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Abide by rules, says DPMK chairman

ALOR STAR, Sat. - The Kedah Malay Assembly Hall (DPMK) will take extra precautions to ensure that it is not abused by members for political gains.

Chairman Tan Sri Khalid Abdullah said DPMK would screen all speeches and leaflets for programmes to be held at the RM7 million hall, scheduled for completion in early 2005.

Khalid, who is a former Utusan Melayu (Malaysia) Berhad executive chairman, said the association would also instruct speakers at its events to abide by its strict non-partisan policy.

"Those who violate the rules will be blacklisted," he said at a ceremony to mark the start of construction of the hall.

"You can touch on politics, but there is no space for partisanship."

He said so far, six of the association's members (four from Umno and two from Pas) already had their memberships revoked when they stood as candidates in elections.

The first programme planned for the hall when it is completed will be on Malay identity and its place in Malaysian society.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is expected to lay the foundation stone for the hall after he retires, in a ceremony scheduled some time after Hari Raya.