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Umno-Clubs

FOREIGN UMNO CLUBS TO SET UP ISLAM HADHARI WEBSITE

KUALA LUMPUR, July 19 (Bernama) -- Several leaders of foreign Umno clubs plan to set up a website to clarify the Islam Hadhari (Civilisational Islam) concept introduced by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

United Kingdom Umno Club Liaison Committee Chairman Hahasrin Hashim said the website would help the government explain the concept to Malaysians abroad as well as foreigners.

"We have proposed to the top leaders to set up a website to clarify the concept in detail," he told Bernama here today.

Hahasrin, who is also the Southampton Umno Club Chairman, said efforts had been taken by several Umno clubs in England, such as organising lectures and mobile exhibitions touring England, to explain the concept.

"Basically, all Malaysian students have welcomed the Islam Hadhari concept and most of them want to know more about it," said Hahasrin, who works as a systems administrator at the University of Southampton.

London Umno Club Chairman Khairuddin Mohd Hussin said creation of the website was an initiative of the foreign Umno clubs to clarify the concept.

"When the concept was introduced, various parties wanted to know about it and after explanations had been given, they wanted to know of its success," said Khairuddin, an accountant in London.

Alexandria (Egypt) Umno Club Chairman Noorzian Mohd Tairuddin said the Islam Hadhari concept had been accepted by people in Egypt and in several other West Asian countries.

On its acceptance by extremist students, she said the concept got a mixed reaction, including from religious extremists.

"As you know, there are many pro-opposition students in West Asia. This concept actually gave them a jolt and there were differences of opinion over the terminology and so on.

"But after clarification, they finally accepted it," said Noorzian, a student of the Alexandria branch of Al-Azhar University.

She said former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad had visited several West Asian countries twice and a lot of questions on the concept were forwarded to him.

After clarification from Dr Mahathir, most of the students accepted the concept, she added.

-- BERNAMA

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