

04/07/1999

Fadzil should swear over denial, says Razaleigh

Manisah Ismail

KOTA BARU, Sat. - Pas president Datuk Fadzil Noor was today challenged to swear by the Quran over his denial of an agreement between the party and the now defunct Parti Melayu Semangat 46 over the appointment of the Kelantan Deputy Menteri Besar after the 1990 general election.

State Umno liaison chairman Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah said the Pas leaders had always, during the party's ceramah, denied the matter to the people.

"I'm not stupid or new in politics. If they (Pas leaders) want to deny, they can go ahead with it, but when the denial is published in the newspaper, I want Fadzil to swear by the Quran that the agreement really did not exist.

"Not that I want to make a big fuss of the matter, but I cannot allow such a leader to continue telling lies to the people. And I also do not want the people to have the impression that we are the ones who are lying," he said when met by the Press after a meeting with the State Mukim Development Supervisors at the State Umno building.

He said this in reference to a Berita Harian article yesterday which reported that Fadzil, during a ceramah at Bukit Gedombak in Pasir Puteh two days ago, denied that Pas broke its promise to give the post of the Deputy Menteri Besar to S46 after the 1990 general election when Angkatan Perpaduan Ummah formed a coalition State Government.

The former S46 president said that after the 1990 election results were announced, Pas leaders had converged discreetly in Kota Baru to discuss the setting up of the State Government.

"I only knew about it when I got a call from the (Kelantan) palace inquiring why S46 was not in the State Government's line-up," he added.

Besides the appointment of the Deputy Menteri Besar, Tengku Razaleigh said Pas also broke other promises made to S46 including the fielding of candidates in the 1990 general election in which Pas would give way to other parties in the pact to contest the seats.

Tengku Razaleigh also cited his meeting with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad prior to S46's dissolution which had angered Menteri Besar Datuk Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat.

"I told the Pas leaders that I would not see the Prime Minister without their consent. It was only after I had met and discussed the matter with them that I went to see Dr Mahathir," he said.

"However, when Dr Mahathir made a statement saying that he had met me, Nik Aziz got angry."

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