

Backing hudud has backfired on Umno, says Mat Sabu
The Malaysian Insider
September 25, 2011
By G Manimaran

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 25 — PAS deputy president Mohamad Sabu claims Umno has “fallen on its own sword” by backing hudud laws as it fractures the ruling party’s ties with Barisan Nasional (BN) partners Gerakan and MCA.

He said today since the re-emergence of the hudud issue last week, various contradictory statements by Umno leaders have triggered Gerakan and MCA’s doubt over the ruling party’s actual stand on the issue.

“Maybe top Umno leaders think the hudud issue can strenghten BN again.

“But then, you fall on your own sword when MCA and Gerakan threatens to leave BN because of this hudud issue,” he was quoted as saying by Harakahdaily today.

Mohamad (picture), popularly known as Mat Sabu, also said the issue had shown Umno’s ignorance of history.

“Over the past decades, especially after PAS took over Kelantan back in 1990, Umno used the hudud issue to intimidate non-Muslims towards PAS,” he said

“Suddenly today, Umno is rejected by a majority of non-Muslim voters. What’s worse, BN component parties are arguing among themselves,” he added.

On Friday, Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin slammed MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Chua Soi Lek for misunderstanding Umno’s stand on hudud, saying it was not an issue within the ruling coalition as Umno’s and PAS’s respective positions on the law were as different as “earth and sky”.

The MCA leader earlier threatened to pull his party out of the ruling coalition if Umno enacted hudud laws, stressing that the MCA strongly objected to such laws.

“I believe perhaps Datuk Chua Soi Lek doesn’t understand (Umno’s) true stand (on hudud),” Muhyiddin had said, adding that Umno has always been clear that it supports hudud in principle but cannot enact the Islamic laws as Malaysia was not ready for them yet.

He also urged Dr Chua to instead train his gaze on the PAS’s bid to introduce hudud law in Kelantan and said the Chinese community should not fall victim to suspicions that Umno wished to implement hudud law arising from Dr Chua’s ultimatum.

Mat Sabu said the hostility between Umno and BN is increasing as a result of his recent prosecution for allegedly glorifying Communist guerrilla Ahmad Indera as a true hero in the attack on Bukit Kepong police station in 1950.

“It was not just a press statement from MCA vice-president (Gan Ping Sieu) lamenting that (Prime minister Datuk Seri) Najib (Razak) was unwise to prosecute me... even some Umno

leaders have met and contacted me personally stating their disapproval," he said.

Mat Sabu added that although a statement by former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad had tried to paint a negative picture of him, "the statement only shows the unwise nature of the Najib's administration for prosecuting me".

The Malaysian Insider

Hakcipta © 2011 The Malaysian Insider

Source:

<http://www.themalaysianinsider.com/malaysia/article/backing-hudud-has-backfired-on-umno-says-mat-sabu/>