

Whatever Internal Feud, Hudud Law Remains In The Cards
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by Dr Wee Ka Siong

The gloves off between Selangor exco Dr Hasan Ali with the backing of tok guru Nik Aziz and his son, PAS Youth Deputy Chairman Nik Abduh aided by former PAS Secretary General Nashruddin Mat Isa versus PAS Deputy President Mat Sabu and Selangor PAS Deputy Commissioner Khalid Samad. But the swordplay has one thing in common, i.e. to implement PAS hudud law should the Opposition ever seize federal office.

Each personality has accentuated their struggle and of not deviating - which proves to be each one attempting to appear being more righteous than the other. But this holier-than-thou personality attacks point to the fact that their latest manifesto released of "A Welfare State: A Nation of Care and Opportunity" is pure charade. The essence remains the same i.e. to establish a theocratic state based on PAS hudud law.

PAS realises that their insistence on implementing hudud law in recent weeks have driven away voters especially those by women and non-Muslims, and hence the need to appear softened with a "Negara Kebajikan" manifesto.

However, PAS also needs to consolidate support of the ultra conservatives within their party. Mat Sabu reiterating that "any decision within the party is ultimately decided by the Syura Council, which is led by the Ulama" (Malaysian Insider, 21 Dec '11) belies Malaysia's future under PAS no different from the authoritarian ways usually seen in Islamic state nations like Iran or Taliban Afghanistan where the council of elders or religious clerics make the final decision on national policies including determining who may contest as election candidates.

DAP will not be able to defend Malaysians

Given Selangor DAP chairman Teresa Kok's admission that the Rocket wields no influence in Pakatan Rakyat, this perhaps explains why DAP is unable to accept MCA's challenge on two questions, i.e. how can DAP ensure that the implementation of hudud law will not affect non-Muslims and how will hudud not have any negative impact on the economy, education, social, and politics of our country.

Deep down, DAP knows that despite assisting PAS to come to power, DAP is helpless in bringing the fears of the masses to PAS' deaf ears when rights are eroded.

Lesson to be learnt

While the verbal sparring between DAP chairman Karpal Singh and his party Deputy Secretary General continues to persist although officially, the Rocket's 3-men panel had declared it officially over, the latest verbal warfare between Hasan Ali and Nasharudin against Khalid Samad and Mat Sabu makes it more obvious with each passing day that Pakatan Rakyat parties are wrecked with too many rifts from within.

Being personality driven, they neglect serving the needs of the rakyat who put them there in the first place. The pertinent lesson learnt from the squabbles decaying Opposition parties is that party unity is important. Besides retaining public confidence and boosting members' morale, party unity will more importantly maintain prioritizing the rakyat's needs as the foremost goal for any political party rather than diversion from serving the rakyat whenever power jostling for position strikes.

DR WEE KA SIONG

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