

Non-Muslims should convert if they want to comment on shariah caning, says Selangor mufti
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NON-MUSLIMS should convert to Islam if they want to concern themselves with the implementation of public caning on shariah offenders in Kelantan, [Utusan Malaysia](#) reported Selangor mufti Tamyas Wahid as saying.

He said the punishment would be meted out by Muslims to offenders of the same faith.

“Do not meddle in this because this is for Muslims. If they want to interfere, they have to convert,” Tamyas said, adding that Deputy Prime Minister Zahid Hamidi also gave an assurance that the penalty would be only for Muslims in Kelantan.

He said the Kelantan government had the right to amend the [Kelantan Shariah Criminal Procedure Enactment 2002](#) at the state assembly, but the sultan of Kelantan needed to give his consent before the amendments could be gazetted.

The amendment will also allow religious enforcement officers to handcuff suspects and provides for the use of video recordings as evidence in shariah court hearings.

The bill was tabled by state Islamic Development and Propagation, Information and Liaison Committee chairman Nassuruddin Daud.

The move has been criticised by many, including DAP and Barisan Nasional component parties MCA and Gerakan.

The amended enactment is part of the PAS-led Kelantan government’s preparation to enforce the Kelantan Shariah Criminal Code II 1993 (Amended 2015) if act 355 is approved by parliament at the federal level.

Act 355 is the controversial private member’s bill tabled by PAS president Hadi Awang in a bid to expand the powers of the shariah courts.

Negri Sembilan mufti Mohd Yusof Ahmad said shariah punishments were more lenient compared with civil law punishments.

“In civil law, there is the death sentence but there is no is no death sentence in shariah law. The shariah court can only order penalties that are approved in Islam.” – July 16, 2017.

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