

Aziz Bari: Khalid should return 'stolen' MB post
MalaysiaKini.com
Aug 18, 2014

Abdul Khalid Ibrahim holding on to his menteri besar post following the latest developments is akin to "stealing", and he should return what he has taken to its rightful owners, said a law expert.

Constitutional law expert professor Abdul Aziz Bari said Khalid's response to PAS affirmation of PKR's choice of Selangor menteri besar yesterday, saying he will meet the Selangor sultan to discuss the matter, has no basis.

"Khalid wants to meet with the sultan and await the latter's advice.

"But there is nothing more he can do. He has become like a thief.

"You have to return what you have stolen from its owner," said the professor at a forum last night.

"He has no choice. From the point of view of the laws the only choice he has is to step down immediately," he said.

He explained that the majority support that PKR's nominee party president Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail enables her to be the designate MB.

Also at the forum at the Kuala Lumpur Selangor Chinese Assembly Hall were PAS central committee member Dzulkefly Ahmad, Shah Alam MP Khalid Samad and PAS Youth chief Suhaizan Kaiat.

'Ridiculous for excos to stay'

At the event with approximately 100 audience, Aziz Bari proceeded to berate PAS for the decision yesterday to maintain its four Selangor excos members in Khalid's cabinet.

The Universiti Islam Antarabangsa (UIA) professor said it is clear Khalid's administration is now illegal, since the Pelabuhan Klang assemblyperson no longer has the requisite majority.

"PAS president Hadi Awang's statement that PAS will remain in the cabinet is absurd. Absurd. Why?

"Because the state government is already illegal. What's the point of staying in it?

"To help the people? If you want to help the people, follow the process of the law. Not by doing things the non-legal way," said Aziz Bari.

Using a sports analogy, he said if PAS wanted to play football, they should go to the football field, not the rugby field.

"The four PAS excos are now (in opposition to Khalid). They are no longer (his) government. What the four are doing is inexplicable.

He said the excos need to go with a new mandate, not with the embattled MB.

'Fouled player will play on'

Khalid Samad returned the professor's volley saying the crisis could not be solved purely by following the letter of the law as politicians do not play by the rules.

PAS, he said using his own football analogy, was trying to solve it by "playing out the game" to its end.

"There's a difference between people of the law and politicians. They (lawyers) think it's over. How is it over?

"It's like when a player has committed a foul, but the referee doesn't blow the whistle.

"The player has broken the rules, but the game nevertheless continues. Politicians will continue to play on (despite the foul).

"Lawyers can only say, 'I will sue you in court'," said Khalid to laughter from the audience.

Despite being expelled from his party over a week ago, Khalid has refused to relinquish his MB post despite calls from Pakatan colleagues and civil society.

Instead, he rushed to the Selangor sultan claiming to have retained a majority in the state assembly to continue to rule.

In the face of his replacement Wan Azizah subsequently securing the pledges of 30 Selangor assemblypersons out of 56 to back her, and yesterday's PAS decision to support PKR's choice, Khalid appears determined to remain firmly rooted in office until he sees the sultan, who is presently abroad.

Selangor crisis today

11.14am: PAS exco member Sallehen Mukhyi says no need for MB Khalid Ibrahim to quit now.

12.25pm: Khalid cancels attendance at morning function at the last minute, prompting speculation that he was going to Budapest to meet the sultan

1pm: PAS' Sallehen maintains sultan is against Wan Azizah Ismail as MB

1.53pm: PAS central committee member Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad says presiden Abdul Hadi Awang's absence at Pakatan meet 'not silent protest'

2:35pm: Sultan tells Khalid not to meet him overseas but wait for him to return on Aug 27

3.33pm: A group protests against Wan Azizah as MB, citing her gender, competence and origin

6.32pm: Law expert Aziz Bari says the palace is defying the constitution if it rejects Wan Azizah

Copyright © 1999-2012 Mkini Dotcom Sdn. Bhd

Source <http://www.malaysiakini.com/news/271924>