

11 MAR 2001

Nik Aziz-Party

ONE PARTY WILL BE CLOSER TO UNITING THE MALAYS, SAYS NIK AZIZ

PORT DICKSON, March 11 (Bernama) -- PAS General Adviser Datuk Abdul Aziz Nik Mat said one political party to represent the Malays would be more logical and closer to uniting them than at present.

"For me it is more logical, more closer to uniting the Malays than two political parties at present," he said today when asked to elaborate on his recent suggestion that the Malays in the country be represented by one political party.

Nik Aziz made the suggestion in his ceramah at the Kota Baharu Municipal Council two days ago.

"But then again, since the Malays are Muslims it is necessary to define Malays as those professing and practising Islam. So Malays is synonymous with Islam and the party must also be based on Islam. See the logic?" said the Kelantan Menteri Besar when met after presenting a ceramah to the people in Bukit Pelandok hear today.

Asked whether this would be basis for the Umno-PAS talks on Malay unity, he said it was not a new condition but only his personal views.

He said that if everyone was really serious of wanting to unite the Malays, there must be only one Malay political party and it was also for the good of the Malays.

"It is also a victory of sort for the Malays themselves," he said.

Nik Aziz said his one-party theory was based the theory of Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad when he asked Parti Semangat 46 to be dissolved and its members to join Umno.

"So I said, the theory can also be used now since Umno, its president is busy trying to unite the Malays. So I said if we wanted to unit the Malays, we combine the parties, that is all," he said.

--BERNAMA

APG ABG