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Wanita-Rafidah

WANITA UMNO RESOLVES TO RECAPTURE KELANTAN FROM PAS

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 9 (Bernama) -- Wanita Umno has been urged to strengthen its determination to recapture power in Kelantan following the entry into Umno of former members of the dissolved Parti Melayu Semangat 46 (S46).

The movement's leader, Datuk Seri Rafidah Aziz, said the entry of the former S46 members has further strengthened Umno and this will enable it to win back Kelantan which fell to PAS in 1990 after Umno split.

"The path and door have opened, and it is now up to us. God willing, I believe Wanita Umno can help to take back the Kelantan state government," she said to loud applause at the opening of the movement's assembly at Putra World Trade Centre today.

"Wanita Umno in Kelantan should make the recapturing of Kelantan as its 1996 year-end resolution," she said.

Yesterday, former S46 president Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah handed over about 200,000 Umno membership application forms from former S46 members to Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad. S46 was dissolved last Sunday.

Rafidah also urged Wanita Umno members to free their minds from the shackles of negative and unproductive matters which hamper development.

She said the changing times and turbulent events in the world would challenge Malaysia in various ways and fields.

In this context, she said, Malaysians need to integrate their thinking in order to achieve the goals of Vision 2020.

Rafidah said Wanita Umno possesses the structure and organisation to enable it to act effectively in implementing the entrusted tasks of the party and the government.

"Our vision is before our eyes. The objective has been clearly set and it is unnecessary for anyone to talk of individual vision or seek another path apart from the main road that exists," she said.

Rafidah said the time for big talk, planning and theorising had passed. What is important for Wanita Umno is to recognise its role in achieving Vision 2020.

She urged Wanita Umno members to always maintain unity and not allowed themselves to be carried away by the "comfort" they enjoyed.

"Have we not learned from the black period of Umno's de-registration? Have we forgotten the hurt and sorrow when the party was no more? Have we forgotten it merely because we are now comfortable and prosperous?" she posed the questions to applause from the delegates.

"Our world is transient and we are not immortal. Whether we can live another year is uncertain. Is it right for us to confuse, weaken or turn aside the struggle of the party?"

Rafidah said the comfortable life and prosperity now being enjoyed would continue to be handed down to the generations to come if unity was maintained and the success of the party and country was valued. -- BERNAMA

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