

19 JUN 2002

Hudud-Hadi

LIST YOUR GRIEVANCES AGAINST HUDUD LAW- PAS GOVT

KUALA TERENGGANU, June 19 (Bernama) -- The Terengganu PAS Government today requested the Barisan Nasional to list aspects of the Hudud Law which it considered cruel. The Hudud Law Bill will be tabled in the Terengganu State Assembly on July 7.

Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang said his government would continue to receive the views from all groups to ensure that Hudud Law was implemented in the true sense of justice.

"So far we have received views from various groups and we are providing an opportunity for Umno to list the alleged cruelties in the Hudud Law through its representatives in the State Assembly."

"I want to know exactly where the Hudud Law is not based on Islam, let the Prime Minister give the details," he told reporters after chairing the State Executive Council meeting here.

He was commenting on the statement by Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad yesterday that the Federal Government would explore the possibility of stopping the Terengganu Government from implementing laws that were not just and not based on the true teachings of Islam.

The Prime Minister described the proposed Hudud Law Bill to be tabled by Terengganu as unIslamic and said the Federal Government would stop it if it had the power.

Abdul Hadi said what the Terengganu Government was doing was to rectify the failure of Umno which till today had not put forward positive views on the Hudud Law though at the helm of power for more than 40 years.

"Even though Umno has been given more than 40 years but till today it has not presented the draft Hudud Law. I hope Umno will be frank....do not pretend....if they want to oppose Islam be frank about it....do not oppose Islam and at the same time pretend to implement Islamic Law."

"And I do not want the Prime Minister to play with beautiful words such as claiming to be an Islamic Fundamentalist but at the same time appearing to be an Ataturk number two ...to make Mustapha Kamal Ataturk's theory in Turkey become a reality....bringing down Turkey from a world superpower to a weak nation."

Abdul Hadi said all groups especially Muslims should interpret the Constitution positively with a view to implementing Islamic Syariah Law as the Constitution was a general law which could be interpreted according to the understanding and thinking of a free people.

Abdul Hadi said what was saddening was till today the Terengganu Government had not received any form of opposition to Hudud Law from non-Muslims but worries had surfaced only from among Muslims.

"InsyaAllah, the Terengganu Government will table and approve the Hudud Law Bill as scheduled in the assembly which will convene on July 7,8,9."

"We consider this matter as not going against the Constitution...according to our interpretation it is positive ...it is freeing us from colonialism," he said.

Asked if the implementation of the Hudud Law would breach the Federal Constitution, Abdul Hadi said it was the obligation of Muslims in the Federal Government to make the necessary amendments.

"I feel it will not be a problem for the government to make amendments considering that they can make amendments to accommodate less important things...Why is it in a matter important to Muslims, they are not prepared to make amendments."

"If they are not prepared it shows they are actually opposing Islam...be clear about it," the Menteri Besar added.

-- BERNAMA

SN SN AAM