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Waad-Umno

I'LL CONTINUE STRUGGLING WITH UMNO - WAAD

SEREMBAN, Oct 8 (Bernama) -- Former state executive councillor Datuk Waad Mansor, who was today acquitted of corruption by the High Court here, said he will hold a thanksgiving feast and carry on struggling with Umno.

He said he would support Umno and Barisan Nasional (BN) in the coming general election even if he was not selected as a candidate.

"I will work hard for the BN because I have faith in the leadership of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad," he told reporters.

The 42-year-old assemblyman for Gemencheh was calm when Justice Datuk Mohamad Noor Abdullah announced the verdict in a packed courtroom.

He quickly went to where reporters were sitting to be interviewed, and was soon hugged by his wife Datin Noraini Abdul Satar.

Waad, who was found not guilty on all three charges of using his public position for pecuniary interests, said he expected the verdict.

This is because he has been saying all along that his wife did not have any interests in Teraju Nusantara Sdn Bhd when when the state executive council approved the company's application for land.

Waad said he had never neglected his duties as a state assemblyman, but now that the trial was over he would focus all his attention on politics.

On the possibility of being reinstated as a state executive councillor, he said he was leaving it to Menteri Besar Tan Sri Mohamed Isa Samad to decide.

Waad, who has also taken leave from the post of Tampin Umno division chief after he was charged on May 27, 1998, said it was up to Mohamed Isa to bring up this matter at the party's Supreme Council meeting.

In PORT DICKSON, Mohamed Isa said he would bring up the matter at tomorrow's Umno Supreme Council meeting and let council members decide on the status of Waad's divisional post.

He, however, declined comment when asked by reporters if Waad would be given back his post in the state executive council.

-- BERNAMA

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