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Youth-Motion

PRACTISE WHAT YOU PREACH, UMNO YOUTH DELEGATE TELLS LEADERS

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 9 (Bernama) -- A delegate to the Umno Youth Assembly today reminded the movement that leaders and followers who do not practise what they preach will cause the downfall of the race.

"Do not be people with double standards, say one thing and do something else...today we Muslims have fallen because we know of certain things but have not acted on it," the delegate from Terengganu Haji Shamsudin Sulong said when tabling the motion of thanks to Umno Youth head Tan Sri Abdul Rahim Tamby Chik for his policy address at the opening of the Youth assembly today.

Quoting verses from the Quran to strengthen his point about hypocrites among Muslims, including among Umno members, he said with the approach of the Umno General Assembly, several negative matters about leaders and party members had been exposed in the mass media.

"The mass media is talking about our morals and about the leaders whom we have elected," he said when commenting on media reports on the party election.

He said at each assembly, the leaders and followers made all kinds of speeches and pledges but all these ended at the close of the assembly for the leaders and followers were not determined to implement what they had pledged.

Shamsudin said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad as Umno President had laid a strong foundation for Umno members at all levels to discharge their respective responsibilities in accordance with their position and capabilities.

"We should not just leave it to the leaders in the discharging of responsibilities as everyone can contribute," he said.

"If we want to be a race of excellence, we have to be so in all aspects including in the area of economics, education and religion," he said.

The delegate from Pulau Pinang Roslan Saidin urged the new leaders to attend to the problem of members preferring bribes before giving their support.

Successful candidates should consider their victory as a responsibility which had been entrusted to them --to continue the party struggle void of negative influences.

Sabah delegate Nordin Mayu suggested that Umno Youth act as a special monitoring body in states which were not headed by Umno leaders with a view to ensuring the interests of Malays.

Calling for Umno Youth to be projected at international level, he said the movement should also spread its wings to Sarawak to complement Umno's struggle.

Johor delegate Hamim Samri said party leaders at branch and divisional levels should take stock of their own weaknesses and not point to the weaknesses of leaders at national level.

Kedah delegate, Ismail Taib reminded party members of their responsibility in overcoming social problems.

The dignity of the race, religion and nation depended on the Umno Youth movement, said Ismail who is head of the Jerlun Umno Division.

He regretted that despite the movement's past pledge to wipe out money politics and abuse of power, this menace was still prevalent.

Kelantan delegate Zahari Kechik urged leaders and members to close ranks after the election.

In the context of unity, the Jeli Umno Youth chief, said Kelantan Umno received with an open heart Parti Melayu Semangat 46 members who had joined Umno.

"This unity will strengthen Umno in facing PAS in the next general election," Zahari said.

Federal Territory delegate Shafie Abdullah felt money politics would be difficult to check despite the ban on such things as well as campaigning.

He proposed that in future all the candidates be gathered at one venue just about one week before the party election to enable them to state their vision and aims for contesting to prevent secret campaigning.

Abdul Hamid Bahar of Pahang asked leaders of Barisan Nasional component parties to give priority to unity within the BN for according to him there were non-Umno ministers who tried to get publicity by attacking state governments.

"To these ministers, I say if possible please change your attitude," he said without elaborating.

Melaka delegate Abdul Kadir Daud while welcoming S46 members into Umno, expressed the hope the old faithfuls in Umno would not be forgotten.

The delegate from Negeri Sembilan Othman Mohamad suggested that the ban on campaigning be studied in more detail by party leaders.

He said State Umno Liaison Committees should be permitted to organise programmes between the candidates and delegates so that they would know each other better. -- BERNAMA

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