

**PAS Talk On Hudud To Win Votes,Says Abdullah
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PUTRAJAYA -- Former Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said on Tuesday that PAS is talking about implementing Hudud law to get the support of Muslims for the coming general election.

He said that PAS had forgotten not just Hudud but also its stated intention of setting up an Islamic state "after it became friends with the DAP."

"I won't be surprised if the whole thing is forgotten after the election. People know it's just talk, not serious," Abdullah told reporters after launching the coffee table "Monsoon Cup 2010: The Memories" here.

Abdullah said the gag order that PKR, PAS and the DAP had imposed on their members on the Hudud issue was an attempt by the opposition to hide their weakness.

He also said that Umno and Barisan Nasional had been consistent in its stand on Hudud law.

In KUALA LUMPUR, MCA president Dr Chua Soi Lek called on the leaders of the opposition to spell out clearly their stand on the hudud issue as the people had the right to know.

"Whenever an issue crops up they (opposition leaders) are slow to state their stand... in the case of the hudud issue, they think they can sidestep it by issuing a gag order," he told reporters at Wisma MCA here.

He added that the opposition touted transparency and freedom of information but was not "walking the talk".

He also thanked Prime Minister Najib Tun Razak for making very clear that the Barisan Nasional government would not implement hudud laws in the country.

In another development, Dr Chua said MCA and Barisan Nasional (BN) had done much to address the people's needs, including in education and health, but efforts must be made to ensure that more people were aware of this.

Citing an example, he said many were unaware that 20 per cent of 100,000 students pursuing tertiary education nationwide annually were enrolled in MCA- owned Kolej Tunku Abdul Rahman (KTAR) and Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR).

In an interview with several media organisations yesterday, Dr Chua said Malaysians also enjoyed subsidised fuel and healthcare, but this had not been adequately highlighted.

Nevertheless, he said the BN government would need to address the rising cost of living.

He also hoped that the upcoming 2012 national budget would consider providing aid to parents to cope with their children's schooling needs.

(Bernama)