

No-nonsense Hadi tells dissenters to quit PAS

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PAS president Abdul Hadi Awang has told dissenters to quit the Islamic party and go their own way.

"Those who have different opinions in PAS, if they want to set up their own party, go ahead.

"It is better for them to quit and set up their own party, no need to remain," he told a briefing to supporters in Marang yesterday.

Hadi likened the party dissenters who remained in PAS as mosquitoes.

"If there are mosquitoes, then we cannot sleep," he said in the briefing which was uploaded on YouTube.

Hadi was asked to respond to the setting up of Persatuan Ummah Sejahtera Malaysia (PasMa) by PAS leaders amid souring of ties between the Islamic party and its Pakatan partners.

PasMa president Phahrolrazi Mohd Zawawi (left) has denied his NGO was out to replace PAS as a political party, stressing that it was merely to advocate continued cooperation with Pakatan Rakyat.

Hadi said he had not paid much attention to this development, adding that it was a democratic country where anyone could set up their own political party.

'PAS did not fall when leaders quit'

Earlier, Hadi in his speech, recounted several crisis faced by PAS, stating that the party had survived despite the exodus of top leaders before.

"I have read also about the internal crisis of PAS before the 1955 general election where the PAS president quit the party.

Even in the 1960s, the PAS secretary-general quit the party and in 1978 seven to eight central committee leaders abandoned the party.

"PAS did not waiver not did it fall," he said.

Hadi was also asked about PAS' alleged desire to see Umno veteran Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah (seated at right in photo) become prime minister over Opposition Leader Anwar Ibrahim had Pakatan won power in the last general election.

To this, his reply was that it was PKR and DAP which first courted Tengku Razaleigh to join their party who declined.

"After that, they asked PAS to convince him to come over Pakatan's side. PAS tried to convince him to join PAS but he still did not want," said Hadi.

However, he did not specifically address Tengku Razaleigh's role as a potential prime minister candidate.

On the implementation of hudud law in Kelantan, Hadi said the PAS-led state was still in discussions with Putrajaya on the matter.

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