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Promote tolerance and goodwill, not hate

Wan Mohamed Salih

THERE is a feeling of uneasiness and suspicion among certain people in this town regarding my letter "Spirit of Ramadan clouded by politics in Taiping" (NST, Dec 13).

Somebody, aided by fanatics like him, I presume, even went to the extent of writing me an anonymous letter criticising my views but unfortunately blowing them out of context.

Either he is motivated by reluctance to accept reality due to his preconceptions or by his inability to understand English. I will never know. But then, that's his problem.

The main point raised in my letter was that the politically motivated move taken by certain people to perform optional and supplementary prayers at the small 105-year-old district mosque when a new and spacious one is 200 metres away would hinder ummah solidarity.

The next issue was the lackadaisical attitude of relevant people towards curbing politics at mosques.

Apparently, his failure to comment on my letter in a critical, mature manner and possessing a mind clouded by tunnel vision drove him to label me as an infidel, having no knowledge of Islam and above all, an Islam-hater, all stamped and sealed.

Nevertheless, I still sleep well.

By the way, the 36 faces of children representing our country's multi-ethnic and multi-religious children, inserted by Petronas (NST, Jan 1) tell a thousand words. Their faces express joy, happiness, hope and innocence, to name a few. But they are vulnerable.

Educate them on love, understanding, tolerance, respect, goodwill, appreciation, gratitude and compassion and one of them may turn out to be another Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad. But preach them hate and profanities and he could just be like the guy who wrote me the nasty