

Noose tightening around Hasan Ali
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VOXPOP 'Hasan Ali is clearly in the good books of Umno and the 'saviour' of the Malays belongs there.'

Mahfuz: It appears Hasan is declaring war on PAS

Disbeliever: Selangor PAS exco Hasan Ali is obviously waiting to be sacked from the party. His plan is such so that he can then say that PAS has strayed from its objectives and that Umno is the only party that can bring forth Islamic unity.

At the same time, he hopes to draw sympathisers and perhaps draw a few away from PAS to rejoin Umno.

So don't give him the boot. Let him resign on his own accord. Should he opt to stay put in PAS.

Treat him well despite his rebellious ways but deprive him of any posts and not put him up as a candidate in the coming GE.

Cannon: When voted out by his party, Hasan Ali says the party has deviated from its aims. PAS should call this man's bluff.

He is a gadfly within PAS and to Pakatan Rakyat. He is not on the same page as the party. He is clearly in Umno's good books, and hailed by its mouthpiece, Utusan Malaysia, as the 'saviour' of the Malays and of Islam.

Let this bigot do his work in Umno which is the pits, and in dire need of saving.

Anonymous_4031: PAS, like PKR, DAP, MCA, Gerakan, and Umno, must be careful of members who have their self-interest in mind; they will use some issue to stir up the hornet's nest.

No party can afford to waste precious time on members who have motives wrapped in a holy cloth. Great pretenders of faith are aplenty; and with holy words and holy water, they tell you that you shall have a place in heaven, if you listen to them.

Earthly creatures have earthly problems, and have to be down-to-earth to solve earthly issues. Never be sidetracked by issues that disrupt your immediate and important problems - to serve the people who are weak, poor, discriminated against, and powerless.

They need help. Go forth and serve them!

Milosevic: PAS should aim to be a forward-looking party that provides a synthesis of Islamic principles and the best ideas and practices available in the world.

The party needs minds which can extract universally acclaimed principles from Islam, and mix them with the great achievements of other cultures and religions.

There were some moments in Islamic history when great thinkers and philosophers were hungry for universal knowledge, and worked very hard to master all available ideas from around the world.

They possessed energy and confidence and did not apply a narrow filter in interactions with the outside world. Unfortunately, the reactionary ulama reversed the process and made Islam formulaic.

PAS should revive the early promise of Islam but can only do so if the likes of Hasan and former deputy president Nasharuddin Mat Isa are seen clearly as obstacles to this end.

They represent the closing of the Islamic mind. Kick these poisonous men out and donate them to Umno, which is busy at work closing the Malaysian mind.

Opah: I don't know much about Islam but it appears to me that Islam is a religion of truth, based on three core values - simplicity, rationality and practicality.

It compels its followers to be transparent and just, to make decisions with reason and logic and to exhibit righteous behaviour.

At one time, with the ascendancy of characters like Hasan and Nasharuddin, PAS began to waver from these lofty values.

A craving for Umno-style politics, of using the name of Islam to further private goals began to set in. Thankfully PAS members saw this happening and arrested the trend before it became fatal.

They voted Hasan and Nasharuddin out of leadership positions and returned the party to the right track. All Hasan and Nasharuddin can do now is to use more and more desperate Umno tactics to mislead us. Umno has truly unleashed a pox on Malaysia.

Dr M concedes World Bank loans taken under his watch

Fair Play: I don't think former PM Dr Mahathir Mohamad really understands the meaning of the word governance.

As PM he had total responsibility although he might have delegated it to someone to contact the World Bank with the authority to sign the relevant documents.

Truth is, no matter how he might argue his case, his credibility is at stake.

Tel: The country took millions of ringgit in loans from World Bank, and the boss in charge said he was not aware. Can you believe this guy?

Zainal: "I did not ask for it but they give, so I take lah...".

It sounds like an excuse given by the police officer who took a bribe from the motorist to whom he was about to issue a summons.

Jean Pierre: Malaysia stopped taking any loans from World Bank in 1998. In the next breath, another US\$100 million loan was signed in March 1999 and US\$11.94 million withdrawn. A contradiction, anyone?

Docs: I'm confused here. Mahathir said he took loans from the World Bank but did not ask for the loans. It sounds weird.

I think what Mahathir is saying is that the World Bank functions like the credit card agents here in Malaysia.

They just sent you a pre-approved credit card in the mail. So in this sense, Malaysia got a loan without the PM asking for it.

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