

# Govt will uphold Islam, justice and rights for all: PM

**PUTRAJAYA:** The unity government will always uphold the principles of Islam and ensure the rights and justice for all Malaysians are safeguarded, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

Speaking at the launch of the book *Adah Perbezaan Pendapat Dalam Islam* yesterday, Anwar said he would use the mandate and trust given by the people for the purpose.

"As a Muslim, I have a responsibility and the mandate to uphold the principles of Islam and justice for all, including non-Muslims.

## > Anwar calls on Malaysians to allow administration to implement Madani principles

"The concept of Malaysia Madani does not fall far from these principles."

He also called on all Malaysians to allow the unity government to implement the principles embodied in Malaysia Madani.

The concept, introduced on Jan 19, is based on six principles - sustainability, prosperity, respect, innovation,

trust and compassion, Bernama reported.

In terms of governance, Anwar said he is determined to prevent all leaders, including himself, from abusing their powers to steal from the people, adding that he is nobody's puppet.

"Alhamdulillah, I am almost 76 years old and I cannot be bought with money. If that were possible, I would have deviated long ago,"

said Anwar, who is also finance minister.

On another matter, he said the government has no problem with parties with different views and opinions, but they must not violate ethical foundations.

"It's okay to have different opinions, the ethics of disagreement in Islam also states that even if you decide to disagree, there are underlying ethical principles. You cannot violate ethical foundations."

Anwar also said seat distribution between Pakatan Harapan (PH) and Barisan Nasional (BN) for the impending elections in six states has been settled.

He said he held a meeting with BN chairman Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi recently to settle the matter.

"No issue (of seat overlapping) so far," he said after launching the book.

The six states holding elections are Selangor, Penang, Negeri Sembilan, Kedah, Kelantan and Terengganu.

Selangor, Penang and Negeri Sembilan are under PH while Kedah, Kelantan and Terengganu are under Perikatan Nasional.

On the focus of the unity government for the polls, Anwar said he anticipates the success of PH in retaining power in the three states.

"I see that we are strong in the three states and we can retain them, and InshaAllah, there is a big chance for us to take over two other states."

On Monday, Election Commission (EC) secretary Datuk Ikmalrudin Ishak said the EC will hold a special meeting today to discuss dates for the state elections.

He said the meeting follows the receipt of notices of the official dissolution of all six state assemblies from their respective speakers.



Anwar and his wife Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail with Islamic Development Department Director-General Datuk Hakimah Mohd Yusoff during the book launch yesterday. - **BERNAMAPIC**