

'Umno and Perkasa work on different platforms'
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Although Umno and Perkasa both champion Malay rights, they are on different platforms.

Umno does it as a political party while Perkasa is a non-governmental organisation, says Umno deputy permanent chairman Mohamed Aziz.

However, he said, Umno's struggle was wider as it not only concerned the Malays but also the other races in the country.

"There is actually no conflict in objectives. Perkasa has its own struggle while Umno's is clear that it does not sideline the interests of the other races.

"This is the unique thing about Umno. And this is what makes Malaysian society a plural but united society," said Mohamed, who is also Sri Gading member of Parliament, at the constituency's Aidilfitri function, in Kuala Lumpur today.

"It's just like the other non Malay-based organisations which fight for their respective community's rights. We didn't comment on it. It's their right.

"Likewise, the MCA, MIC, Gerakan, PPP and other BN component parties look after the racial communities they represent, but they also realise that the interests of the other races also need (the government's) attention."

Mohamed said Perkasa would be treated the same as other NGOs, and there was no need for Umno to distance itself from Perkasa.

"It should be like Umno's relations with the Girl Guide movement, Scout movement, St John's Ambulance and Malaysian Red Crescent Society. Each has its own responsibilities and goals, and looks for what is good for society."

Mohamed said if there were Umno leaders who felt that the party should distance itself from Perkasa, it was their personal views and did not reflect the party's stand.

- Bernama

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