

**Integrity test for PAS Youth candidates in GE**  
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PAS Youth members, including those who fielded for the general election, will have to undergo integrity courses and tests formulated by the wing in collaboration with the Integrity Institute of Malaysia.

According to PAS Youth chief Nasruddin Hassan (left), the move is to ensure that "PAS youth members meet national standards of integrity, as well as to ensure that all candidates will gain the rakyat's confidence".

He said the plan, which is still in its early stages, will likely include an "integrity pledge.. for PAS Youth members and youth candidates".

"We are still in the process of formulating it, but there would be courses, practical tests and could even include declaration of assets," he told reporters at the PAS headquarters in Kuala Lumpur today.

Dialogue sought with Dr M

On a separate matter, Nasruddin said the wing will send a letter today to former premier Dr Mahathir Mohamad, seeking a meeting on March 12 to clarify his recent remarks about hudud law.

"We also want to present our view, our advice and suggestions to him on the matter and to find out if he really meant what he said, and his motive and reasoning."

While PAS' stand on hudud is clear, Nasruddin said he would rather not pass judgement on Mahathir without hearing him out.

Mahathir had, during a forum in Universiti Malaysia Sarawak on Feb 26, said that hudud law does not exist in the Quran but is a creation of scholars (ahli fekah).

In video footage recorded by a member of the audience and which was uploaded to Youtube, Mahathir said that, under hudud law, a Muslim thief would have his hands chopped off, while a non-Muslim thief would be imprisoned for two months.

"Ask yourselves. Is this just?" he said, adding that it is also unjust for a rapist to be let off just because the victim cannot produce four witnesses to the crime.

Nasruddin said the Youth wing will also write to Star to seek a dialogue with its editors on the publishing of a photograph of pop star Erykah Badu with the word 'Allah' in Arabic script written on her in body art.

The dialogue, which he hopes can take place on March 12, will also touch on other matters including the way the English-language daily "turned into controversy" the wing's stand against Muslims celebrating Valentine's Day.

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