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Sarawak-Fong

SARAWAK CHINESE WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT BN- FONG

MIRI, Sept 13 (Bernama) -- Sarawak Chinese should continue their support for the Barisan Nasional (BN) and not fall for the ploys of the the DAP, MCA vice president and Human Resources Minister Datuk Fong Chan Onn said.

The "natural choice of Chinese voters" was the ruling BN because the coalition had proved over the years it could provide for everyone irrespective of race and religion.

"I hope Sarawak Chinese voters will not fall for the ploys of the opposition parties..... the DAP is still cooperating with PAS and providing it with a channel to the Chinese community."

He was speaking at a dinner organised to welcome him to Miri by the Miri Chinese Chamber of Commerce here last night.

The DAP in the last state election in 1996 managed to wrestle three of the 62 state seats while the opposition Keadilan was making its maiden appearance in the Sarawak polls. Nomination in on Tuesday and polling on Sept 27.

Asked on the impact of DAP "importing" Chinese from Kelantan and Terengganu to win the hearts of Sarawakian Chinese, Fong said the reality is that the Chinese in the two Pas controlled states are living in oppression.

"Their way of life is controlled, all the youngsters have to leave the states for economic pursuits outside that is a fact and there is hardly any economic development there," he added.

He said Sarawakians should exercise their rights sensibly taking into account the weaknesses of the opposition, who "would come and try mislead Chinese voters here."

"More so now in our midst there are certain parties that do not accept the multi-ethnic reality that exist in the country, they do not accept the provisions of the Constitution that guarantees freedom of religion and culture," he said.

He said this group of extremists want to convert Malaysia into a Afganistan like Islamic state and the Chinese community, not only in Sarawak but the whole country, feel that this concept is against the multi-ethnic concept practised by the BN.

"As Chinese voters we have our resposiblity and duty to provide all the necessary political support to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad," said Fong.

On Keadilan entering the state for the first time in the state election, he said the opposition party would certainly spread its destructive ideology using demonstrations.

"As mature Chinese voters we must not let them succeed in their quest," said Fong.

He said MCA would not be involved in this elections directly but would work closely with the Sarawak United People's Party to woo Chinese voters in the here.

-- BERNAMA

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