

**PAS slams the door on Najib's call**  
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PAS has flatly rejected Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak's call for the party to ditch Pakatan Rakyat and join the BN ruling coalition.

Vice-president Salahuddin Ayub (below) also called Najib's suggestion "poison words" and a "very clear move to divide us".

"It is clear that Najib is already desperate and disappointed when Muslims as well as Chinese don't support BN, as seen in the recent Sarawak election.

"PAS will not take that kind of bait. It is a decoy and it is very dangerous for us to be with Umno," said Salahuddin, who is also the Kubang Kerian MP.

Najib had earlier invited PAS to join BN "in efforts to champion the agenda on race, religion and the nation.

National news agency Bernama today reported Najib saying that time had come for PAS to break with the DAP which the PM said had clearly not fought for the cause of Islam.

However, Salahuddin says that PAS remains firmly with Pakatan Rakyat, along with DAP and PKR.

Stressing that both the party grassroots as well as the top leadership share his views, he said PAS was not entertaining any such invitation.

"For sure (our members) share our struggles. We didn't fight for half a decade not knowing how Umno works.

"The fact that PAS remains with Pakatan is accepted by all levels in PAS and we have always brought this up in our muktamar (annual general meeting) to strengthen our role in Pakatan," he told Malaysiakini.

**Islam's position secure in constitution**

Rubbishing Najib's statements that DAP would not champion the cause of Islam, Salahuddin said that the position of Islam as the official religion of the country is already guaranteed in the federal constitution.

"Even if Pakatan takes over Putrajaya, we won't change a thing. We have already affirmed in our Pakatan convention that we will uphold the position of the Malay rulers who are the head of the Islamic religion in all states.

"It has nothing to do with DAP and we won't change a thing when we are in power. It is naive of Najib to say that DAP will be an obstacle to Islam.

"So we want to thank Najib for his offer, but we'll stick with Pakatan," said Salahuddin.

Meanwhile, former Perak MB Mohamad Nizar Jamaluddin (photo right, in red) tweeted, "PAS has no business with BN except to oust them out of Putrajaya! Najib is now completely desperate after allowing 'XXX' VCDs to flood BN media."

PAS vice president Mahfuz Omar on the other hand went further, calling for BN to sack Umno instead.

"Umno is desperate. Invite PAS to join BN only when other component parties in BN are not supporting Umno. It is time for BN to sack Umno out from the coalition," the Pokok Sena MP said in a tweet.

PAS spiritual leader Nik Aziz Nik Mat has also dismissed Najib's call for the party to foresake the opposition coalition.

"This (leaving Pakatan) is an old issue," Nik Aziz, who is also Kelantan menteri besar, was quoted as saying by Bernama.

The issue of PAS working with the ruling coalition has been around since the 2008 general elections when Umno floated the idea of a 'unity government' between them and PAS.

PAS was deeply divided over the sentiment back in 2009 with many of its leaders in the conservative faction - notably president Abdul Hadi Awang and deputy president Nasharudin Mat Isa - flirting with the idea.

On the other hand, Nik Aziz, backed by a moderate faction calling themselves the Erdogan faction after the Turkish prime minister, had slammed the door shut on the idea.

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