highest number of seats at both federal and state level, more than UMNO. Although its number of MPs fell from 21 in 2013 to 18 this round, for state seats, PAS captured 90 constituencies from 393 candidates fielded. This figure is a 5-notch climb from 85 state seats out of 236 contested in 2013. Not only did PAS retain Kelantan, it snared Terengganu which it last held from the 2004 GE.

While the Tun Dr Mahathir Mohammad factor did contribute towards persuading Malay voters to drop their traditional support for UMNO in favour of PKR or PPBM or PAN, it is naïve to assume that the much hyped rural breakthrough had materialised.

It is apparent that PAS is grooming itself to take over Putrajaya eventually. It is hoped that the Pakatan Harapan leadership will emulate MCA in recognising the long-term jeopardy PAS poses and prevent such an eventuality at all cost.