

21/04/2003

Back all BN policies, Muhammad advises Pas

MASJID TANAH, Sun. - Pas should support the Barisan Nasional Government's policies and not limit its support to its foreign policies only, Umno vice-president Tan Sri Muhammad Muhammad Taib said today.

Muhammad said Pas acting president Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang's statement that he supported Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's strong stand on the International Monetary Fund and also pledging to protect Dr Mahathir should he be pressured by foreign powers to resign showed that what Umno had been doing was right and Islamic.

"It shows that Umno is as Islamic as Pas claims to be.

"However, I hope that Pas would not limit its support to our foreign policies but also our domestic policies," he said after opening the Alor Gajah Umno division meeting today.

Also present were division chief Datuk Wira Abu Seman Md Yusoff, who is also Alor Gajah MP and Mara chairman, division vice-head Datuk Long Said, division secretary Kapt (Rtd) Abdul Karim Sulaiman and division treasurer Datuk Nawi Ahmad.

Muhammad said that this is to ensure unity among the Malays, and not separated by differing political thinking and ideals.

He hoped Pas members would take note of what Abdul Hadi had said and recognise that Umno's objective is the same as theirs which is to uplift Islam.

Abdul Hadi said in an interview with the New Sunday Times and Berita Minggu today that he was full of admiration for Dr Mahathir for refusing aid from the International Monetary Fund during the 1997-98 regional financial crisis.

Asked whether this could be a ploy by Abdul Hadi to gain the people's support, Muhammad said he believed that the Terengganu Menteri Besar was sincere.

"This acknowledgement shows that they (Pas) support Dr Mahathir's leadership."