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Mahathir-Nik Aziz

NIK AZIZ HAS NEVER ADMITTED HIS WEAKNESSES, SAYS DR MAHATHIR

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 26 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today that Kelantan Menteri Besar Datuk Nik Aziz Nik Mat is a person who never admits his weaknesses.

Although it was clear that he had sinned by calling God a gangster, Nik Aziz was still unrepentant, the prime minister said.

Dr Mahathir said that as human beings, everyone had his faults.

"Nik Aziz had said that I'm not qualified to be a leader for crying over my failure to change the Malays and to inculcate better values...that's my fault," he told a special briefing on Puteri Umno's meeting and election rules, here.

Among Nik Aziz's faults was his statement that God was a gangster and a criminal, so he should repent, he said.

He was referring to Nik Aziz's statement that God was a gangster in his ceramah which was aired by RTM recently and Nik Aziz's stand to stick to the statement.

Meanwhile, in PUTRAJAYA, religious advisor to the prime minister Tan Sri Abdul Hamid Othman said Nik Aziz must repent and return to the right path because he had committed a big offence in the Islamic faith by calling God a gangster.

His action was sinful and anyone who followed him had also sinned, he told a media conference at his office.

He said Nik Aziz's action, which raised issues on God's characteristics, was akin to that of the Al-Khawarij group during the reign of Bani Umayyah and Bani Abasiyah.

Abdul Hamid said the group, which was well-versed in Islam, Quranic recitation, poetry and elocution, had wanted to destabilise the government and society then because it was motivated by hatred.

He said Nik Aziz's statement that God had bad traits like humans and was a gangster and cheat and used vulgarities was a statement that reduced God's perfection.

Whoever attributed bad qualities like gangsterism to God should be labelled a "mulhid" or someone who had gone astray, he said.

Abdul Hamid said Nik Aziz had caused anxiety among the Muslims because the teachings on Islam had all this while been on God's supremacy and greatness.

-- BERNAMA

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