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Abdullah-Mosques/BM

STOP SPREADING LIES THROUGH MOSQUES, SAYS ABDULLAH

PUTRAJAYA, Jan 29 (Bernama) -- Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said today the use of mosques to spread lies, which is on the rise, should stop immediately.

This was because the worshippers regarded the mosques as neutral ground although they might have different political ideologies, he said.

The people who frequented the mosques were not just from one group or party, he added.

"However, there are khatibs who don't like us or the prime minister who use the approach to spread lies. They trap the worshippers who have to sit quietly and cannot talk," he told reporters after attending a Hari Raya gathering organised by the Prime Minister's Department, here.

Describing such action as irresponsible, he said those dissatisfied with the government should use other fora like through their representatives in the state assembly or Dewan Rakyat to air views.

"I was told by a friend at a mosque yesterday that a khatib had during a sermon said that even the horse did not like the prime minister. This was after rumours that the PM had fallen off a horse," he said.

Abdullah said this group still did not believe even though Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad himself had dismissed the rumour when he arrived in London on Thursday after a two-week vacation in Argentina and the Caribbean.

He said although the practice of spreading lies through the mosques had gone on for a long time it was more prevalent now and he hoped that the people would be careful and check out each piece of news, especially that on bad things about a person.

"They will do anything to achieve their aim but I'm confident that ultimately the truth will prevail," he said.

-- BERNAMA

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