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PM SAYS FOREIGN WRITERS TRYING TO CAUSE SPLIT AMONG MUSLIMS

Mahathir - Kelantan

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JITRA, July 25⁹² (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said foreign writers who were praising the PAS-led Kelantan government, were in fact trying to cause misunderstanding among the Muslims in this country.

The Prime Minister said these foreigners, especially the Western press, had praised PAS, despite their dislike for Islamic fundamentalists, to cause a split in the Muslim community.

+Some sectors overseas want us to face problems and disunite as what is happening in Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia and former Soviet Russia,+ he said when opening the Kubang Pasu Umno division delegates meeting here today.

Dr Mahathir said writers from some foreign magazines had gone to Kelantan and wrote that the Kelantan Islamic government was moderate and did not want to oppress anyone.

+The Kelantan government welcomed these people although they (PAS) used to describe these magazines as anti-Islam,+ had said --more

Mahathir - Kelantan 2 Jitra

+But in actual fact, these foreigners want to see more conflicts among the Muslims,+ he said.

He said the PAS government became hot-headed because they thought that they got the support from the international community.

Dr Mahathir said the federal government had tried to co-operate with the Kelantan government but encountered problems because PAS still could not accept that Umno's way was in line with the teachings of Islam.

+They (PAS) still refuse to admit that Umno is working for the good of Islam,+ he said, adding that this attitude was also reflected in PAS supporters, especially in the kampungs.--more

Mahathir - Kelantan 3 (last) Jitra

He said these people believed that by accepting PAS they were accepting Islam.

He said this line of thinking was not logic as PAS did not exist overseas and yet Islam also flourished in other countries.

The Prime Minister said a deep understanding of Islam was necessary to counter the PAS propaganda.--Bernama

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