

Don't make Aidiladha sacrifices an issue, says DPM
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KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 8 — Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin today urged the public not to make Aidiladha animal sacrifices an issue.

"I feel there is no reason why this issue should be raised. This will only lead to misunderstandings over the sensitivity of Islam," Muhyiddin told reporters today following a dialogue with the Teach for Malaysia Fellowship here.

"In Malaysia, it has been a part of our culture for generations. We do it in aid of the poor," he added.

The deputy prime minister was responding to reports of purported unease among non-Muslims over the animal sacrifices that took place during the Aidiladha celebration last weekend.

On Sunday, the Malaysian Consultative Council for Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Sikhism and Taoism (MCCBCHST) had urged authorities to stop the practice of animal sacrifice in schools and public places.

In their statement, the national faith council raised concerns over the sacrifice of cows, which are considered by Hindus to be holy animals.

"Don't turn it into a problem. What's more, the body in question are comprised of non-Muslims. Maybe they do not understand the issue at hand or are purposely doing this to create another," he said.

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