

# 'Guillotine method will tarnish Islam'

Find a suitable mode of amputation for hudud punishment, Isma tells Kelantan govt

By SIRA HABIBU  
sira@thestar.com.my

**PETALING JAYA:** A Muslim non-government organisation trained its gun on the Kelantan government over a suggestion to use the guillotine in the face of problems to find a suitable mode of amputating limbs of those convicted for thefts under the hudud penal code.

Ikatan Muslimin Malaysia (Isma)



president Abdullah Zaik Abdul Rahman (pic) said the state government was free to use any mechanical device to execute the punishment but, he warned, it could tarnish the image of Islam if not properly carried out.

He said this in response to a report in *The Star* that quoted Kelantan hudud technical committee chairman Datuk Mohd Amar Abdullah as saying he would raise the suggestion

at the panel's meeting.

His office has since stated that the proposal was brought up during a telephone conversation with *The Star* and was not a direct proposal from Mohd Amar, who is also Kelantan deputy menteri besar.

Abdullah Zaik said Kelantan should carry out an in-depth study of such proposals, to ensure the objective of the Islamic jurisprudence is met without any negative impact on the overall Islamic agenda.

"Kelantan must hold detailed dis-

cussions with the Federal government and obtain technical advice on legal matters, as the state had limited jurisdiction of power.

Echoing the need for Kelantan to make more in-depth studies on the issue, state Mufti Datuk Muhammad Shukri Muhammad said this should include visiting countries that had implemented the syariah penal code to determine the best method to mete out sentence on convicted thieves under hudud.

Muhammad Shukri said the

authorities have to meticulously study the methods enforced in Saudi Arabia, for instance, before choosing the best method of executing the penalty in Malaysia.

"As far as I know, the committee that is looking into the amendments to the Syariah Criminal Code II 1993 did discuss the methods to carry out the punishment and will be going abroad to visit countries that are practising hudud laws to broaden their ideas. I think this is the best thing to do," he said.

## A sharp instrument must be used, says faith healer

By SYED AZHAR  
alqadri@thestar.com.my

**KOTA BARU:** The fundamental rule in removing a limb of those convicted of theft under the hudud penal code is that a sharp instrument must be used and a guillotine, therefore, is not out of place, says an Islamic faith healing practitioner here.

"Hudud was enforced during the times of Prophet Muhammad and it was effective in protecting the lives of Muslims then.

"If it is enforced here in Kelantan, it must go along with the principle that a sharp blade is to be used and those authorised to carry out the

punishment must follow the stipulated etiquette that goes with the responsibility," said Pusat Rawatan Islam At-Tobibi Nilai founder Datuk Shamsuri Shafei.

"It is entirely up to the Kelantan government to choose the most suitable method as long it is not cruel to the offender and his family.

"Whether the authorities use a machete, sword or even a guillotine, the fundamental law is that the instrument must be sharp," he told *The Star*, adding that the offender should be conscious when the punishment is meted out so that he will feel remorse for committing the offence.

"Whatever decision is made by the authorities, it must be transparent," said Shamsuri when asked to comment on the front-page exclusive in *The Star* yesterday that the guillotine might be an option if the Kelantan hudud technical committee cannot find a suitable mode of amputating limbs of convicted thieves and robbers under the state's proposed Islamic criminal laws.

Committee head Datuk Mohd Amar Abdullah said he would suggest to the panel to use a similar, albeit smaller, contraption that would need only one person to operate in the presence of a doctor and the judge who meted out

the sentence.

Mohd Amar, who is also Kelantan deputy menteri besar, said such a method would not implicate surgeons, who might be seen as violating their oath of ethics.

In a related development, Mohd Amar's office clarified that the report that quoted him on the guillotine mode was based on a phone interview with *The Star*.

His senior private secretary Mohd Khairil Hazmie said: "What transpired in that phone conversation was that the reporter had raised the guillotine method based on 'public opinion'.

"Datuk Mohd Amar said the sug-

gestion could be considered and discussed by the hudud technical committee after a study on is done," Mohd Khairil said in a statement yesterday that has since been circulated via Facebook.

He added that the deputy menteri besar was concerned about negative perceptions that may arise because of the article.

Mohd Khairil said it was a mistake by the reporter to attribute the suggestion to Mohd Amar and any misunderstanding by the public over the issue could tarnish the image of the state, which was trying to educate the public to understand and accept hudud laws.



## NAVIGATING YOUR BRAND THROUGH A GLOBAL PLAYING FIELD

Your brand stands for many things – the quality of your products or services, the reputation of your organisation, the customer experience and so much more.

Leveraging on the National Mark of Malaysian Brand will serve to enhance your brand to represent Quality, Excellence and Distinction.

[www.nationalmark.gov.my](http://www.nationalmark.gov.my)



15 Nov – 28 Dec 2014

For more information, visit [www.nationalmark.gov.my](http://www.nationalmark.gov.my)