



Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang says Pas will continue to uphold the Federal Constitution

Accept Islamic state, says Pas

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KUALALUMPUR: Pas has urged non-Malays to accept Malaysia as an Islamic state.

Pas president Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang said since non-Malays accepted capitalism, socialism and other Western ideologies, there was no reason why they could not accept the concept of an Islamic state.

"In a democracy, we are allowed to forward our agenda. It is not wrong," he said.

Speaking to reporters after a four-hour closed-door meeting to discuss strategies for the next general election, he said the party would continue to uphold the Federal Constitution despite pushing for an Islamic state.

"We cannot force anyone to convert to Islam. And those who understand Islam know that the religion can be used for politics.

"Ask any non-Malay living in Kelantan and Terengganu if he has ever been victimised by Muslims while under the Pas rule?" he asked.

He said the problem was not with the party but with the media which was giving the wrong message to non-Malays.

"Due to this, people are unable to think for themselves. We want to have *ceramah* to widen people's perspective. But the police do not allow us."

On the general election, he said, the party was ready for it and was confident of winning back the seats it lost in the last election.

He said among the new strategies of the party was fielding women candidates.