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Mahathir-Umno (Differences)

DR MAHATHIR OUTLINES 18 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN UMNO AND PAS

KUALA LUMPUR, June 20 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today outlined 18 differences between Umno and PAS.

Winding up the debate on the last day of the Umno General Assembly here, the Umno president said the differences are:

\* Umno wants unity while PAS wants division.

He said before PAS was set up, all Malays were in Umno to prevent the British from establishing the Malayan Union and based on such solidarity Umno succeeded in stopping the Malayan Union, which formed the colonialists' plans to do away with the Malay Rulers.

\* Umno struggled to achieve independence but PAS rejected independence.

"PAS at that time felt the Malays were not ready for independence as they did not know how to make needles," he said.

\* Umno considers all Malays including PAS members to be Muslims while PAS considers only Malays who are members of PAS to be Muslims.

"This way, the number of Muslims in the country is reduced because the number of PAS members is small and thus PAS had reduced the number of Muslims in this country and the majority are non-Muslim residents following the PAS interpretation that Umno members are not Muslims," he said.

\* Umno is a moderate party while PAS is a party of extremists.

\* For Umno the Islamic religion is followed and made the guiding principles in life while PAS treats Islam purely as a tool for the party's cause.

\* Umno keeps its promises while PAS breaks them as it did not fulfil its pledge to give the post of Kelantan Deputy Menteri Besar to the Parti Melayu Semangat 46 when it was a PAS ally.

\* Umno emphasises on faith but PAS emphasises on the form of Islam and as long as it looks Islamic, faith is brushed aside.

\* Umno implements what it plans while PAS only knows how to talk.

"What have done much for Islamic religion, the Bank Islam, Tabung Haji and various other things but they (PAS) have done nothing," he said.

\* Umno urges its members to be loyal to the party but PAS urges its members to become fanatical for the party.

"If the party has done wrong, PAS members must continue to support the party but we don't say that if the party has done wrong the party members must support it, we (Umno) only say that if we do anything good then support the party and not to become fanatic for the party," he said.

\* Umno emphasises on the truth, PAS likes to slander.

\* Umno stresses on being courteous while PAS is not courteous, likes to curse and uses vulgar words.

\* Umno practises "fardhu ain" and "kifayah" while PAS only practises "fardhu kifayah".

"PAS accuses Umno of being secular because the party emphasises on science, technological and engineering subjects. PAS wants everyone to study only religion and the rest is considered secular. When they study religion, then they can incite the students. When studying science (which) they cannot incite, they claim it's secular," said Dr Mahathir.

He said Umno looks after the interests of Muslims because the Malays do not know how to build aircrafts and the like because they have yet to acquire the knowledge.

\* Umno does not involve social matters with politics but PAS likes to mix the two.

"The people in PAS do not attend any `kenduri' held by Umno members and they also don't allow marriages between the two parties," he said.

\* Umno upholds religious interpretation which does not change while PAS makes its interpretation which changes according to its whims and fancies.

"In one instance, a particular person is branded as an infidel but when it appears that some gain can be made from that person then the same person is said to be a Muslim and later when it sees the person as a liability then it (PAS) will brand the same person as an infidel again...its religion keeps changing," he said.

\* To Umno the mosque is a place to spread Islamic teachings and forge closer relations among the Muslim community but PAS uses the mosque to hurl allegations and cause anger to other Muslims by reading sermons and cursing others.

\* Umno emphasises on upholding and practising the true Islamic teachings while PAS emphasises on appearance, as long as (you) wear the robe, skull cap and have a goatee, then that's Islam.

"After that, it's all right to commit even rape, close proximity (Khalwat) is all right...he sits in a room with another man's wife is all right even with four witnesses," said the Prime Minister.

\* Umno is thankful for all the blessings and luxurious life as well as the national development but PAS has never been thankful.

\* Umno strongly upholds the Islamic teachings while PAS is on the contrary.

Dr Mahathir said he outlined these differences to show that PAS totally does not uphold the Islamic teachings while Umno truly upholds Islam.

"Thus Umno should not have any fear in meeting the opposition and to go all out in debating with them as we are on the right side," he said.

Dr Mahathir said he had outlined the differences while listening to the debates during the party's general assembly.

"Sometimes we should differentiate between Umno and PAS so that we can use our scale to weigh the good and the bad," he said.

He said he does not know what is meant by the word P.A.S. because to use the word Islam then the party's acronym is P.I.S.

He also refuted the PAS claim through Harakah, a publication of the opposition party, that Umno is facing problems.

"The ones with problems are PAS and Harakah, we don't have any problem," he added.

-- BERNAMA  
ARA RON AO