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PAS-Umno

FADZIL: PAS READY TO TALK WITH UMNO

KOTA BAHARU, Oct 5 (Bernama) -- PAS is ready to resume talks with Umno to discuss the possibility of the party merging with Umno in the mutual interests of the Malays, PAS president Haji Fadzil Noor has said.

He said PAS' readiness for the talks was following the invitation by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad at the Malay Unity gathering on Thursday that the party be dissolved and its leaders and members join Umno.

"If they (Umno) want to discuss, we are prepared to talk," he told reporters after addressing the Muslim Unity gathering organised by the Kelantan PAS Liaison Committee at Sultan Muhammad IV Stadium here last night.

Earlier, in his speech, Fadzil said PAS would continue its leadership based on Islamic teachings and was prepared to cooperate with any political party that subscribe to Islamic struggles.

He said PAS had shown an effective Islamic leadership in Kelantan and hence, it was not appropriate for PAS to join Umno but instead, it was Umno which should join PAS.

He also said the move by Parti Melayu Semangat 46 leaders to rejoin Umno was a betrayal of the struggle and friendship with PAS through Angkatan Perpaduan Ummah (APU).

Kelantan Menteri Besar Datuk Haji Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat, PAS deputy president Haji Abdul Hadi Awang, Berjasa president Haji Mohd Yusoff Nor and Hamim secretary-general Wan Ibrahim Wan Abdullah also spoke at the gathering. -- BERNAMA

RAR/AM TS