

How BN can rebuild a new Malaysia
Malaysiakini.com
April 6, 2007
ES Chua

How can the BN rebuild a new Malaysia? Here are some suggestions, based on the Barisan Nasional manifesto from the time of deputy prime minister Najib Razak's late father from an educated and enlightened native Malaysian who habitually votes for the Barisan Nasional every four or five years and who supports the prime minister and his deputy.

1. A ban on religious politics - Religious politics is always dangerous, said the late Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra, Tun Abdul Razak Hussein, Tun Ismail Abdul Rahman and Tun Hussein Onn, our beloved but forgotten founding fathers. Religious politics is dangerous because politicians who advocate such, divide the fragile Malaysian society and distort the true teachings of religion by playing one religion off against another.

2. A redefinition of 'Malay'- The British colonials imposed a very restrictive definition of 'Malay'. Frank Swettenham defined 'Malay' as a Muslim, Temuan-speaking native of West Malaysia. No country in the world has ever defined a person based on his or her religion.

'Malay' should mean West Native Malaysian plain and simple - and should be made 100 per cent similar to Orang Asli (Upriver West Native Malaysian who enjoys freedom of religion).

3. A ban on all forms of discrimination - No more race, gender or sexual discrimination.

If the government has to give special help to any one people, it should be based not on race but on need. Having said that, the native Malaysians of West and East should be given historical recognition as the founders of Malaysia and the original owners of the land.

And their leaders should be given the automatic right to hold the position of prime minister and head of state.

4. Religious freedom and guidelines for religious teachings - There should be complete religious freedom in Malaysia. However, Islam should be given the status of official religion in Malaysia, and Islam should be the only religion entitled to 100 percent government funding.

The government, accountable to the electorate, should be given the power to determine the do's and don't's of all religions. All priests should be 100 percent accountable to the government and the electorate. Islam should be Islam Hadhari which means a proper Islam.

The teaching of Islam should be 100 percent based on universal human values. The teaching of Islam should be 100 percent based on the Quran and Sunnah. The teaching of Islam should be 100 percent based on the Middle Path.

There should be a standard set of Muslim laws for all states, and a central Muslim court. Non-Muslim judges and women judges should also sit in Muslim courts, particularly at the federal level.

5. Royalty should be accountable to the people - Parliament and state legislative

assemblies should be given the full power to advise royalty.

6. Laws which restrict civil liberties must be reviewed every two years - The police and Anti-Corruption Agency must be made accountable to Parliament and not the prime minister.

7. Local councils must have state assemblypersons as their members but this should comprise both ruling and opposition state assemblypersons.

8. Political parties and non-governmental organisations based on race must be declared null and void. Such parties and organisations can divide this fragile multi-ethnic nation.

9. Protection of the environment should be a fundamental part of the constitution. Likewise, with the preservation of native wisdom, as well as the wisdom of the Chinese and Indian communities.

10. All efforts should be taken to rebuild the native Malaysian's cultural values from a scratch. If there is a need to tap the brains of Chinese aborigines, American aborigines and Asean aborigines, so be it.

Copyright © 1999-2007 Mkini Dotcom Sdn. Bhd.
Source : <http://www.malaysiakini.com/news/65583>