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Nik Aziz defines Islamic state concept

KOTA BARU, Fri. - Head of Pas consultative council Datuk Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat today defined the party's concept of an Islamic state as one which put into practise the teachings of the Quran and Hadith (sayings of the Prophet).

"What we (Pas) want is a country which observes the teachings of God and the Prophet. That's all. Whatever you want to call it ... an Islamic state, Malaysia or Kelantan, do it by all means. The name is not important."

The Kelantan Menteri Besar and State Pas commissioner was asked to clarify on the Islamic state which the party wanted to set up.

On Saturday, Prime Minister and Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had asked Pas to clarify in writing its plans to set up an Islamic state.

Nik Abdul Aziz said policies implemented by the State Governments of Kelantan and Terengganu which Pas ruled were models of an Islamic state.

"For a better clarification, give Pas a chance to be the ruling party in the Federal Government ... the criteria for an Islamic state will be clearer then."

Nik Abdul Aziz said this when met at the scene of a fire at Dewan Perbandaran MPKB, near here.

Asked on DAP deputy chairman Karpal Singh's statement that Pas should consider leaving the opposition front if it insisted on setting up an Islamic State, he said it was Karpal's personal opinion.

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