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Dr M: Pas will distort what I said at assembly

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LANGKAWI, Sun. - Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today described Pas as an expert in twisting facts, especially on Islam, to the extent that it has successfully brainwashed its members into accepting its version of the truth.

Dr Mahathir said he believed the members and supporters of the opposition party could not be persuaded to believe that their leaders had committed wrongdoings even when the truth was revealed to them.

The Prime Minister, who had dedicated a major portion of his winding-up address at the Umno annual general assembly yesterday, to outline Pas' wrongdoings over the years, said that Pas members were firm in their belief of their leaders' version of the truth.

"Pas has brainwashed its members that they will not change their minds," he said at the Langkawi International Airport here at the end of a one-day visit of the resort island.

"That is why when Nik Aziz (Pas spiritual leader Datuk Seri Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat) said that God uses profanities and that God is a gangster, they agreed that it is true that the Almighty is all these things.

"So there is nothing much we can do."

Dr Mahathir said he also believed that the opposition party would twist the content of his speech especially on the part which criticised the behaviour of its leaders.

"I am sure they (Pas) will twist my words. When I say that they are ones who insulted the Prophet (Prophet Muhammad), they will say that I am the one who insulted the Prophet."

He said this when asked to comment whether Pas members would ever realise that their leaders had been using the religion for political mileage.

Dr Mahathir and his wife Datuk Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali had earlier spent half the day visiting several development projects on the island after arriving from Kuala Lumpur last night.

The couple had spent the night at the Kampung Tok Senik Resort.

This morning, Dr Mahathir visited the RM40 million Harbour Park Langkawi project which is under construction at Pantai Kok.

Despite the downpour which started at 10am, Dr Mahathir went on to check on the project to construct two additional buildings worth RM24 million at the Galleria Perdana in Kilim.

He was later joined by Dr Siti Hasmah during a visit to the Wavemaster luxury yacht and vessel repair and modification facility in Tanjung Lembung before breaking for lunch on board the ship Obsession.

The couple later left for Kuala Lumpur.