

**Dr M labels Nik Aziz a 'superhuman'**  
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Former prime minister Dr Mahathir Mohamad today described PAS spiritual leader Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat as a superhuman for being able to determine whether an individual would go to heaven or hell after death.

"He is a superhuman. An ordinary human being can only go to heaven or hell after death but cannot return to relate to us. We do not know whether Nik Aziz himself will go to heaven or hell. That is something we cannot say.

"I am amazed at Nik Aziz's ability to determine who goes to heaven and hell. Everybody who knows him, better go and ask him (whether they are going to heaven or hell)," he told reporters when asked to comment on a statement by the Kelantan menteri besar yesterday.

Nik Aziz had said that Muslims who separated "iman" (faith) from Islam would not go to heaven, adding that the two were inseparable, just like the body and soul, and that they must be together or one.

Mahathir said no human being in this world could determine whether an individual would go to heaven or hell after death.

"A most pious person, if he harbours any ill intention, might also go to hell," he told reporters after the International Medical University (IMU) convocation where he was awarded an honorary Doctor of Medicine.

The former prime minister said that as an ordinary human being what one could do was to be a good human being.

Asked about a suggestion that the National Fatwa Council issue a "fatwa" (decree) on the matter, he said that would be unnecessary.

**Forms with individual's race redundant**

On another matter, Mahathir said he agreed with a government proposal to drop the requirement to state a person's race on official forms.

He said this should have been implemented long ago because in the context of Malaysia, the question of race could be determined based on a person's name.

On checking the spread of Influenza A(H1N1), Mahathir said he felt that the government could do much more, including stepping up publicity and awareness.

He said the people should adopt precautionary measures such as wearing masks and isolate themselves if necessary.

- *Bernama*