

'Perhaps better to cut PAS loose and move on'
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YOURSAY 'Don't fall into the trap of seeing the trees but not the forest.'

Zuhdi must apologise for 'racist' remarks, says DAP

NewMalaysia: Too much damage has been done. Before this, it was the hudud issue and now this. DAP and PKR should cut PAS loose and move on.

Since PAS president Abdul Hadi Awang and spiritual leader Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Aziz have spoken against the decision made by other Pakatan parties on the Selangor MB issue, there is no point in continuing this relationship.

Let PAS sort it out by itself and we all can focus on rebuilding to prepare for next election. Better still if PAS joins Umno and BN. Let those within BN fight it out among themselves.

Fair Play: I have often thought about this. Malaysia (and its predecessor Malaya - those born before 1957) has been our home and country simply because the majority of us are born here, regardless of the country of origin of our forefathers.

Looking ahead, we have to ask ourselves what is more important to us - a common identity on the basis of religious belief or a common identity as Malaysians?

We should ask ourselves why countries like United States, Canada, Australia, etc, with a mixed bag of citizens from different religious backgrounds can live in harmony. And why in some countries where they share a common religious belief, they are hell-bent on killing one another.

The answer to that question is right in front of us. But can we see before it is too late?

If the loss of Selangor is the collateral damage for the moderate PAS group to join hands with PKR and DAP for a better Malaysia, then it's a small price to pay.

Malaysia Truly Asia: DAP MP Tony Pua, who are you to ask Zuhdi to apologise? You are what you are, and he is what he is. You have been badmouthing many Umno-BN leaders and no one asked you to apologise.

LAWofKARMA: Brothers and sisters who commented on this issue, please remember that PAS is not made up of Zuhdi, Abdul Hadi and their kind.

PAS also has wise leaders with foresight, like Mohamad 'Mat' Sabu, Mahfuz Omar, Dr

Dzulkefly Ahmad, Khalid Samad, Tuan Ibrahim Tuan Man and many more like-minded members.

Be careful not to fall into the trap of seeing the trees but not the forest. PAS minus Abdul Hadi, Zuhdi and some others, is still a creditable partner in Pakatan.

The road to Putrajaya can only be achieved with all the three parties - DAP, PAS and PKR - working sincerely and ethically together.

Of course, any one of them has the right to leave Pakatan. Whatever it is, each of us is responsible and accountable for our own actions, be it in thought, speech or action.

And we are answerable to our God (be it Allah, Jesus, or any other name) when the day comes.

Gggg: DAP, do you still want to work with a known racist party? Do you see how quiet Umno is?

On any other day, it would be courting these PAS members but it is now keeping quiet because by allowing PAS in Pakatan, it could do more damage to PKR's and DAP's credibility.

It is also PAS that objected to PSM joining Pakatan. We have seen their true colours and it's time to move on.

David Dass: The problem is more fundamental. We must recognise this if we want to effect change.

The government has deliberately altered the mindset of Malays by teaching them a version of history that is not true.

This is part of a more comprehensive plan to condition the Malays to see the non-Malays as latter-day immigrants brought into the country by the British against the wishes of the Malays, who then generously granted them citizenship as part of a bargain which, inter alia, required the non-Malays to accept the dominant position of the Malays.

This, of course, is nonsense. Unfortunately the leaders of the Chinese and Indian communities allowed this to happen. Added to that is the fact that many Malays and non-Malays alike have not had meaningful contact with one another during their formative years.

Vernacular schools, Islamic schools and boarding schools separate the children ethnically. And there is the fact that many Malay children go to Pakistan and the Middle East to undertake courses in Islamic Studies.

These countries have no experience of diversity and have evolved a harshly intolerant and

oppressive attitude toward non-Muslims. All this adds up to a very dangerous situation. This is why Perkasa, Isma and the extreme elements in PAS and Umno have found traction.

Fortunately we have many moderate Malays in our midst - some remember a different time when we were more integrated and when Islam was more moderate - and some who are just comfortable with diversity.

There is no doubt cause for pessimism and many non-Malays have decided to emigrate. But for the many for whom emigration is not an option, there is also cause for optimism. This requires non-Malays to work with Malays.

There is no scenario where a government can be formed in this country without majority Malay support. And we should all together help build a country where all enjoy the benefits of national development.

I am afraid the time for a forced apology from a rabid racist is over. The challenge is much greater.

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