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Umno-religion (round-up)

DELEGATES WARN OF PAS' THREAT TO ISLAM AND MALAYS

KUALA LUMPUR, June 22 (Bernama) -- Umno delegates to the party's general assembly here today expressed concern on the effect to society and Islam's image of PAS's plans to introduce the strict hudud penal code of the Muslim shariah law in Terengganu.

They viewed the move by the Terengganu PAS government to table the Syariah Criminal Bill on Hudud and Qisas (revenge crime restitution) in the state legislative assembly next month as more than just to gain political mileage.

One delegate from Kelantan even urged the government to ban immediately PAS before it caused more damage to Islam.

During the debate on religion and social motion that was later passed unanimously, they made it clear that Umno had never rejected the Hudud law as spelt out in Islam, only the the law formulated by PAS.

The delegates, speaking on the third and final day of the general assembly at the Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC) here, also expressed regret that PAS found it fit to work together with DAP, a party that was unsupportive of the Malays' struggle over the past 27 years and rejected the establishment of an Islamic state.

They also believed that the split among Muslims in the country was not due to ethnic differences but the result of doings by PAS which was fond of issuing various fatwa or religious rulings for politics without considering their effects on Islam and unity of Muslims.

"PAS is power crazy and is willing to trade Islam for that, issuing fatwa such as accusing God of being foul-mouthed and of rewards and heaven (to those who vote for PAS)," said Mohamad Kamal Saidin, a delegate from Kedah.

He also questioned the move by Terengganu Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang to formulate the syariah criminal law in Terengganu when he was also involved in the drafting of the law tabled in Kelantan.

"Why doesn't he bring the law in Kelantan to Terengganu. So, how many Hudud laws are there in Islam and which one is God's law?" he said.

He said it was clear that PAS had purposely introduced the law as a political weapon against Umno, knowing very well that when it was referred to the federal government the Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad would reject it.

He said PAS would then accuse the Umno-led government as rejecting the Hudud law, hoping in the process that the Malays would look at Umno as a non-Islamic party.

-- BERNAMA

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