

**Putrajaya first, hudud later**  
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**by Azril Annuar**

*Pakatan dodges committing on issue until after general election*

**PETALING JAYA:** Pakatan Rakyat (PR) again dodged the hudud law issue, claiming that the matter was not a priority and would only be decided on after the coalition "takes over Putrajaya".

At a joint press conference at PKR headquarters yesterday, leaders from the DAP, PKR and PAS stood firm that the coalition will stay united despite debates on hudud.

PKR de facto leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, PAS president Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang and DAP national adviser Lim Kit Siang pointed out that hudud was not PR's main objective.

"We're all united in this. Our priorities are our economic policies, the promises in Buku Jingga, clean and fair elections and a democratic process. What's more important is taking over the Federal Government," said Anwar.

Lim reaffirmed that PR's basis of formation was based on the common framework of Buku Jingga and the common agreement in September 2011.

"If we form the federal government in Putrajaya and reach any agreement (on hudud) or make any changes, it must be by way of consensus. All three parties must agree. The question of hudud is not in our common policy framework," he said.

"We (DAP) do respect PAS on hudud but our stance is also very clear, it's not in the Constitution," he added.

Agreeing with Lim, Abdul Hadi said that PAS respects "the differences of religion" and any discussion would be made behind closed doors.

Abdul Hadi also maintained that the Press should refer to his earlier statement regarding the issue, despite PAS Ulama Council chief Datuk Harun Taib saying, last Saturday, that the party would implement hudud if it was the biggest party in the ruling coalition and would form alliances to achieve this.

On preparations for the 13th general elections, the Opposition alliance is in the final stages of preparing its election manifesto and finalising seat allocations for the respective parties.

Anwar said they had nearly completed the allocations for Peninsula Malaysia and were finalising those for Sabah and Sarawak.

"I would say we are 90 per cent done with seat allocations. In Sabah, there are several interesting developments going on and PR needs to refer back to the opinions of our friends there," he said.

Anwar confirmed that there would be a single election manifesto for all three parties.

He kept mum on the details, only saying: "Among the issues discussed in our meeting today is our election manifesto which is nearly completed.

"For PR there is only one manifesto, although we have added state issues into it."

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