

# PAS keen on talks with DAP, not Umno: PM

SUN, 27 JUL 2008

**KULIM, Thurs:** PAS cares more about its relationship with the DAP than Malay unity, the prime minister said today.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said PAS is willing to discuss the Islamic state issue with DAP but is not interested in meeting Umno to discuss the interests of Malays.

He said Umno is ever ready to sit and talk with PAS leaders on the issue but this does not seem to be the case with the PAS leadership.

"They are not interested to meet us, they would rather meet the DAP," he said at a press conference after opening the RM5.5 billion Silterra Malaysia Sdn Bhd wafer fabrication plant at the Kulim Hi-Tech Park.

"Now the DAP wants to pull out of the pact, but we don't really know for sure. Sometimes there is also *sandiwara* between them," he said.

"PAS wants to propose an Islamic state, and we want it to put that in writing. We want to know what sort of Islamic state it proposes but it has refused to tell us and say that we are against an Islamic state.

"So, how can we be for or against something we don't know?"

Mahathir said PAS is cheating the Malays and the Chinese into believing different versions of the Islamic state proposed by the party.

"It tells the Chinese, it's okay, it will be fine, we are relaxed. At the same time, it tells the Malays that it wants to implement Islamic values."

Among those present were Kedah Mentri Besar Datuk Seri Syed Abdul Razak Syed Zain, Penang Chief Minister Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon, and Culture and Tourism Minister Datuk Abdul Kadir Sheikh Fadzir.