

Hudud: Nik Aziz prays for Parliamentary majority
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By Susan Loone

Kelantan Menteri Besar Nik Aziz Nik Mat said he prays for divine intervention for a two-thirds majority in Parliament so that the hudud law can be implemented in the country.

The PAS spiritual advisor today said hudud was as necessary and compulsory as other important activities in Islam, like praying, fasting or performing the haj.

He said that following the recent meeting between Pakatan Rakyat leaders in Selangor, the DAP, that fiercely opposed the law, had accepted Kelantan's proposal to enact it within the state.

The Pakatan ally has also accepted the fact that the Syariah criminal law had been endorsed by all the Kelantan state legislature assemblypersons, including the two Umno reps, he added.

"The law is to be implemented in the Syariah Court, for Muslims. It is not in the civil court," he told reporters at a press conference at the sidelines of the party's 60th anniversary in Kepala Batas, Penang.

"In Kelantan, have we killed a non-Muslim? No. Have we pulled one hair from their bodies? No.

"It is strange that in Malaysia, we can accept the death penalty but not hudud law which does not punish people with capital punishment," he said.

When told that Umno has accused DAP of preventing PAS from implementing the hudud in the country, Nik Aziz said the question should be directed to DAP.

"If Umno wants to blame the DAP for it, that is it's business," he quipped.

'Kelantan Chinese accept hudud'

Nik Aziz also noted that in Kelantan, the Chinese community accepts hudud as it would benefit them.

For example, in cases of a robbery, the Chinese who are wealthier would be happy if the culprit could be dealt with under the hudud law, he said.

PAS deputy president Mohamad Sabu, who accompanied Nik Aziz and secretary general Mustafa Ali at the press conference, said that it has been understood that PAS goes about the implementation of law in a proper manner.

Mustafa later added that the party would only be able to enforce the law if it has a two-thirds endorsement in the state assembly.

"In Kedah, we will not be able to maintain it because we do not have a two-thirds majority," he added.

Nik Aziz, who looked frail but still in high spirits, created havoc recently when he said Kelantan would go ahead to enforce the thorny Islamic law.

He was quoted as saying he was prepared for the DAP to leave Pakatan if it does agree with PAS views on the matter.

Pakatan put a lid on the issue recently by agreeing to accept the opposing views of DAP and PAS, saying that the coalition would respect the federal constitution and that the issue is not being mentioned in the coalition's common policy framework.

On PAS working together with Umno, whether in the current situation or in future, Nik Aziz said the party had done so with the latter in the past, for example, in the Barisan Sunnah.

However, when Umno became stronger in the Muslim front, they started to neglect PAS to the extent of "kicking it out".

"And now they want to invite us to join them again? I know you (Umno), who you are!" said Nik Aziz, in English, drawing laughter from the audience.

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