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Mahathir-Hypocrisy

PAS LEADERS ARE HYPOCRITES, SAYS DR MAHATHIR

BANDAR BARU SERTING, Aug 13 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today that PAS leaders are hypocrites for spreading teachings which are not true Islamic teachings for their own interest.

He said that they had a long-term plan to ensure the support and votes of children of PAS supporters by telling them to send their children to religious schools run by PAS.

"It's amazing that while PAS leaders tell their supporters to send their children to religious schools run by PAS, their own children attend government schools to seek knowledge to secure positions and other things," he said when inaugurating Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Bestari Bandar Baru Serting, here.

The school is the first smart school in a Felda scheme in the country. Among those present were Menteri Besar Tan Sri Mohamed Isa Abdul Samad, Education Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak and Information Minister Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob.

Dr Mahathir dismissed PAS' allegations that knowledge taught in government schools was secular in nature, saying that Muslims were obliged by Islam to acquire such knowledge so that Muslims could defend the religion and fellow Muslims from attacks by enemies.

"Don't anybody say that this smart school is not necessary as knowledge taught is secular in nature. The knowledge taught is not secular...it is knowledge required by Muslims to defend the Islamic religion, the Islamic country and the Muslims themselves," he said.

Dr Mahathir said that Muslims need to acquire knowledge in mathematics, science, technology and other fields, to, among others, enhance their capability to invent modern weapons to defend the religion and the Muslim community.

If PAS were to say that such knowledge was secular in nature, it meant that PAS wants Muslims to forever bow to the enemies and incapable of defending themselves from being dominated by the enemies, he said.

The prime minister said that Felda settlers should be grateful to the government for the benefits they derive from the land scheme and should not be deceived by PAS which had been inciting them to oppose the government.

This instigation by PAS that they need not be grateful to the government was against the teachings of Islam, he said.

"This (land scheme) is a gift we have delivered to the people of Malaysia especially the Malays who do not possess any land. It is true that it (the land) comes from Allah, but Allah has determined that it is this government which should deliver the project," he said.

Dr Mahathir said that Prophet Muhammad had been chosen by Allah as his messenger to spread Islam among the Arabs even though God had the power to make them Muslims and as such, the Muslims were grateful to Prophet Muhammad.

"If we need to be grateful to Prophet Muhammad and not merely grateful to Allah, surely in our daily lives, when we receive something, we need to be grateful to those who deliver it to us even though it comes from Allah," he said.

Dr Mahathir said that Islam never ask Muslims "to bite the hands, to hit and to abuse those who deliver something to us and to be merely grateful to Allah".

"PAS has taught Felda settlers not to be grateful to the government

that provides the land to them. Fel'da settlers have instead been asked only to be grateful to Allah and to cast aside the deliverers...not only to cast them aside but to hurl abuses, make criticisms and spread lies against them," he said.

Dr Mahathir then posed a question to those who claimed to be ulamas of PAS as to whether to be ungrateful to those who deliver such a gift was among the teachings of Islam.

The prime minister said that PAS claims that it is an Islamic party merely to mislead Muslims and the party had abused their strong faith in Islam to incite them and to spread among them teachings contrary to Islam.

PAS had also caused the Malays and Muslims in the country to be divided because before the party came about, the Malays and Muslims were united, he said.

He said PAS should realise the fact that the party had used Islam for its political interest and had been prepared to make inaccurate interpretations of Islamic teachings.

"I have nothing against PAS members, only that they should return to the true teachings of Islam," he said.

The prime minister was however confident that the people in the country would use their wisdom by supporting and ensuring a two-third majority for the Barisan Nasional (BN) in the coming general election.

-- BERNAMA

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