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Mahathir-religion

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KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 23 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said today certain groups were distributing photostat copies of religious wordings to create tension among Muslims and Christians in Sabah.

He said the photostat copies had Quranic verses and romanised words which read: +Kenapa menekan Orang Kristian.+ (Why Pressure the Christians).

+This is a very dangerous thing to do and the government will not hesitate to take action,+ he told a news conference at his office here.

He said the photostat copies were distributed through the post to various people as well as to his office and to Public Enterprises Minister Datuk Dr Yusof Nor.

So far, the government did not know who was responsible for this but it was clearly not the work of Muslims, he added. -- more

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The Prime Minister said he was revealing this because there was a possibility that the photostat copies might be distributed to more members of the public to create tension between Muslims and Christians.

He regretted that Parti Bersatu Sabah (PBS) was also playing up religious sentiments among the people in the state.

On Umno's aspiration to spread to Sabah, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said the move was aimed at introducing Umno's liberal concept to the state, particularly in the area of inter-racial cooperation.

When Umno entered Sabah it would strengthen ties between Muslims and non-Muslims, he added. -- Bernama

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