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Mahathir-Opposition

OPPOSITION NOT STRONG AT THE MOMENT, SAYS MAHATHIR

SEPANG, June 4 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today described the state of the opposition in the country as "not strong" despite recent pronouncements by them including the formation of a pact for the general election.

The Prime Minister said, "At the moment I don't think they are strong and I don't think they are going to be strong either".

"This is a marriage of convenience between people who have contrary views. One wants to set up a so called Islamic state, the other doesn't want an Islamic state but wants a Malaysian Malaysia instead, and then, Keadilan is for everything," he said in reply to questions from reporters upon returning from Japan at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport here.

"Being everything to everybody, of course, they (Keadilan) landed up with stabbing their partners in the back by accepting everybody into their party," he said.

He said, "Keadilan's only objective is to get the release of Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim...there is no political agenda other than that although they may say they have some interest in reformasi, justice and all that".

Dr Mahathir said, "Justice for Keadilan is only for one person, so I don't think they can work together...frankly they have no common interest at all".

On the proposal by PAS to amend its constitution in order to admit non-Muslims as associate members and to become party candidates in general elections, he said he was surprised how PAS could do it as it had in the past called Umno members "infidels" for cooperating with non-Muslims.

He said PAS was only interested to fish for votes.

On the opposition pact's plan to rotate the Prime Minister's post should they come to power, Dr Mahathir said they only wanted to bask in the comforts of the post.

-- BERNAMA

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