

**Stop insulting hudud, Umno MP warns Gerakan**  
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Umno supreme council member Reezal Merican Naina Merican has warned its BN partner Gerakan to stop insulting hudud until it can fully appreciate the Islamic penal code

Arguing that the discussion was now in a new phase, under a federal-backed joint task force to look into the implementation of hudud in Kelantan, Reezal urged Gerakan to refrain from insensitive comments and to give leeway to the experts.

Otherwise, there would be a difficult road ahead for BN parties to work together, Reezal, who is also the MP for Kepala Batas, warned in a press statement.

"Don't overstep or take lightly the boundaries on giving comments on hudud, which at the same time can be insulting to Islam.

"As leaders, we have to be sensitive with many issues. If this basis of cooperation cannot be understood by a component party, then we have a difficult road ahead," Reezal said.

'Harsh statement not backed by facts'

In particular, Reezal is irked by the recent comment of Gerakan women's wing leader Tan Lian Hoe (below, left) that hudud defends rapists.

"As an example, this is a harsh statement and not backed by facts. Hudud must be seen in a holistic manner and not through its punishment alone," Reezal said.

Gerakan recently set up a Facebook page called 'Save Malaysia, No Hudud', which it hopes will serve as a channel for delivering information and views on hudud.

Reezal went on to warn the people as well not to make any half-baked and negative comments on hudud, as this would draw angry rebuttals from all Muslims.

Stressing that hudud "is not a minority issue", Reezal said discussions on hudud should be positively slanted, with no veering towards any political gain whatsoever.