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Nik Aziz-Insults

DISPUTE DUE TO UMNO'S REFUSAL TO ACCEPT ISLAMIC POLICIES

KOTA BAHARU, July 15 (Bernama) -- PAS spiritual advisor Datuk Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat said the dispute between PAS and Umno arose because Umno refused to accept the Quran and Hadis as the main principles in the country's legal system.

"This happened way back in 1951, since PAS was set up. It started because PAS asked for only one thing, that is to ensure that the Malaysian judicial system is based on Islamic principles.

"It's written in the constitution of the party and country that the main source of the country's judicial system is the Quran and Hadis. We cannot administer the country as we like according to a system called secularism and democracy," he told reporters here today.

He said this when commenting on the statement by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad calling on PAS leaders to explain why they were insulting Umno.

Nik Aziz said the announcement by the Barisan Nasional (BN) government that Malaysia was now an Islamic country officially was inadequate because it was acknowledged by Dr Mahathir himself that there was no change in implementation (of administration).

"It means that the previous Umno and the present Umno is the same," he said.

Nik Aziz, who is also Kelantan Menteri Besar, said the dispute between the two Malay parties would automatically end when Umno, which leads the federal government, changed the national constitution so that it was based on the Quran and Hadis.

"Once Umno accepts the request to change the policy from secularism to one that is based on the Quran and Hadis, the problem will no longer exist," he said.

Then, PAS would no longer insult Umno and its leaders because: "What's the point of making insults when Umno has accepted the Quran. (Then) Umno and PAS are the same. Why would PAS insult PAS, similarly, PAS would not insult Umno".

When asked how long would the dispute between PAS and Umno persist, Nik Aziz hoped the situation would not be prolonged when Umno eventually accepted Islamic policies.

He also said there were some Umno leaders who deserved to be insulted because the way they fought PAS was undemocratic.

"It's not only that they don't accept Islamic policies, they go all out to fight us, by (using) the ISA (Internal Security Act), by prohibiting ceramah. No wonder they get insults," he said.

Nik Aziz said that as a political party, PAS had the right to hold ceramah.

-- BERNAMA

RAR NMO AO