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Mahathir-Opposition

PAS SHOULD NOT DUPE THE PEOPLE ABOUT ISLAMIC STATE, SAYS DR MAHATHIR

TANAH MERAH, Sept 15 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today reminded PAS not to continue to cheat the people with the promise of setting up an Islamic state as they are incapable of fulfilling it.

The Prime Minister said PAS often put the blame on the federal government claiming that the latter did not allow the party to set up an Islamic state.

"You (PAS) know that as long as you are not able to form the federal government, it's not possible for you to establish what you claim to be an Islamic state, don't make promises that you cannot fulfil, promising...cheating the people is not proper, sinful," he said when launching the Kelantan state-level Farmers', Breeders' and Fishermen's Day, here.

About 20,000 people, mostly farmers, breeders and fishermen, attended the function which was held on a large scale for the first time by the federal government in the state since PAS ruled Kelantan in 1990.

Dr Mahathir, who is also Umno president, said there were views that an Islamic state would lead to chaos, poverty, with the people being uneducated and often oppressed by others, and this would be the ala-PAS Islamic state.

"That's why, Hadi (Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang) dares not issue a memorandum on the ala-PAS Islamic state," he said.

He said the people should reject PAS leaders who liked to cheat although on the surface they appeared to be religious based on their robe, headgear and beard.

He said PAS now dilly-dallied that they need not explain to the people about the type of Islamic state that they desired because they had no intention of setting up an Islamic state.

"Why is there a necessity for them to set up an Islamic state when Malaysia is already a Muslim country, in fact it is not only an Islamic country but one that has become a model for other Muslims and Islamic nations," he said.

Dr Mahathir said many foreign leaders had and would continue to come to see how Malaysia was administered and developed to the extent that it had succeeded excellently.

As such, he said there was no reason for the people to hate the Barisan Nasional government and asked whether what the government had done had contradicted Islamic teachings.

However, the Prime Minister said there were people who were spreading deviationist teachings, that is, the people should not be grateful and thank those who had given them something good.

"If we know how to be grateful and thankful, we will certainly support and help those who have given us (things). That's why they are scared if the people are grateful.

"They prefer us (the people) not to be grateful and instead hate those who give us things," he said.

Dr Mahathir also said the failure of the Kelantan government in administering the state resulted in the highly educated and capable people of Kelantan to migrate and work in other states.

-- BERNAMA .

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