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Suqiu demands already met, says Pas youth chief

KUALA LUMPUR, Tues. - Pas Youth chief Mahfuz Omar said the Malaysian Chinese Organisation's Election Appeals Committee should not make any demands on Malay special rights because these have already been fulfilled by Umno.

He said while Suqiu had the right to make the demand, they should realise that they have already achieved what they are now fighting for.

"Umno Youth and its national leaders were responsible for sacrificing Malay rights, to achieve their own political agenda.

"Thus, they should not be taking the opportunity to stir up racial sentiments as it will only result in jeopardising harmony and stability," he said at a Press conference in his office today.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had said last Monday that the Government could not entertain demands made by Suqiu as they were tantamount to abolishing Malay rights, a move which will result in chaos and will paralyse the country's progress.

He said acceding to Suqiu's demands would not only lead to racial disunity but would also be as good as repealing clauses in the Constitution which guaranteed Bumiputera privileges.

Mahfuz said certain quarters were playing up the Malay special rights issues to show that the rights were being curtailed, when the fact is they were the ones who were responsible for curbing these rights.

He recalled an incident in August 1965, when Pas Member of Parliament for Pasir Mas Hulu, Abdul Samad Gul Ahmad Mianji, tabled a resolution in Parliament for the Federal Constitution to be amended to ensure that Bumiputera rights in the economic and education sectors were guaranteed.

"Dr Mahathir who was then the Member of Parliament for Kota Star Selatan had objected to the proposal and said that the Government would one day do away with the privileges," he said adding that this was recorded in the Parliament Hansard.

On the proposal by the Federation of Peninsular Malay Students (GPMS) to stage a protest against Suqiu, Mahfuz said he was against such a move.

"I feel the gathering has a political motive and it could harm peace and racial unity which we are now enjoying in Malaysia."

GPMS president Datuk Suhaimi Ibrahim had said last Thursday that they would be making 100 demands to be presented to Suqiu if it refused to withdraw its 83-point demands.

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