

Former Umno rep, blogger join DAP
MalaysiaKini.com
January 7, 2012
Nigel Aw

Two prominent bloggers who are also Umno members today joined DAP officially, ending weeks of speculations on their political future.

dap conference shah alam 080112 ariff sabri abdul aziz sakmongkolThe duo, former Pulau Manis state assemblyperson Mohd Ariff Sabri Abdul Aziz (right) and veteran Negri Sembilan Umno member Aspan Alias, said that their entry into DAP were without pre-conditions and they were not promised any positions.

On whether they have quit Umno officially, Mohd Ariff said that he and Aspan's handing in of membership forms to DAP secretary-general Lim Guan Eng today meant that their Umno membership were automatically voided.

Their move is considered a major coup for the party which is suffering a constant barrage of criticism from Umno, who claims that they are anti-Malay.

Mohd Ariff was once the information chief of the Pekan Umno division that is still being led by Umno president Najib Abdul Razak.

He blogs under the pen name Sakmongkol46 and draws a sizeable following due to the critical and party insider nature of his articles.

Malay agenda can exist in DAP

Mohd Ariff said that his decision to join DAP was a natural one, because his political struggle resonates with that of the party.

"I don't see any difficulties in pushing the Malay agenda in DAP, the DAP accepts the constitution so there is no issue about the monarchy, Islam, Malay language or the position of Malays.

"BUT the Malay agenda must be redefined. The new agenda which finds resonance in DAP is corruption, rule of law, rule by institution, not by discretionary powers of leaders."

Abdul Aziz criticised the Umno's model of only helping the Malays if the Malays supported them.

"We want a proper growth model for Malays which does not instil dependance on a particular party."

Aspan: Too much corruption in Umno

dap conference shah alam 080112 aspan aliasMeanwhile, Aspan (right) who has been in Umno for 40 years said the party was no longer as it was when it was founded.

"The real reason why I must leave Umno and join DAP is because of the corruption which is beyond apprehension that is happening within the Umno and BN government."

"We have been very patient, this has to be corrected if Umno wants to continue ruling, but apparently, they can't just do it."

The DAP's latest recruits appeared to be its continuous effort in trying to shed its monoethnic image by recruiting more Malay members.

Copyright © 1999-2012 Mkini Dotcom Sdn. Bhd
<http://www.malaysiakini.com/news/186006>