

Putrajaya, K'tan to form panel for hudud talks
MalaysiaKini.com
May 2, 2014

The federal government and the Kelantan state government have agreed to form a technical committee on the implementation of hudud in Malaysia following a two-hour meeting between both sides today.

Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Jamil Khir Baharom, who represented the government during the meeting, said the committee will "digest" existing laws and provisions in the constitution for the implementation of the Islamic penal code.

PAS, which leads the Kelantan state government, is currently pushing for the implementation of hudud in the state, and was today represented by Deputy Menteri Besar Nik Amar Abdullah.

"We will also take into account the demands of the constitution and the non-Muslim community so that the beauty of the Islamic penal code can be seen, that it has a good start, and not be criticised," Jamil Khir said at the press conference today.

He said the technical team will take into account support by Umno MPs toward PAS' proposed Private Member's Bill on the implementation of hudud in Kelantan, to be table in Parliament.

"When we say we are prepared to support, it is a sign of our (Umno's) seriousness and a sign for subsequent steps to be taken such as in explaining (hudud) to members of Parliament and society," he said.

The Jerai MP also informed that the Malaysian Islamic Development Department (Jakim) will be appointed as secretariat while the Kelantan government and central PAS leadership are to suggest members to join the committee, which is yet to be given a name.

"If possible, we want our own technical (experts). If politicians, then the thinking will run along political lines," he said.

He, however, refused to comment on MCA's threat to form a human chain to prevent PAS from tabling the Bill in Parliament.

Meanwhile, viewing today's development as "positive", Nik Amar said his presence today was to make an official stand as to the state's government's wish for hudud to be implemented.

Source: <http://www.malaysiakini.com/news/261694>