

'Najib's links with Pekida prove he is an ultra-Malay'

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Selangor PAS has slammed Umno president Najib Razak's open endorsement of the Malaysian Missionary and Welfare Association (Pekida) as proof that he is an ultra-Malay and has forsaken his own wasathiyah (principle of moderation) and 1Malaysia rhetoric.

"His presence at a Pekida function has shown his 'hardline' side, akin to an 'ultra-Malay'... It is a departure from the wasathiyah or moderation that he once espoused.

"Pekida is a dodgy organisation that once even Umno dared not forge official links with," the Islamic party's state deputy commissioner Khalid Samad told reporters at a press conference in Shah Alam today.

Khalid (left) also hit out at what he termed as the hardline stance and posturing seen at the recently concluded Umno AGM.

"They are trying to tell the Malays that if Umno is challenged, it means that Malays are being challenged, saying the Malay is Umno and Umno is Malay... Up to the point they are saying that Malays should forget the corruption and misuse of power, just to defend the race.

"The watershed moment is when Wanita Umno embraced Shahrizat Abdul Jalil. Where you ask people to support even a leader who is not trustworthy," claimed Khalid.

The Shah Alam MP argued that the challenge to Umno is not actually a challenge to the Malays but an effort to uplift the race.

"We are not trying to topple the Malay political structure, but only hoping to take down Umno's corrupt leadership and replace it with clean and capable Malay leaders," Khalid explained,

He said that such links as well as Najib's and Umno's new 'hardline' stance have to be seen as an open admission that Umno is no longer fit to rule a multiracial Malaysia.

On Monday Najib had officially opened a meet-the-PM session organised by Pekida and attended by some 12,000 members.

At the event Najib gave a speech, embracing the NGO's support of himself personally and BN in the upcoming polls, and in return he promised to 'help' the organisation.

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