

# Pas is only day-dreaming, says Dr M

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JITRA, Thurs. Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad dismissed the Pas prediction that they would make a clean sweep of seats in the next general election, describing their aim of forming the Government as day-dreaming or *angan-angan Mat Jenin*.

He said although Pas won 27 parliamentary seats in the 1999 general election, their claim of outright victory only revealed the party's arrogance, especially when Umno had won 72 seats.

"Pas only won 27 seats but act as if they had won the general election going berserk and shouting they have won. But what victory are they shouting about?" said Dr Mahathir today at the Kubang Pasu Umno division annual delegates meeting at Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Pulau Nyior here.

"In the next general election, Pas supposedly will win and sweep clean all the seats in the country.

"That's just *angan-angan Mat Jenin* (day dreaming) especially at present when we see many more Malays are joining Umno, including Pas supporters who have discovered that Pas is not an Islamic

party.

Dr Mahathir, who is the Umno division chief, said Pas did not reflect the struggle of Muslims.

This was because their aim was to split the *ummuh* (the Muslim community) by hurling slander and spreading interpretations of Islam that had strayed from the truth.

"Thank God, many Malays now realise the truth and are back with Umno," he said.

Citing another example of what he said was the arrogance of Pas, the Umno president said the party believed the Government needed their endorsement whenever it wanted to do something.

He said this was the case when the Government declared Malaysia an Islamic country, a fact recognised by other countries with a large Muslim population.

"But in their arrogance, Haji Hadi (Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang — Pas deputy president and Terengganu Menteri Besar) issued a *fatwa* (edict) saying Malaysia has not become an Islamic nation."

"He is a narrow-minded Islamic teacher who once accused anyone who did not support Pas as being

an infidel."

He said Pas would on the one hand ally and embrace the DAP, a party from which one of its senior leaders once declared that Pas would have to step over his dead body if it wanted to establish an Islamic State.

"On the other hand, Pas labels fellow Muslims in Umno as infidels."

Dr Mahathir said there had been accusations by Pas that whoever did not accept the Terengganu and Kelantan Governments' efforts to establish an Islamic state was an infidel.

Dr Mahathir said due to the misrepresentation of Islam by Pas and others of the same ilk, Muslims in the country and also in other Islamic countries were not united.

The Prime Minister said despite the atrocities committed by Israel against Palestinians, Governments in countries with large Muslim populations were unable to effectively assist the victims.

This was because they had to concentrate their efforts on dealing with internal groups that were accusing them of being un-Islamic.