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Umno-Cartoon (Harakah)

PAS IS A DESTRUCTIVE PARTY, SAYS RAFIDAH

KUALA LUMPUR, June 18 (Bernama) -- Wanita Umno chief Datuk Seri Rafidah Aziz has described PAS as a destructive party, ever suspicious of others and has never acted in good faith.

Commenting on the publication of a cartoon of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in Harakah, the official organ of PAS, she said that only a party with narrow perspective would resort to such a thing.

"This is the work of a narrow-minded bigot who is bankrupt of ideas...I guess he is only good at doing this kind of work," she said at a joint media conference with leaders of the Umno Youth and Puteri Umno wings, here today.

Harakah, in its latest June 16-30 issue, published a two-frame cartoon, one associating "khinzir" (a pig) with the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and the other associating "mahazir!" (Dr Mahathir) with public religious schools (SAR).

Puteri Umno Chief Azalina Othman Said said that to strike a similarity between Dr Mahathir and the animal was very insulting indeed.

She said PAS supporters would have gone berserk if such an analogy had involved their leaders.

"I think they would burn the building down," she said.

Meanwhile, Umno Youth Chief Datuk Hishammuddin Hussein said a group of men dressed in black jackets, bearing the insignia of Umno Youth, had nothing to do with the movement.

"The Umno headquarters will investigate the matter," he said.

The group, which acted like a security group, appeared during the simultaneous opening of the Umno Youth, Wanita Umno and Puteri Umno assemblies by Umno Deputy President Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi at the Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC) yesterday.

The group created uneasiness among some Umno leaders and members with its presence.

--BERNAMA

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