

PAS tit-for-tat continues as lawyer bites back

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Cracks in PAS seemed to widen further today with a PAS-linked lawyer wading in to rebut the party's legal arm over the conduct of the PAS president and syura council in the Selangor crisis.

Yesterday, the PAS legal and human rights bureau (Luham) said party president Abdul Hadi Awang and the council breached the party's constitution by acting unilaterally in nominating PAS representatives for the Selangor menteri besar post.

In a rebuttal to this today, lawyer Wan Rohimi Wan Daud said that it is Luham that had "breached the party constitution" with its open criticism of the council.

"It is the Luham media statement that openly attacked the highest body in the party. It is the one that went overboard and breached the party constitution," Wan Rohimi said in a lengthy statement of his own.

Wan Rohimi has appeared in several cases on behalf of PAS representatives.

"The council had never acted beyond the party constitution," Wan Rohimi said.

'Interpretation binds PAS'

He also said that when the syura council interpreted and decided that the president had veto powers in deciding on the Selangor MB crisis, that interpretation "binds" PAS entirely.

"That is the interpretation that binds the whole of PAS - unless it is decided otherwise by the muktamar," he said.

He said that Luham had made a "misconceived" interpretation on the constitution that "should be defended".

The increasing difference of opinions in PAS also coincides with the formation of Persatuan Ummah Sejahtera Malaysia (PasMa), an NGO formed by PAS members who are lobbying for PAS to stay committed to the Pakatan Rakyat cause.

It comes at a time when the possibility of PAS breaking off Pakatan Rakyat is being repeatedly mooted.

The PAS muktamar will take place next week in Johor.

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