

DAP challenges MCA to speak out against Umno's support for hudud
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The DAP "praised" former MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Chua Soi Lek for having the courage to fight Umno on the hudud issue, while calling current president Datuk Seri Liow Tiong Lai an Umno apologist.

DAP secretary-general Lim Guan Eng, in hitting out at Liow over his defence of Umno's challenge to PAS to implement hudud in Kelantan, said Liow has failed in his first step to transform MCA when he dared not openly oppose and criticise Umno.

"Why does Liow not dare to ask Umno to leave BN if Umno is intent on implementing hudud in Kelantan?"

"Liow is contradicting himself when he finally concluded that the root of the problem of implementing hudud in Kelantan is PAS, because this is not a government bill. However the support of Umno, which is the (federal) government, effectively makes it a government bill.

"Is the lure of the perks and privileges of cabinet posts promised by (Prime Minister Datuk Seri) Najib Razak so tempting that Liow is willing to sell MCA's soul by endorsing Umno's support of PAS implementing hudud in Kelantan?" Lim asked in a statement today.

Lim, saying Liow should stop being an Umno apologist, urged the MCA head to "take tuition lessons on courage" from his predecessor in bravely opposing Umno, and added that Liow was relying fully on the mainstream media in his all-out "campaign of lies and distortion against DAP".

He questioned the claim that DAP was responsible for PAS's move to implement hudud in Kelantan without mentioning the role played by Umno.

Lim said the accusation had been repeatedly exposed and rebutted, but the lies and distortion in the mainstream media continued.

As such, he said the public should refer to online media for balanced coverage.

"How can Liow say that PAS's insistence on moving ahead to legislate hudud in Kelantan is a 'trap' by PAS to put Umno in a bind when it is Umno that had instigated PAS to do so?

"As Bentong MP, Liow knows that Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Jamil Khir Baharom has begun the entire controversy by instigating PAS in Parliament on March 27 to implement hudud on Muslims in Kelantan," Lim said.

Jamil had said that the federal government was prepared to work with any state government to implement hudud including Kelantan. Kelantan's Umno state assemblymen had supported Kelantan's Shariah Criminal Code Enactment II to pave the way for hudud in 1993.

Jamil had also suggested that it was up to the non-government members of Parliament to table a private member's' bill for that purpose.

In a press conference with Kelantan Deputy Menteri Besar Datuk Mohd Amar Nik Abdullah on May 2, Jamil announced a joint central technical committee comprising PAS, Putrajaya and the Kelantan government to look into the implementation of hudud in the state.

Lim cited the "flip flop" by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak, who recently lauded PAS's proposal to implement hudud in Kelantan.

He said Liow was also wrong when he said Umno was in an "unfair situation" because as a Malay and Muslim party, it cannot object to the implementation of the orthodox religious law with hudud being in the Quran.

He said on September 25, 2011, Umno openly opposed hudud when Najib declared himself in Kampar that Putrajaya would not enforce the Islamic penal code in Malaysia.

"Instead of criticising Umno now, Liow has chosen to pin the blame on the DAP and PAS, despite the DAP openly criticising PAS for working with Umno to implement hudud after it failed to get support from Pakatan Rakyat.

"Can Liow explain the perverse logic and double-standards of MCA criticising the DAP, which has been openly attacking PAS and Umno, but not Umno for instigating PAS to implement hudud laws in Kelantan?" he asked, adding that MCA should publicly apologise for refusing to criticise Umno. – May 5, 2014.

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