

DATE: 07/04/2008

Nik Aziz wants DAP to experience Kelantan

NST- 7/4/2008

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KOTA BARU: Menteri Besar Datuk Nik Aziz Nik Mat has asked DAP leaders why they cannot accept Pas' struggle to set up an Islamic state in Malaysia and has invited them to Kelantan to see how things are here.

Nik Aziz, who is also the Pas spiritual adviser, said he could not understand why they were so afraid of the establishment of an Islamic state when most non-Muslims in Kelantan were comfortable living under its administration.

"I really want to know what is it that they do not agree (with). If they were speaking about it 10 or 15 years ago (when we were not in power), it might have been true but we have administered the state without problems despite doing it the Islamic way.

"We do not force non-Muslims to convert to Islam and this has led to many of them supporting us. We also appointed Chinese, Thais and Orang Asli as headmen and supervisors to represent their races," he said after receiving a courtesy call from Japanese ambassador to Malaysia Masahiko Horie yesterday.

Nik Aziz was commenting on a statement by DAP chairman Karpal Singh that Pas should not dream of spearheading Pakatan Rakyat to realise its struggle of making Malaysia an Islamic state.

"How can Pas form an Islamic state alone as they cannot get the majority to form the government? They can dream on," said Karpal.

Nik Aziz said Pas had made many changes when it came to power in Kelantan, introducing, among other things, Ar-Rahn Islamic pawnbroking, a five-day working system for civil servants and banning usury or interest on loans to civil servants.

"What made certain parties turn off against Islam? I think they are still influenced by Islam in the British colonial times, where certain people used the religion for their own benefit.

"I invite them (DAP leaders) to come here and maybe this will help them change their views. There is no need to see me, just come and talk to the Chinese and Indians to get their feedback on the state."

On his meeting with Horie, Nik Aziz said the ambassador praised Kelantan women for being hardworking.



Menteri Besar Datuk Nik Aziz Nik Mat says he can't understand why DAP is so afraid of the establishment of an Islamic state.