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Mahathir - BN

BARISAN NASIONAL GOVERNMENT UPHOLDS ISLAM, MAHATHIR

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KOTA BAHARU, July 26⁹³ (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today the Barisan Nasional Government which gives justice to Muslims and non-Muslims is practising the requirements of Islam.

"The BN has the correct administrative policy and there is no doubt that the present administration is suited to this country's multi-racial and multi-religious population. What we are doing now is not against Islam," he said.

Malaysia would show to the world that the Islamic Administration was a just administration so that more countries could accept governments led by Muslims, he said at a Barisan Nasional assembly at the Chinese Chamber of Commerce building here.

Dr Mahathir, who is also Kelantan BN Chairman, said efforts to portray the Islamic administration as extreme, unjust and oppressive would in fact discredit Muslims and the religion of Islam itself.

As such, it was not necessary to permit this group to rule even for a short while, he said to loud applause from about 2,000 people present in the hall. -- more

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Mahathir - BN 2 Kota Baharu

The Prime Minister said the BN's policy was to administer the country justly in fairness to both Muslims and non-Muslims as justice would ensure peace.

He said when the country was at peace, the people would not be bothered by negative matters such as racial riots but instead concentrate on the good values in life such as acquiring efficiency and therefore the country need not depend on others.

Dr Mahathir said there were Muslim countries which claimed to be free but were not truly free as they depended on others and Malaysia did not want to become like that.

The Prime Minister regretted that there were some groups which ruled in an oppressive manner and "prohibited this and that whereas the religion of the persons concerned did not prohibit at all."

He said all this could lead to tension among the various communities in this country and if there was tension, there would be no prosperity and freedom. -- more

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Mahathir - BN 3 (last) Kota Bharu

The Prime Minister said a person need not necessarily do all types of work and if he was a ulama he should concentrate on teaching religion and not other fields.

Dr Mahathir admitted that he did not have the expertise to undertake all types of tasks.

There were experts in the medical field and so also in the area of the law and administration and if he was an ulamak it did not necessarily mean he was an expert in the administration.

The problem in Kelantan was placing someone who was not an expert in a particular place and as such it was damaging to the system of administration, Dr Mahathir said.

The Prime Minister said, "if a doctor goes to court for trial, he will be out of place, and the problem in Kelantan is people who are sincere, dedicated and experts in the religion should acknowledge their weakness."

He also hit out at the Kelantan Government which failed to fulfill its pledges to the people and had a tendency to imitate the Sabah Government.

Dr Mahathir said the state government leaders had informed the Kelantan Chinese community that they had to shout about the implementation of the Hudud Law because they were challenged by Umno.

It could be seen from this that the PAS struggle was not because of Islam but because it was challenged by Umno. -- Bernama

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