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`Three terms that reflect God's supremacy'

PUTRAJAYA, Tues. - Research on Arabic terms al-mutakabbir, al-jabbar and al-muhaimin, which are the attributes of Allah, shows that it is wrong for Kelantan Menteri Besar Datuk Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat to associate God with the term samseng (thug).

Religious adviser to the Prime Minister Tan Sri Abdul Hamid Othman today said leading Islamic texts and translations had pointed out that the three Arabic terms would not allow for Allah to be associated with terms like samseng.

"However, the Quran, in verse 23 of Surah Al-Hasyr, does mention the three terms to reflect how supreme and mighty God is," he said at a Press conference at his office here today.

Abdul Hamid said Nik Aziz's remarks that Allah was a bigger gangster, crook and liar above all human beings was contrary to Islamic teachings and could mislead the faith of Malaysian Muslims.

"He is preaching wrong Islamic principles which will confuse the people and affect the faith of Muslims," he said.

Abdul Hamid added that leader worshipping among Pas members contradicted the teachings of Islam, citing the example of the second Caliph Umar al-Khattab who told Muslims to criticise him when he made mistakes.

Nik Aziz stirred a controversy when he referred to God as a samseng in one of his ceramahs two months ago.

On July 31 Nik Aziz faced criticisms over his remarks, but he stood his ground saying that Allah was a greater gangster than any other gangsters in the world based on God's three attributes - al-mutakabbir, al-jabbar and al-muhaimin.

Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad recently said that action should be taken against Nik Aziz and others who insulted Allah by such remarks.