

Shafie's Cautions People Not To Be Obsessed With Parties Using Religion For Their Own Ends

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SIK, Sept 14 (Bernama) -- Umno vice-president Datuk Seri Mohd Shafie Apdal today cautioned the people that they would have to bear the consequences if they were overly obsessed with political parties that manipulate religion for their own interests .

He said this could be seen happening in Syria where Muslims of different sects were "going after each other's throats" although this was prohibited by Islam.

Mohd Shafie, who is also Rural and Regional Development Minister, said over here, PAS spiritual advisor Datuk Nik Aziz Nik Mat was disappointed with the party's Syura Council (Council of Elders) for not taking action against former PAS deputy president Nasharudin Mat Isa for standing up for the implementation of hudud laws in the country despite vociferous opposition from DAP chairman Karpal Singh.

Nik Aziz was reported to to have excused himself from the council's meeting in Kuala Lumpur on Sunday because he was dissatisfied that no action was taken against Nasharudin for breaking ranks on the hudud issue with the top leadership of the opposition Pakatan coalition which is made up of PAS, DAP and PKR.

"The people can see for themselves that Umno as the backbone of the Barisan Nasional (BN) is the true champion of Islam unlike PAS which comes out with seasonal fatwas (edicts) just to pursue their narrow political interests," he said when opening Sik Umno's delegates meeting at Kolej Keda here Friday.

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