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Eusoffe

EUSOFFE COMPLAINED OF DEPRESSION, SAYS IMAM

PULAU PINANG, Jan 12 (Bernama) -- Former Supreme Court Judge Tan Sri Eusoffe Abdoolcader, who was found dead with a gunshot wound yesterday, had told a close friend that he felt depressed.

The Imam of Masjid Dawoodi Bohra in Lebu Chulia, Yusuf Saleh Bhoi, said Eusoffe told him this at a private hospital here on Monday where the former judge was receiving treatment.

"Tan Sri told me that he was very depressed and that life had no meaning anymore. I told him to be patient," Yusuf told reporters at the Pulau Pinang Hospital mortuary today.

Yusuf said Eusoffe had also expressed a wish to be buried next to his wife.

Eusoffe, 71, was found dead with a gunshot wound in the right temple at his home in Taman Jesselton here at 4.35pm. A .38 Smith & Wesson revolver was found next to his body.

His brother, Aminuddin, 66, said Eusoffe told him that he was frequently sick and had constipation when they last met on Monday.

He was the fourth among six siblings, said Aminuddin, a pensioner who was at the mortuary to claim his body.

Their only sister who is eldest in the family, Patima Nahoda, is in Bombay, eldest brother Dr Tahir in London, second brother Abeeden in Japan and youngest brother Sroj in Australia.

Meanwhile, the doctor who performed the post-mortem on his body said Eusoffe died almost instantly from the shot that pierced his head from right to left.

State CID chief SAC II Loo Choo Huat said today that there was no evidence of foul play.

Dr Mahathir also said the Muslim world was in turmoil and Muslims were fighting each other and they cannot agree even to co-operate to help themselves.

"And we are weak, unable to defend ourselves, and are frequently forced to side with those whose good intentions we doubt but whose support we need because we are weak," he said.

"If the learned among us are so poor that we cannot convince anyone that we are the best people; if the Muslim countries are so weak that we are completely dependent upon the charity and help of the non-Muslim powers; if it is obvious that we are willing to sell Islamic brotherhood in order to survive; if Islamic brotherhood becomes obviously a farce as we fight each other; can we really convince ourselves that we are following the correct teachings of Islam? Can we really convince others that Islam is the right path?," he said.

Dr Mahathir said while Muslims were busy trying to make themselves more Islamic, many Muslims in conquered territories and those who have been forced to seek refuge in non-Muslim land have lost faith, have forsaken their religion and have even converted to other faiths.

"They suffer untold hardships and humiliation. And they come to us for help. Is it evidence of the goodness of Islam that we can offer them no help? Is it that we know, but we don't care as long as we can ensure heaven for us in the hereafter," he said.

Dr Mahathir said: "Is selfishness promoted by Islam that we think we can ignore the needs of our brothers because we are busy trying to gain merit for ourselves. Is it Islam which is wrong or is it our interpretation

of Islam?."

He said that Muslims knew that poverty destroys faith but they (Muslims) do nothing about it, preferring to associate poverty with piety despite the teachings of the Quran that poverty was one step away from loss of faith. -- Bernama