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Mahathir-Shiite

PM WANTS IPT TO STOP SPREADING SHIITE FAITH

KUALA LUMPUR, May 24 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today asked certain groups at the local higher learning institutions (IPT) to immediately stop their propagation of the Shiite teachings as this could lead to trouble among the ummah.

The Shiite teachings could also lead to deviation, thus destroying the faith of the country's Muslim, he added.

The Prime Minister said the government was studying the activities of those involved in spreading the teachings as it was seeking further information before deciding on the action to be taken.

"I ask those in the university to desist from creating any trouble, to the extent of impairing the faith of Muslims in this country," he said at the Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah Airport on his return from a 12-day overseas working trip.

He was earlier asked to comment on a recent statement by the Pusat Islam, that it had acquired proof to show the IPT had become the Shiite propagation centre.

The government had never considered the Shiite faith as non-Islamic, he said. However, there were sufficient proof to show that troubles had easily erupted, from dissenting views, between the Sunni Muslims of the Sunnah Wal Jemaah and those professing the Shiite teachings on the other.

Dr Mahathir referred to the recent riots in Baharin between the Shiite groups and others, and said it was important for the Malaysian Muslims to follow only the teachings of the Sunnah Wal Jemaah.

The Malaysian Muslims had clearly accepted these teachings, which had contributed immensely to the easing of tensions among them, especially in matters of interpretations, he added. -- BERNAMA

AH AR AO