

Penang PAS Protests Against Karpal's Meddling In Syura Council's Decision
Bernama
22 January, 2013

GEORGE TOWN, Jan 22 (Bernama) -- A group of PAS members and supporters gathered in front of the office of DAP national chairman Karpal Singh, here, today to protest against his statement which urged PAS president Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang to review the party's Ulama Syura Council's decision on the use of the word "Allah" in the Bahasa Melayu version of the Bible.

The group, led by Tanjong PAS permanent chairman Zaidi Abu Bakar, gathered for more an hour in Jalan Green Hall.

They carried placards and banners with protest statements like "If You Want To Fight Our Ulama, Step Over Our Dead Bodies First", "Malays Must Not Vote For Karpal", "PAS Must Quit PR", "We Defend the Ulama Syura Council" and "Karpal+Azmin Don't Respect PAS' Policies".

They also repeatedly stamped on the DAP flag in front of Karpal's office.

Zaidi in his speech said Karpal had no right to interfere in Islamic matters and should respect the decision of the Syura Council as the issue was studied by the PAS ulama in line with syariah, hence the decision could not be disputed.

"Initially, there were PAS leaders who made erroneous statements over the issue but following the decision of the Syura Council, all have agreed to the decision, so Karpal must not interfere and worsen the situation."

Zaidi also claimed that most PAS members in Penang were disappointed with the state PAS leaders who remained silent over Karpal's statement.

Meanwhile, former Penang PAS Youth chief, Mohamed Hafiz Mohamed Nordin has accused state PAS commissioner Datuk Salleh Man and state Islamic Religious Committee chairman Datuk Abdul Malik Abul Kassim of being in cahoots with Chief Minister Lim Guan Eng.

"They are too cautious in voicing out their opinions in order to take care of the feelings of the Pakatan Rakyat leaders, instead of safeguarding the kalimah Allah. The time has come for PAS to quit Pakatan and don't be a coward," he said.

Mohamed Hafiz said these two leaders could not at all be relied upon to protect the interest of Muslims in the state.

Karpal told a press conference recently that he would persuade Hadi to review the Ulama Syura Council's stand on the kalimah Allah, that the word (Allah) could not be used by non-Muslims for a religious purpose including in the Malay language version of the Bible.

He said the council's stand was against the decision made by the opposition leaders including Hadi and PAS spiritual adviser Datuk Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat on Jan 8, whereby they agreed with and supported Lim's calling on the federal government to allow the kalimah Allah to be used in the Bahasa Melayu version of the Bible.

-- BERNAMA

Copyright © 2013 BERNAMA

Source: <http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v6/newsindex.php?id=923470>