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Rafidah-Struggle

TRANSITION OF POWER WON'T LEAD TO POWER STRUGGLE

PETALING JAYA, Jan 4 (Bernama) -- The transition of power after the retirement of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in October will not lead to a power struggle among Umno leaders.

Wanita Umno head Datuk Seri Rafidah Aziz said she believed that there would not be any tussle for power among the present Umno leaders as they knew how to preserve party harmony and that Umno did not need any intervention from other parties.

Speaking to reporters after the Hari Raya gathering organised by the Petaling Jaya Utara Wanita Umno branch and Petaling Jaya Charity and Caring Women's Club, here today she said: "When Pak Lah (Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi) takes over as Prime Minister in October, he will decide who would be his deputy."

Commenting on the issue of polygamy, she said the system and laws on polygamy should be standardised so that no men would have to move to other states to have another wife.

Rafidah, who is also International Trade and Industry Minister, said the non-standardisation of procedures between the states would make many men wishing to have more than one wife move to Perlis in view of the relaxation in the conditions for polygamy there.

She proposed that all Islamic Religious Councils and the Islamic Religion administration committee at the state level meet to standardise procedures and conditions for polygamy throughout the country.

She said the procedures for polygamy must take into consideration two things, namely that a man who wished to have another wife must have valid and strong reasons and fulfils religious requirements.

-- BERNAMA

CL MFZ AO