

UMNO most tolerant party, says Pahang MB
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Pahang Menteri Besar Adnan Yaakob says the opposition is trying to break Umno because it has maintained mass support since independence.

KUANTAN: UMNO is the most tolerant party in supporting the racial harmony and integrity of Barisan Nasional (BN) which it helms, according to Pahang Menteri Besar Adnan Yaakob.

He said the spirit of tolerance and compromise was reflected in the consensus by all 13 BN parties in resolving grave issues.

He cited the disagreement among BN components on the tabling of the amendment bill regarding the Syariah Courts (Criminal Jurisdiction) Act 1965, or Act 355.

“When RUU 355 was objected to by other component parties, BN led by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak concurred for it to remain as a private member’s bill,” he said, referring to Act 355 by its Malay acronym.

“Similarly, the government deferred the proposal to amend the Law Reform (Marriage and Divorce) Act 1976 regarding the religious status of children in a mixed marriage following concerns raised by the Malays,” he told reporters.

Adnan, who is also Pahang UMNO liaison chief, said this at the state-level flag run in conjunction with UMNO’s 71st anniversary at the Kuantan UMNO building here yesterday.

He also reminded party members to remain united and to support Najib, as UMNO’s ability to sustain its struggle was based on the leaders’ and grassroots’ dependence on each other.

“The direction and goal of the party can only be achieved if members and the leadership are united. As long as we are united, the president can continue leading the country.

“All members should have the same goal, namely to ensure the party’s survival and leadership of the country, along with the component parties,” he said.

Adnan also asked Malaysians not to be influenced by the opposition’s propaganda to topple BN, as has happened in some countries where ruling parties lost their mandate in elections.

“We cannot allow this to happen in UMNO. The opposition is trying to break us because our party holds the record for being able to maintain the support of the masses since its establishment and since independence,” he said.

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