

25/09/1999

Anwar not a true leader, says Wan Mokhtar

MALACCA, Fri. - As a former government leader, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim should have asked his supporters to stop creating chaos or demonstrations that could weaken the economy, said Terengganu Menteri Besar Tan Sri Wan Mokhtar Ahmad.

"But he is doing just the opposite. He continues to incite the people to hate the government.

"If indeed he is a religious man and leader, he would have asked his supporters to stop doing this," he said last night.

The Quran teaches its followers to love their nation as this could further strengthen their faith and conviction.

"If Anwar is truly a devout Muslim, he would have understood what is contained in the Quran and prevented his supporters from causing more harm than good," he said, referring to last Sunday's demonstration at the National Mosque.

Describing Anwar and Pas leaders as hypocrites, Wan Mokhtar said Muslim leaders in the country were saddened with such hypocrisy.

Wan Mokhtar, who is also Umno supreme council member, added that on the contrary, Anwar and other opposition leaders continued to provoke the people by hurling allegations against the government, particularly Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

"Pas, which claims it is an Islamic party, is doing the same thing. It is doing what is not taught in Islam - that is instilling hatred among the people.

"You call yourself Muslims when you are trying to divide the people and doing all kinds of dirty things for your own interests?"

He was speaking to reporters after briefing Kota Melaka Umno division and branch leaders on the party's preparation for the coming general election.

He said Anwar and Pas leaders were projecting 'an Islamic image' for their own gains.

Wan Mokhtar said Dr Mahathir had proven himself an exemplary leader not only locally but internationally and that the rakyat must 'swim and sink' together with him.

He also took to task Kelantan Menteri Besar Datuk Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat who said he would ban the Barisan Nasional and Umno if he was appointed a mufti.

"If he becomes one, he must discharge his duty based on the Hadis and Quran, not his interest and lust. His intention (to ban the BN if he becomes a mufti) is aimed at creating animosity and division among the Muslims."

Wan Mokhtar also said Pas leaders would do things according to their whims and fancies and with no regard to the teachings of Islam.

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