

Hudud is Pas' law, not Islamic says PM

By Manan Osman
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KUALA LUMPUR, Mon. — The Government does not recognise the *hudud* law (Islamic penal code) passed by the Pas-led Kelantan State Assembly since it is a Pas law and not an Islamic one, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

The Prime Minister said as far as the Government was concerned the legislation did not represent justice as required under Islamic law.

He said an in-depth study of the law was needed to check whether it was in accordance with Islamic jurisprudence.

"What they have come up with is not *hudud* law. It is just Pas' *hudud* law. If they want to pass it, it is their problem but we do not accept it as Islamic law," he told reporters when asked to comment on a report that the Kelantan Sultan had assented to the Syariah Criminal Code (II) 1993 (*Hudud*), which was passed by the Kelantan State Assembly.

He said this after chairing a two-hour Umno supreme council meeting at the Umno headquarters here.

Dr Mahathir said Kelantan Menteri Besar Nik Aziz Nik Mat had met him and handed over a draft of the law.

"We talked the matter over and I explained to him that we cannot accept what Pas has drawn up as that representing the concept of justice as specified under Islamic law."

He said Pas' *hudud* law would not be able to bring about justice.

"Islam stresses the importance of justice and advocates that there be no cruelty in the implementation of any ruling," he said.

Asked whether the law would have any effect on the Federal Constitution, he said the question of amending the Constitution to allow for the implementation of the laws did not arise.