

DAP's Consistent Opposition To Hudud Is Clear
MalaysianMirror.com
2 August 2012
By Lim Guan Eng

DAP's consistent opposition to hudud is clear but Malaysians will determine which is more extreme – UMNO that wants to impose hudud on all including non-Muslims or PAS that wants to implement hudud only on Muslims.

DAP's co-operation with PAS under PR is principled in not just agreeing to disagree on hudud but also that any future PR Federal government is not about implementing an Islamic state or hudud.

This is clearly spelt out in the common policy signed by all 3 parties in PR which makes no mention of an Islamic state nor of implementing hudud. For that reason MCA and Gerakan's attempts to put words of Islamic state and hudud into PR's common policy when it is simply not there, is not only dishonest but also irresponsible.

How irresponsible both MCA and Gerakan are in playing this double-faced sandiwara can be seen that their press statements attacking DAP for supporting PAS hudud are rarely published in the Malay press controlled by UMNO. For instance Chinese papers give extensive full page coverage these last few days to MCA and Gerakan's attacks on DAP on the question of hudud but not a single word is printed in the Malay papers.

Let me state that DAP supports Islam as the religion of Malaysia and that all races and non-Muslims enjoys the fundamental constitutional rights of freedom of religion. Unfortunately this constitutional right of freedom of religion by non-Muslims is not respected by UMNO, which has taken an extremist approach by banning the use of the word "Allah" amongst non-Muslim and the Christian bible. In contrast PAS has taken the more enlightened approach that there should be no such ban as the word "Allah" has been permitted to be used by non-Muslims for thousands of years, even in the Middle-East by non-Muslims, without any prohibition.

By trying to link DAP's support to hudud when there is none, both MCA and Gerakan can be likened to "a culprit hurling the accusation first" by trying to cover-up UMNO leaders' support for hudud for all that is to be imposed even on non-Muslims. Johor Umno's Kemelah state assemblyman Ayub Rahmat called for Johor to become the first state to implement "true hudud law", which would differ from PAS's version because UMNO's "true hudud law" would be non-discriminatory as it would be imposed on non-Muslims. Penang State Opposition Leader Azhar Ibrahim and Kepala Batas Wanita UMNO Division also passed a resolution supporting hudud for all.

In other words, UMNO is more extreme in wanting to implement hudud for all as compared to PAS who wants to see hudud implemented only on Muslims.

I do not see top Gerakan leaders attacking UMNO leaders nor MCA President Dr Chua Soi Lek using the same remarks of "political eunuchs" on UMNO. Why has MCA nor Gerakan not left BN because of UMNO leaders open support for hudud for all?

DAP and PAS can and should co-operate for the future of Malaysians on common principles that unites us. Despite these differences, both DAP and PAS have a common stand in

fighting corruption and abuse of power as well as establishing integrity in leadership focusing on competency, accountability and transparency.

We agree on a welfare state to protect the poor, destitute, sick and those who need help. Most important of all both parties must bring hope to Malaysians that there can be unity in diversity in that our commonalities are stronger than our differences to give equal opportunity that enables Malaysians to live with dignity.

Copyright © 2012 www.malaysianmirror.com
<http://www.malaysianmirror.com/media-buzz-detail/6-nation/58428>