

Gerakan Hails Umno Youth's Proposed Explanation of 'Hudud'

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ALOR SETAR, May 5 (Bernama) -- Gerakan Youth today welcomed the offer by Umno Youth to explain the 'hudud' (Islamic penal law) to the youth wings of Barisan Nasional (BN) component parties.

Its chief, Tan Keng Liang, said Gerakan Youth would also use the session as a platform to explain to Umno Youth its stand against the implementation of hudud in the country.

"We are prepared to hear what Umno Youth has to say. At the same time, we also hope that they will listen to our views. We will respect any decision that is made afterwards.

"We wish to state that Gerakan rejects only the hudud proposed by PAS and does not reject Islam. We understand that hudud is part of Islamic teachings. We only want to express our views," he told a press conference at the Kedah Gerakan office here.

Tan said Gerakan Youth would resort to legal action if PAS wanted to go ahead with its intention to table a Private Members' Bill in parliament to implement hudud in Kelantan.

He said Gerakan was in the process of setting up a team of legal experts to defend the existing legal system.

On another matter, he said Gerakan president Datuk Mah Siew Keong was the most suitable candidate to represent the BN in the coming Teluk Intan parliamentary by-election due to his good track record in serving the community there.

Mah had lost the contest for the constituency in the 13th general election held last year.

The seat was won by Seah Leong Peng of the DAP in a three-cornered contest in which Moralingam Kannan participated as an independent candidate.

Seah died of cancer on May 1, causing the by-election to be held.

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