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Umno-Resolution (Religion)

PAS ULAMAS NEVER KEPT THEIR PLEDGE TO S46- HAJI IBRAHIM

KUALA LUMPUR, June 19 (Bernama) -- The failure of PAS to fulfil its pledge to form a coalition government with Parti Melayu Semangat 46 (S46) after the 1990 general election was exposed at the Umno General Assembly today.

Terengganu delegate Haji Ibrahim Azmi Hassan said PAS pledged to allot the post of Deputy Menteri Besar to S46 but after the election it swept all the posts.

Ibrahim, who was then S46 Vice-President, said he found it very difficult to stomach the fact that the pious people in PAS would go to the extent of not keeping their pledge but faced with the reality he could not but cry.

"I am not lying, I am willing to go into the mosque and swear by the Quran," he said when tabling the resolution on religion and social issues at the 53rd Umno General Assembly at the Putra World Trade Centre here.

Ibrahim said the PAS failure to keep its promise, put the S46 in a tight spot as it had to explain to members the agreement reached between the two parties on the formation of a coalition government.

To iron out the problems that arose, several consultations and meetings were held between both parties particularly on the question of the appointment of a Deputy Menteri Besar from the S46 but PAS was adamant, he said.

In the end the Deputy Menteri Besar II was appointed from the S46 as a form of window dressing to placate the S46 members.

Ibrahim urged Muslims to carefully assess the PAS actions as Islam forbade its followers to go back on their pledge and in the words of the Nabi Muhammad S.A.W. : "There is no faith in an untrustworthy person and there is no religion for anyone who does not keep his pledge."

The motion on Religion and social issues urged Umno members to be one with the government in monitoring religious and educational institutions so that PAS would not use them to disseminate narrow teachings opposed to the Islamic faith.

The motion strongly condemned the irresponsible attitude of narrow political bodies which exploited religion to serve the party interests by compromising on the holy values of Islam and slandering other Muslims and labelling them kafirs.

Penang delegate Haji Othman Desa in supporting the motion asked Muslims to go through all the Islamic development programmes implemented by Umno and that undertaken by PAS.

Among the Umno projects is the International Islamic University (IIU) which was in fact Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's idea from start to finish.

Othman said the Barisan Nasional Government did not reject Hudud laws outright but enforced it on the basis of priority implementation.

He urged Muslims to realise that the Government indeed loved them, a love reflected in the comprehensive implementation of Islamic programmes and they in turn should reciprocate by supporting the government.

Othman hoped the government would take firm action against the opposition which used the mosques to lambast the government through the Friday Khutbah.

-- BERNAMA
AFY MAI AAM

