

23 JAN 2002

PBS-Chronology

CHRONOLOGY OF PBS' ROLLER-COASTER EXISTENCE IN SABAH POLITICS

KOTA KINABALU, Jan 23 (Bernama) -- The Parti Bersatu Sabah (PBS), which was today accepted back into the fold of the ruling Barisan Nasional (BN) coalition, has had a roller-coaster existence in Sabah politics.

Following is a chronology of key events relating to the party.

Aug 16, 1984 -- Datuk Joseph Pairin Kitingan, a deputy minister in the Berjaya-run state government quit the ruling party and a fortnight later the Tambunan state constituency which he represented was declared vacant.

Dec 29, 1984 -- Pairin was returned in Tambunan in a by-election and he formed PBS soon after.

March 5, 1985 -- PBS was registered as a political organisation.

April 20 and 21, 1985 -- Sabah state election. PBS won 25 of the 47 seats it contested. The Pasok candidate who won in Moyog joined the enabling the PBS to form the new state government with Pairin becoming the Chief Minister.

April 28, 1985 -- PBS applied to join the BN. On the same day several Parti Berjaya leaders pledged support for PBS.

May 6 and 7, 1986 -- Sabah held state election for the PBS to secure a fresh mandate following a political crisis. PBS won 35 seats.

June 5, 1986 -- PBS was accepted as BN component member.

July 16 & 17, 1990 -- State election, PBS won 36 seats.

Oct 5, 1990 -- Dissolution of Parliament.

Oct 15, 1990 -- PBS left the BN over alleged mistreatment by the ruling coalition.

Oct 16, 1990 -- Umno Supreme Council meeting decided to spread Umno's wings to Sabah.

Oct 20 and 21, 1990 -- General Election. PBS won 14 of 20 parliamentary seats in Sabah, and BN-Usno, the remainder.

Feb 21, 1991 -- Umno formally expanded to Sabah.

Jan 20, 1994 -- PBS deputy president and the Deputy Chief Minister then Datuk Yong Teck Lee quit PBS, 10 days after dissolution of the state legislature. Yong then formed Sabah Progressive Party and applied to join the BN.

Feb 18 & 19, 1994 -- State election. PBS won by a simple majority securing 25 seats and the BN, 23 seats.

March 17, 1994 -- BN took over the state government when the PBS failed to maintain its majority in the state legislature following en bloc exodus of its assemblymen either to join the BN through existing component parties or set up separate parties and then applied to join the BN.

March 12 and 13, 1999 -- State election. The PBS secured only 17 seats and failed to unseat the BN which won 31 seats. Nine PBS assemblymen then joined the BN, including Moyog assemblyman Datuk Clarence Bongkos Malakun who joined UPKO last month. The PBS was left with only eight assemblymen.

Nov 12, 2001 -- Pairin asked delegates to the PBS' 16th Congress to make a stand on the PBS rejoining the BN.

Nov 13, 2001 -- The PBS Supreme Council decided to apply to rejoin the BN.

Nov 15, 2001 -- Pairin formally applied to the Prime Minister and BN chairman Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to rejoin the BN.

Jan 23, 2002 -- The BN Supreme Council accepted the PBS back into its fold.

-- BERNAMA

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