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Karpal criticises Pas' unrealistic hudud stance

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KUALA LUMPUR: DAP national chairman Karpal Singh yesterday slammed Pas for failing to be "realistic" in its pursuit to implement hudud in the country.

Calling it "a matter of regret", Karpal criticised Pas secretary-general Datuk Mustafa Ali, who was reported as saying that Pas would not drop the idea of implementing hudud even if it may not be part of the opposition's *Buku Jingga* (Orange Book).

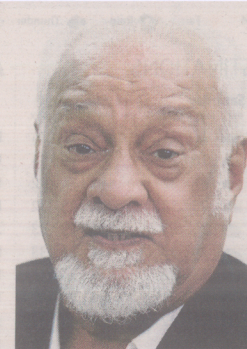
"Hudud is an issue which requires an immediate solution by the component parties of Pakatan Rakyat. Agreeing to disagree, whatever that means, is no solution," said Karpal in a statement yesterday.

He also explained that hudud could not be implemented in a secular state like Malaysia, which was decided as far back as 1988 when a five-man bench, headed by the then lord president Tun Mohamed Salleh Abas, ruled that the country

was governed by secular law which meant Malaysia was a secular state.

Karpal also pointed out that Pas president Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang himself went on record last year in saying that the Quran did not provide for an Islamic state but for a welfare state.

"This pronouncement by Hadi should have put to rest Pas' long-term objective to turn Malaysia into an Islamic state."



Karpal Singh says the hudud issue requires an immediate solution by Pakatan Rakyat parties