

21 JUN 2001

Umno-Hamid

"DEBATE" TAPE MANIPULATED BY PAS, SAYS DR ABDUL HAMID

KUALA LUMPUR, June 21 (Bernama) -- A video tape distributed by PAS purportedly of a debate between Umno and PAS was actually a recording of discussions among Umno members, said Tan Sri Dr Abdul Hamid Othman.

Abdul Hamid, the adviser on Islam to the Prime Minister, said PAS, which has titled the tape "Debat PAS-Umno", was selling it to the public as a real debate between Umno and PAS.

"In fact, Umno has plans to use the recording to enlighten members so that they would be able to effectively counter the lies spread by PAS," he said after the presidential address at the 55th Umno general assembly here today.

"Unfortunately, some irresponsible people had aired the recording much earlier and cutting out the discussions from the academic angle," he said.

Dr Abdul Hamid said he himself had chaired the discussion in the recording.

The video recording of a discussion between Umno religious leaders and a former PAS leader was made in a move to counter the baseless accusations levelled by PAS against Umno.

"The closed-door recording was shot last year," said Dr Abdul Hamid.

He said the discussions were witnessed by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his deputy Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

He said Umno would distribute a full version of recording in due course.

-- BERNAMA

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