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Razaleigh-Nik Aziz/BM

NIK AZIZ SHOULD APOLOGISE TO MAHATHIR PERSONALLY, SAYS RAZALEIGH

GUA MUSANG, Sept 29 (Bernama) -- Kelantan Menteri Besar Datuk Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat should apologise to the prime minister personally for accusing him of not knowing how to recite the Quaran, said Gua Musang Umno division chief Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah.

"If it's true that Nik Aziz has admitted his mistake, he should go and apologise to Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir (Mohamad) personally, and not just make statements to the press that he made a mistake," Razaleigh told reporters here today.

The former Kelantan Umno chief said he regretted that the accusation against Dr Mahathir a week ago was made at a public function.

This, he said, showed that Nik Aziz was only a "political ulama" as a true ulama would never say other people were bad.

Nik Aziz admitted his mistake last Wednesday, saying what he actually meant to say was that Dr Mahathir did not know Arabic.

The PAS spiritual adviser said he would apologise to the prime minister but it would be done at a ceramah as the mistake was committed at another ceramah.

Dr Mahathir, in his response today, said he was prepared to forgive Nik Aziz on the matter.

In MACHANG, Kelantan Umno information chief Datuk Ismail Mamat said PAS supporters should realise from Nik Aziz's admission that the menteri besar was "a normal human being who also makes mistakes".

"Nik Aziz's admission should change the attitude of PAS supporters who tend to accept without questioning everything said by him," he told reporters.

-- BERNAMA

WM RAR SK