

Patriotism Needed Against Threats To Socio-economy, Religious Faith - Muhyiddin Bernama
28 April, 2013

KUALA LUMPUR, April 28 (Bernama) -- The patriotic spirit is not limited to defending the nation's sovereignty but also necessary against various threats including to the economy, unity and the Islamic faith, says Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin.

"I want to see (the scope of) patriotism be expanded and not just be about defending the nation's sovereignty.

"We need to protect ourselves against threats that might occur if the existing institutions of the Barisan Nasional (BN) government are destroyed by the opposition pact," he said before 6,000 members of the Ex-Servicemen's Association of Malaysia (PBTM) at the "Perhimpunan Raksasa: Gema Patriotik" (Mammoth Gathering: Echoes of Patriotism), here, Sunday.

Also present were Defence Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, PBTM president Admiral (Rtd) Tan Sri Mohd Anwar Mohd Nor and the director of the Malaysian Armed Forces Veterans Affairs Department, Datuk Zulkifli Mazlan.

Muhyiddin said a responsible government leader would only offer what the government was capable of giving and would not destroy the country just to win votes to become prime minister.

"The opposition manifesto of wanting to abolish toll and to reduce oil price without thinking of the government's capacity to do so, will only increase the national debt and make the country bankrupt. I am not lying, because from where are we going to get the money to offset this."

He said the BN manifesto that outlined 17 matters, on the other hand, would definitely be fulfilled as the BN government was a responsible and trustworthy government.

Muhyiddin said patriotism was also a must to protect the country against the threats to Islam and the faith of Muslims, as well as against wild culture, which had become an increasingly serious problem.

He also touched on PAS candidate Datuk Husam Musa having invited a non-Muslim to advise Malays on their religious faith.

"If they (PAS) want to correct the religious faith of Muslims, this is not the person (who should be talking on the subject). Go call the 'tok guru' (senior religious preachers) or ustaz (religious teachers) to learn the religion from them.

"However, we as the defenders of the religion, must protect our faith. Don't let others undermine our Islamic faith, reject them in this upcoming general election," he said.

Muhyiddin said PAS' struggle to uphold Islam had gone astray and it was always in conflict over the implementation of hudud with its partners in the opposition pact.

He therefore reminded all Malaysians not to make the wrong choice on polling day, May 5, as choosing the wrong government could destroy their future.

He said they should give their full support to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak as

he was a responsible and trusted leader, and capable of steering Malaysia towards achieving developed-nation status by 2020.

"He is a symbol of the struggles of the Malays and Malaysians. The 1Malaysian concept that he mooted has now flowed and seeped into the people's soul.

"The opposition is rattled, scared and worried as they can see that the people have risen."

Muhyiddin said all the success achieved by Malaysia until today was the result of the hard work of BN leaders since the early days who acted on the basis of fairness and equality for the people, irrespective of race.

"The opposition wants change. Now is the time, they say. But what is there to change if the country is already peaceful and developing further? You want to change this means, you want to create disunity and chaos," he said.

Muhyuddin said protecting national security was also of paramount importance and Malaysia would not allow other parties, whether from inside or outside the country, to intrude into even one inch of its soil.

He said it was only after the intrusion incident in Lahad Datu, Sabah by foreign militants, that most Malaysians realised how important unity and national security were.

"That is why we should support all efforts taken by the national leaders to strengthen our national defence. If we have to spend a bit more to procure defence assets, I'll be the first to support this so that our armed forces are equipped with modern equipment.

"With this, those who intend to intrude our country would think 10 times first because we will fight and chase them out," he said, followed by thunderous applause from the crowd.

-- BERNAMA

Copyright © 2013 BERNAMA

Source: <http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v7/newsindex.php?id=945787>