

No democracy in United Nations as it's controlled by five superpowers, says Dr Mahathir

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(From left) Co-author Sharifah Shifa Al-Attas, Ministry of Foreign Affairs secretary-general, Datuk Othman Hashim, Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Tan Sri Razali Ismail at the launch of 'A UN Chronicle' in Kuala Lumpur. – The Malaysian Insider pic by Afif Abd Halim.

Former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad said the voice of millions had been drowned by the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council.

"China, Japan, Russia, the United States and the United Kingdom gave themselves the authority to negate the opinions and policies of the rest of the world."

"These five countries formed the United Nations to dismiss the views of other countries except those of their own," said Malaysia's longest serving prime minister.

He said essentially, the UN had been reduced to just five countries instead of 193 member states.

"It is the decision of these five permanent security council members which determines the outcome for the rest of the world.

"But they cannot seem to decide on anything because they cannot agree with each other," Dr Mahathir said at the launch of a book written by Malaysia's former permanent representative to the United Nations, Tan Sri Razali Ismail, and Sharifah Shifa Al-Attas entitled "A UN Chronicle", at the Institute Diplomacy and Foreign Relations in Kuala Lumpur today.

He said this was the world which we had lived in for the past 60 years and it was poised to continue in the foreseeable future.

"Because these countries have won world wars, they think that they should rule the world

forever," Dr Mahathir said.

"Even until now, they still have that influence over us, we are unable to put our views forward and be heard."

Dr Mahathir said although the UN costs a lot of money, but the United States picked up most of the tab.

"Whoever pays the bills, calls the shots," he said, adding that it would be a similar scenario for the next 1,000 years.

"That is the democracy of the UN, for a most undemocratic organisation to promote democracy is slightly inconsistent, to say the least."

Dr Mahathir said there really was no fairness and democracy in the world today, as people in power were loathe to give it up.

"If you are running a small country, then sooner or later, you will have to give up power.

"But it is a different story where the UN is concerned, the weak will surrender what they have and the strong will take what they will."

Dr Mahathir said that will be the world of the future, where the rest of the world will suffer as power will determine what the UN decides.

"The UN will talk about democracy, about one person, one vote, but in the end, it is just empty talk," he said.

"I see a very bleak future because those in power are loathe to give up their power," he said.

"But I will not be around too long, so it will be up to the younger generation to decide whether they want a UN or not." – April 30, 2014.